

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND
February 17, 2011 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS (*DENOTES ABSENCE)

Mario Bueno*	Joseph MarcAurele*	Sharon Moylan	Keith Stokes*
Robin Coia	Paul MacDonald	Robert Nangle	Cathy Streker
Ray DiPasquale	William McGowan	George Nee	Martin Trueb
Deborah Gist	Brandon Melton	Charles J. Fogarty	Pheamo Witcher

GWB STAFF: Lisa D'Agostino, Nancy Olson, Dan Brown, Maureen Mooney

DLT STAFF: Maureen Palumbo, Vincent Rossi, Jen Buck, Sue Chomka, Marie DeRoche, Diane Vendetti, Hector Rivera, Katherine Quattrini, Sue Biagoni, Connie Parks, David Tremblay

GUESTS: Ruth Ricciarelli, Center for Health Professions; Ray Choinere, RI House Policy; Robin Smith, Jillian Salerno, Joe Winn, Karen Fay, CCRI; Jim Glover, Richard Beneduce, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Judy Jones, Poverty Institute; Malcolm Baxter, United Way volunteer; Heather Singleton, RI Hospitality; Gail Patry, Quality Partners of RI; Susan Bernstein, Governor's Office; Philip Less, RIDE; Adrian Boney, RI Foundation; Rick Brooks, United Nurses Allied Professionals, Todd Flaherty, Children's Crusade; Robert Kalaskowski, RI Senate; Robert Bromley, RI Senate Fiscal; Kathie Shields, Tech Collective

LOCATION: Department of Labor & Training, conference room 73-1

Call to Order and Welcome

Vice Chair McGowan called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He provided an overview of the agenda and welcomed Charles Fogarty, new board member and Director of the Department of Labor and Training.

Meeting Minutes

Since there were no additions, deletions or corrections, Vice Chair McGowan requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Governor's Workforce Board's meeting held on 11/17/10.

VOTE on motion to approve: R. Di Pasquale moved to approve, seconded by S. Moylan. All approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve Governor's Workforce Board meeting minutes. All approved. November 17, 2010 meeting minutes approved.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Vice Chair McGowan asked Lisa D'Agostino to present this report. L. D'Agostino reported that the GWB subcommittees have been meeting and that staff have attended several other meetings and events. Events include the Tech IT boot camp kickoff and the Boat Show roundtable at the RI Convention Center. She noted that N. Olson received an award on behalf of the GWB at the RI Welcome Back Center. L. D'Agostino reported that several committees have been meeting, all with robust agendas.

She reported that the Unified Workforce Development Expenditure and Program Report was submitted to the legislature in late December. She stated that the Plan Management Team continues to meet to work on the goals and objectives of the State Strategic Plan. L. D'Agostino indicated that a new RFP will be issued with a July 1st timetable for the industry partnerships.

Workforce Investment Notices

Vice Chair McGowan noted there were four Workforce Investment Notices (WINs) and are on the board agenda as opposed to the consent agenda since they have not been vetted through the Planning and Evaluation Committee. He asked David Tremblay of the State Workforce Investment Office to explain the WINs. Vice Chair McGowan indicated that there would be one vote for all four WINs.

Workforce Investment Notice: 10-07 This issuance transmits the PY 2010/FY 2011 split for Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs. D. Tremblay explained this as an administrative function and noted the chart detailing the adult programs split and dislocated workers program split. He noted that each portion of funds is to be tracked and reported separately.

Workforce Investment Notice: 10-08 This issuance provides information concerning the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) approval of a waiver regarding employer reimbursement for On-the-Job Training (OJT). D. Tremblay explained that in order to increase the number of employers participating in the OJT program and to allow for greater flexibility, the State requested, and was granted, a waiver from ETA the previous regulation of a 50% reimbursement. D. Tremblay noted the new reimbursement rates permitted under this waiver. He noted that effective January 11, 2011 that OJT contracts can be written in accordance with the new reimbursement schedule.

Workforce Investment Notice: 10-09 This issuance provides information concerning the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) approval of a waiver to exempt the credential attainment outcomes for participants enrolled in on-the-job training (OJT) in the credential performance measure calculations. D. Tremblay noted that WIA regulations state that WIA eligible participants who receive OJT must be included in credential performance measure calculations. In order to allow program design to be more responsive to the needs of both the employer and employee, without negatively impacting upon credential related performance measures, the State requested and was granted, a waiver from ETA of this regulation.

Workforce Investment Notice: 10-10 This issuance provides information concerning the distribution of WIA incentive funds for achieving negotiated levels of performance for PY2009 and sanctions.

Vice Chair McGowan asked if there were any further questions or discussion. Since there was not, he requested a motion to approve Workforce Investment Notices 10-07, 10-08, 10-09 and 10-10.

VOTE on motion to approve: G. Nee moved to approve, seconded by R. Nangle. All approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve Workforce Investment Notices 10-07, 10-08, 10-09 and 10-10. All approved. All Workforce Investment Notices approved.

GWB By-Laws

Vice Chair McGowan stated that the GWB By-Laws state that there must be an annual review of the by-laws. He noted that a copy of the by-laws is included in the meeting packet. Vice Chair McGowan requested that board members review the by-laws and send any recommendations to Nancy Olson by March 11th. He noted that a vote on the by-laws will take place at the March meeting.

