

**Governor's Workforce Board RI
Strategic Investment Committee Meeting
July 23, 2008**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Joseph MarcAurele, Chair, Martin Trueb, Brandon Melton
William McGowan, Armeather Gibbs
Members Absent: George Nee, Lorna Ricci
GWB Staff Present: Nancy Olson, Maureen Mooney
Others Present: Sandra Powell, Paul Harden, John O'Hare, Connie Parks

Call to Order

Chair MarcAurele called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the funding requests listed on the agenda.

Minutes of 6/19/08

Chair MarcAurele asked for a review of the meeting minutes of June 19, 2008 of the Governor's Workforce Board RI (GWBRI) Strategic Investment Committee. He then asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: W. McGowan moved to approve. M. Trueb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Funding Requests

Workforce Expansion

Chair MarcAurele asked P. Harden of the RI Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC) to review the funding requests for the Workforce Expansion grants. P. Harden provided an overview on the funding requests for the following companies:

VR Industries: The company acquired another electronic assembly company and has relocated the production to Warwick, RI from Massachusetts. Additional staff will be hired and trained in specialized assembly work for a defense contractor. The company is requesting funding in the amount of \$42,783.68 to hire and train 11 employees.

With no further discussion, Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to approve the funding request in the amount of \$42,784 to VR Industries.

VOTE: W. McGowan moved to approve. B. Melton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Interplex Engineered: The company recently acquired the former Handy Harman facility in East Providence and will be consolidating the manufacturing operations from Massachusetts. The company is requesting funding in the amount of \$100,000 to hire and train 20 employees.

With no further discussion, Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to approve the funding request in the amount of \$100,000 to Interplex Engineered.

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve. A. Gibbs seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Other Business

A general discussion ensued on various issues and topics relating to workforce development during the current difficult economic times.

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

VOTE: M. Trueb moved to approve. B. Melton seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney