

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 25, 2007**

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Joseph MarcAurele, George Nee, Brandon Melton, Martin Trueb
Members Absent: William McGowan, Lorna Ricci, Armeather Gibbs
Staff Present: Michael Koback
Guests Present: Paul Harden, Sandra Powell

With a quorum present, Chair MarcAurele called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Chairman MarcAurele asked Paul Harden of the RI Economic Development Corporation to discuss the Workforce Expansion Grant request by Alexion Manufacturing, LLC. Paul reviewed the Grant Proposal Summary Sheet available to members in the meeting packet. He explained that Alexion is a pharmaceutical company that has refurbished the former Dow facility in Smithfield and is seeking to hire and train 100 employees. The types of jobs vary based on the company's planned expansion to RI, but the rates of pay average between \$15.00 to \$47.00 dollars per hour. Alexion requested \$328,577 and the EDC supported this as appropriate in view of the company's plan.

Paul responded to discussion points and answered questions from the members about the company, their processes and ties to the workforce development system in RI. The members responded positively to the request and agreed that Alexion was a good company and the type of high skill, high wage one that the state needs to attract and support.

Chairman MarcAurele called for a vote on the requested funding.

VOTE: Brandon Melton moved to approve the amount as requested, seconded by George Nee. All approved.

Michael Koback presented the updated budget report stating that this award leaves a balance of \$435,881 in the Workforce Expansion category. He also explained that recommendations would be forthcoming at the next Committee meeting to shift funding to accommodate the second round of Comprehensive Training Grants RFP soon to be released.

The minutes of the March 22, 2007 Strategic Investment Committee Meeting were reviewed.

VOTE: George Nee moved to approve, seconded by Brandon Melton. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Koback