Presentation: Health Care Industry Partnership

Vice Chair McGowan asked Ruth Ricciarelli from the Center for Health Professions at the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) to talk about the most recent work of this industry partnership. R. Ricciarelli provided an overview of the presentation topics including the connection to the One Stop Centers, Eligible Training Provider List findings and priorities and the internship program.

There was a great deal of discussion surrounding the topic of the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). R. Ricciarelli pointed out several areas of concern including: incomplete and/or misleading information by the training providers; providers being unaware of license/unlicensed healthcare professions; providers being uninformed about current and projected workforce needs; and poor reporting and performance data. She stated there should be more industry input into the ETPL. She used medical assistant training as an example to highlight some of the issues surrounding the ETPL. After much discussion, it was decided that this topic would be discussed at the next Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting on March 1, 2011. Vice Chair McGowan invited anyone interested to attend the next Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting. He stated that the committee will report back to the board on this topic in March. A copy of the presentation is available in the meeting packets.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program

Vice Chair McGowan reported that the U.S. Department of Labor – Employment & Training Administration has issued a Notice of Availability of Funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grants Program.

He asked Robin Smith and Karen Fay to discuss key points of this solicitation. R. Smith provided an overview of the grant program which provides funds to expand and improve the ability to deliver education and career training programs to Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) eligible workers and others and focuses on skills, degrees and credentials that prepare workers for high-wage, high skill jobs. She stated that the Department of Labor (DOL) seeks to increase the attainment of degrees, certificates and other industry-recognized credentials and better prepare the population for employment, using short term sequenced credentialing and certification options.

K. Fay summarized the proposed strategies of the DOL for this grant program indicating they must be evidence-based. She noted that the Department is interested in funding innovative programs that improve outcomes for students and workers, while providing grantees the flexibility to identify and integrate effective strategies in their education and training programs. She noted that weaker strategies could be adjusted or improved. A working summary was provided to board members on this grant opportunity.

Vice Chair McGowan asked Ray DiPasquale to comment on the grant. R. DiPasquale stated that the TAACCCT Grant Program RFA was available to every state and noted since there is only one community college in RI that CCRI could be eligible for up to \$2.5M minimum up to a maximum of four times that amount. He noted that this is a statewide initiative and includes input from the RI Department of Education, the Department of Labor and Training, labor and business and that this grant would have a huge impact on the state of RI.

Robin Smith provided an overview of the grant process and invited anyone interested in attending the meetings to contact her or Karen Fay.

Committee Assignments

Vice Chair McGowan reported that the Executive Committee regularly reviews the committee assignments. He stated that the committee wanted board members to know that if anyone is interested in being reassigned to another committee to let himself or Chair MarcAurele know. An update committee list was provided to board members.

Committee Updates

Vice Chair McGowan asked committee chairs to present the committee reports.

Adult Education

Committee Chair Di Pasquale reported on the recent Adult Education meeting. Commissioner Gist introduced Dr. Philip Less as the Director of Adult Education at RIDE. R. DiPasquale acknowledged the effective restructuring of the Adult Education office and of the entire Department of Education. He thanked Commissioner Gist for her work in this regard. R. Di Pasquale introduced Susan Bernstein, a Policy Analyst on education from the Governor's Office and noted that she will be working with RIDE, the Office of Higher Education and other agencies on education issues.

Board Development Committee

Committee Chair Sharon Moylan reported that the committee is working on plans for the GWB Annual meeting to be held on May 19th and a board retreat. She noted that the Board Development Committee will be meeting following the board meeting.

Career Pathways System Task Force (CPSTF)

Chair Brandon Melton reported that the first meeting of the CPSTF was held on February 3, 2011 and that there was outstanding attendance. He noted a pre-planning meeting where the agenda was established which provided the charges to the task force, the definition of career pathways and a review of the key recommendations of the 21st Century Commission report. He noted that Andrea Castaneda of RIDE developed a draft framework for the career pathways system. Chair Melton noted that several objectives were derived from the first meeting including using evidence based data from Labor Marketing Information at DLT; identifying skills gaps from the industry partnerships; be conscious of the scale of the work suggesting focusing on one or two key industries; identifying growing and emerging industries and to recommend clearly defined pathways. Chair Melton stated the importance of utilizing best practices in recommending strategies and objectives.

Employment Security Advisory Council (ESAC)

Committee Chair Bill McGowan reported that the ESAC has not met, but that the General Assembly has been provided with information and recommendations on issues relating to unemployment insurance.

Executive and Strategic Investments Committee

Vice Chair reported for Chair MarcAurele stating both committees met on February 7th and that Allan Tear from Betaspring provided an update to members of the Strategic Investments Committee.

Planning & Evaluation Committee

Committee Chair McGowan reported that the next Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting will be held on March 1, 2011.

Youth Development Committee

Committee Chair Melton provided an update on several items of the Youth Development committee indicating there was a good response for both Requests for Proposals (RFP). This includes the summer JDF youth programs and the year round WIA program. He reported that negotiations are currently taking place for contracts to begin July 1st for the summer program and April 1st for the WIA program.

Old/New Business

With no further business, Vice Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: M. Trueb moved to approve. R. Di Pasquale seconded the motion.
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney