



GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 10, 2015

Committee Members Present: Constance Howes, Mike Grey, Martin Trueb, Monica Dzialo, Robin Coia, Susan Rittscher
GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, David Tremblay, Amelia Roberts, Pat Pelletier, Marjories Uceta, Dan Brown
DLT Staff Present: Sean Fontes, Mary Ellen McQueeny-Lally
Other Guests Present: Malcom Baxter
Location: RI DLT, Conference room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Howes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2015 Executive Committee meeting.

VOTE: Mike Grey moved to approve, seconded by Martin Trueb. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

WIOA Eligible Training Provider Policy

David Tremblay introduced the Draft WIOA Certification Process for Eligible Training Providers/Programs to the Committee and described the process of initial and continuing eligibility.

D. Tremblay addressed some major elements of the policy. Apprenticeship is a new focus of WIOA and apprenticeship programs are all approved for the ETPL as an eligible entity if they so choose. Training providers who want to provide college level credit courses must register with the office of Higher Education. The new policy requires the applicant to indicate if they are such a provider and to indicate on the application that they have registered with the Office of Higher Education. Real Jobs Rhode Island (RJRI) providers have met the requirements of initial eligibility so are approved for the ETPL. The provider must still be a provider that is an eligible entity.

Chair Howes mentioned that some recipients of RJRI grant funds are collaborations of several providers, some may provide degrees of training to the participants, some may do outreach and not training. Chair Howes questioned the clarity of the policy to be clear that providers have to be providing the training. D. Tremblay explained that a RJRI partnership is an association with a lead convener who is the recipient of the funds, who is typically a trade association, not a training provider. He said a formal ETP relationship with the training school is necessary but will accept that the application process will be waived because the selection process includes being named in a partnership, the criteria of business partnerships, recognized credentials and in-demand sectors. The policy is effective in that the timeline meets the RJRI training that begins in January.

Chair Howes questioned if an In Demand list has been developed and asked if the connected industries that require training are or will be on the list. D. Tremblay stated that the current list is stale and the next phase would be to update the list going into 2016. He stated that LMI is very interested in working on the sectors of Commerce RI and RJRI so occupations that are identified through those processes that may not be in projections from LMI will be added to the list. D. Tremblay explained that the idea is to visit the list at least twice a year for new occupations but also to remove some.

D. Tremblay explained that the performance information that will be asked of the providers will lead to the ability for participants to make informed choices. The reporting information asked of them is the percentage

of program participants in unsubsidized employment, the retention in that job, the median earnings, the percentage of those who have received a credential, the percentage of those who have received measurable skill gains and lastly the indicators of effectiveness of serving their employers. This is straight out of the WIOA law and the difference from WIA is that this information is for all students, not only those funded by WIOA. D. Tremblay stated that if you want reliable data, Social Security numbers are needed. The State will assist providers in obtaining this information. This is going to be a difficult task.

D. Tremblay explained that setting performance standards is suggested but is not mandatory. He is recommending collecting data for at least two years to see what type of quality data is received then setting a process which will set a benchmark. D. Tremblay suggested working with the training providers to get a reasonable set of outcomes and then setting a standard.

D. Tremblay introduced Marjories Uceta as a new staff member dedicated to the ETPL process. Marjories explained the timeline and process that resulted in the Initial and Continuing Eligibility Policy. D. Tremblay noted that the two-week public comment period begins on December 10.

Approval of DRAFT WIOA Certification Process for Eligible Training Providers/Programs

Chair Howes asked for a motion to approve the DRAFT WIOA Certification Process for Eligible Training Providers/Programs for Comment Period of Two Weeks

VOTE: Mike Grey moved to approve, seconded by Robin Coia. Monica Dzialo abstained. A majority approved the vote, the motion passed.

WIOA Planning Process

R. Brooks explained that Sarah Blusiewicz, Special Advisor to the Director was unable to address the Board so R. Brooks gave a general overview of the rest of the WIOA transition. WIOA went into effect in July but its implementation will be ongoing for a while. A State Plan must be submitted in March. The Plan must incorporate the strategies, the objectives and each of the requirements of the WIOA funded partners/agencies; RIDE, Adult Ed, ORS, most of the DLT programs as well as other state workforce programs that may not be required partners, may not be directly funded by WIOA. In addition, employer partners will have a voice and a role in developing this Unified Combined Plan. There is a very strong emphasis on engaging business, sector strategies, career pathways and serving vulnerable populations. The Board will have to look at how to address these priorities, what is the service strategy, how do we serve these populations, how will we make the one-stops more effective. On each of those requirements and priorities a detailed plan must be developed. That process will kick into high gear over the next month and will conclude in early March. CSIP was due on November 15, the deadline was extended through January 8. There are significant data challenges but significant opportunities in the CSIP plan.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Howes asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Martin Trueb moved to approve, seconded by Mike Grey. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Pelletier