

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board  
**Market-Driven Workforce System Committee**

November 10, 2005  
**Minutes**

**Members Present**

Craig Anderson  
Kirk Hayes  
Ginny Sullivan

**Members Absent**

John Evans EA  
Phil Hanson  
Nancy Hendrickson  
Hyon Kim  
Lorrie Louder  
Jerry McElroy  
Mary McKee  
John Mohr  
William Yang

**Staff/Guests Present**

Kate Bates, WIB Staff  
Rachel Hillman, DEED  
John O'Phelan, Workforce Solutions

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**Call to Order**

Craig Anderson, acting chair, called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm.

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**Approve Minutes**

**Motion** made and seconded by Kirk Hayes to approve the minutes of September 8 as written.  
**Motion carried.**

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**Update on ELL Grants/Business Services Pilot/Mobile Workforce Center**

CLUES requested \$22,500 (the remainder of the funds) in WIA incentive funds to train workers at La Perla Tortilleria. The rating team will review the proposal and vote next week.

DEED is restructuring and is hiring for a few positions in the Business Services staff area. Mary Jo is keeping contact with Dave Niermann at DEED and when they are ready to start working on next steps she will find out how we can work with them.

There is interest at the County level to look further into the mobile workforce center concept. Comm. Ortega has requested to visit Will County, IL to see their center. It is currently in Alabama helping with hurricane victims. It is expected back in December- when it is back Mary Jo will arrange for the commissioner to see it.

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**Approve Chair and Vice-Chair**

Scott LeMire has resigned from the WIB and we are in need of a new chair for this committee. We would like to thank Scott for all the work he did for the WIB during his many years of service. Craig Anderson has agreed to serve as chair, and we need volunteers for the position of vice-chair. The group delayed this item because there were not enough people in attendance to decide this issue.

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**Update on Ramsey County Labor Market Info**

Rachel Hillman, DEED, was present to update the committee on our labor market information. Previously we had defined healthcare, advanced manufacturing and construction as our top priorities based on factors like higher than average wages, growth industry, competitiveness and industry size. While healthcare and manufacturing are still performing well, construction has decreased and Rachel suggested other industries of focus to consider. It is important to remember that construction has very high wages and hires from a target labor supply, the ELL population. Rachel indicated that from 2000-2030 Ramsey County's population will grow 16% and there will be a 30% growth in employment. This leads one to believe that the construction industry will be needed to build houses and businesses for all of the new people. Other industries that may be of interest are finance, insurance and real estate industry, management of companies or wholesale trade. Other things to be aware of are employees for the high-demand industries- ensure that the training is available locally for jobs that are in demand. After brief discussion the group agreed to keep the priority industries the same until a larger group can discuss the findings. Rachel Hillman will come to a WIB meeting and present there if we would like her to.

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**Discussion on How Businesses Use Staffing Agencies**

John O'Phelan was present from Workforce Solutions to find out how businesses used staffing agencies. There was a question as to whether or not he should present when there is a larger representation of employers- though this will most likely happen, there was some discussion that went on. Members of the group use staffing agencies sometimes and have a few that utilize, but do not exclusively contract with any one firm. Some of the pluses of using staffing agencies are the pre-screening the employees get, and employers are able to hire on a trial basis, or a permanent to hire situation. This allows them to see how a certain individual performs before taking them on as a permanent employee. Janet Ludden and ESI did a survey like this, and it was recommended to John that he ask Janet about this subject.

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**Open Forum**

Craig Anderson announced that our community did not get the manufacturing grant that was applied for through Saint Paul College, among other partners.

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**Adjourn**

**Motion** made by Kirk Hayes with second by Ginny Sullivan to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

**Motion carried**

**Next Meeting-** January 12, 1:00-2:30, Room A, Midway WorkForce Center