



**Governor's Workforce Board
Strategic Investments and Evaluation
Committee**

**April 13, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present: Mike Grey, Suzy Alba, Mario Bueno, Constance Howes, Chair, Channavy Chhay, Scott Jensen
Committee Members Absent: Cheryl Merchant, George Nee, Janet Raymond
GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Kristen McKenna, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello, Marjories Uceta
DLT Staff Present: Sean Fontes, Diane Gagne, Joe Agresti, Lisa D'Agostino, Sue Chomka, Nancy Olson, Helen Bond, Robert Kalaskowski
Other Guests Present: Malcolm Baxter, BIS; Philip Less, RIDE; Linda Katz, Cheryl DaCosta, Tech Collective,
Location: Department of Labor and Training, Conference Room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Grey called the meeting to order at 8:42 am and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

Chair Grey asked for a review of the April 13, 2016 Strategic Investments & Evaluation Committee meeting minutes. Chair Grey asked if there was a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

VOTE: Constance Howes moved to approve, seconded by Scott Jensen. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

FY 17 Workforce Innovation Grant Renewal process

Chair Grey asked Sherri Carello to provide an overview of the FY17 Workforce Innovation Grant renewal process. Sherri noted:

- Meeting schedule with Innovation Grant recipients
- Assuming performance is good, grants will be level funded at 1.4 million in total and any additional program costs will be negotiated
- 13 of the 16 grantees remain for one year, most are part of Real Jobs RI
- Grantees will have the opportunity to pitch for RJRI and WIG/IP partners will be the first pitches accepted under RJRI

Scott Jensen noted that Governor Raimondo's big focus is to start focusing on implementing all the programs we have. Constance Howes noted that the Governor says there is a need for median wage increases. C. Howes asked if RJ will be focusing on the wages offered to participants under the RJ Grant. Scott noted the balance of the wages are bringing people into the middle class and into a Career Pathway in that sector. We should be tracking this information we need to take a

look at the Brookings report All efforts are being made to use the Brookings report and shoot for a median wage of 18.43 an hour. Scott also said, we need to be clear on metrics and what needs to be tracked. It should be transparent and available for the public.

New Youth Initiatives Update: Youth centers and CTE partnership

Chair Grey asked Sherri Carello to provide an update on the New Youth Initiative / CTE Partnership. Sherri noted this a statewide program

- \$300,000 of JDF funds combined with local WIOA dollars has been allocated to program
- Provide after school training opportunities for out of school youth ages 17-24
- Provide recruitment and case management by local centers
- Begin in March or April and end by June 30, 2016
- Serving 69 WIOA eligible Out of school youth ages 17-24 , other will be served with JDF funds
- Culinary in Newport and Providence, IT/Microsoft Office in Woonsocket, Construction in Charlestown
- Employer partners will include Amica Insurance, CVS, Panera Bread and AAA Northeast
- There will be paid internships through WIOA funds and possibly Work Immersion

Comparison and Coordination of Real Jobs RI with Incumbent Worker Training Requirements

Chair Grey asked Rick Brooks, GWB Executive Director and Robert Kalaskowski, Real Jobs, Grant Advisor for an update on the requirements: Rob and Rick noted:

- Business has to pay into the Job Development Fund (JDF) to receive a grant, except non-profit, RJ doesn't require pay into JDF
- IW grants are a 50/50 match and Real Jobs RI does not require a cash match
- GWB rolling Incumbent Worker Training grant , business can apply twice a year
- GWB IWTG limit is \$45,000 dollars, cannot exceed.
- RJ is a pitch process not rolling and not limited but amounts will be based on quality of the proposal and available funds.

Constance Howes noted there are some key points and questions:

1. GWB Board should be aware of the differences with the 2 programs
2. RJ Partners made the collective decision to come together, not a single employer
3. Pitch process should have standards
4. Questions for IWTG: Does the training assist the industry? And did it solve the make a meaningful difference with measurable outcomes.

R. Kalaskowski noted Real Jobs RI will remain a single program, something it will be IWTG. Real Jobs RI require an enrollment process and go through the partnership. Rick and Rob are looking at both programs to see how they can work together. Mario Bueno noted outcomes are very important for tracking purposes. R. Kalaskowski indicated that matching employer contributions are likely to become a requirement in the future. R. Kalaskowski discussed active contract management that the Board will be informed of and how it can be used to inform policy decisions.

Chair Grey highlighted some key points for further discussion with the board,

- Where is the market place for these two programs?
- What can we learn from the 2 programs?
- What are the differences and why?
- Is it useful and is it working?

How will we know that an employer is part of RJ and IWTG and will there be a way to identify other funding in the application like” are you applying for RJRI funds?”

Mario Bueno stated we should look at other states to see how they use JDF funds including requirements etc.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Grey asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: Constance Howes moved to approve, seconded by Scott Jensen. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown