

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board

June 3, 2010

Minutes

WIB Members Present

Patricia Brady
Elizabeth Campbell
Steve Carlson
Toni Carter
Mike Chanaka
Joe Crowe
Mary Dahlquist
Amy Filice
Trixie Golberg
Lee Helgen
Scott Helland
Butch Howard
Doug Hubbard
Barb Jeanetta
Dennis Johnson
Janet Ludden
David MacKenzie
Barbara Mednick
Bob Morse
Paul Nelson
Mary Russell
Jim Schultz
Joe Stratig
Dan Strittmater

Members Absent

Craig Anderson
Jacquelyn Carpenter
Robert de la Vega EA
Kathy Engesser
Clarence Hightower
Rob McKenzie
Scott North EA

Staff/Guests Present

Jerry Etesse, Roseville Area Schools
Mary Jo Gardner, WIB Staff
Kathy Korf, Workforce Solutions
Kate Raleigh, WIB Staff
Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order

The WIB meeting was called to order at 2:34 p.m. The agenda was adjusted to move the ARRA Funds Report to the top of the agenda.

ARRA Funds Report

Patricia Brady and Terry Zurn presented outcomes associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding. A stated goal of the Act was to spend the funds quickly, with transparency and accountability maintained in the distribution and use of funds. Additionally, the funds were to preserve and create jobs, promote the nation's economic recovery and provide extra assistance to those most impacted by the recession.

Ramsey County received \$4.5M for various workforce and assistance programs, with these funds to be obligated by June 30, 2010 and spent by June 30, 2011. Programs impacted by these funds include year-round and summer youth, WIA adults, dislocated workers and Job Service, amongst others. The industries with the greatest job losses are Manufacturing and Construction; the industries with the most growth are Healthcare and Education Services. In March 2010, the unemployment rate in Ramsey County was 7.5%, compared with 8.2% statewide.

Members will receive a copy of the presentation, which included the following opportunities and outcomes:

- Strategic vision for ARRA funds
- Ramsey County unemployment numbers (roughly double what it normally is)
- How Ramsey County residents are being served
- Tools used in addressing unemployment

- Partnerships utilized
- Needs not met by these funds

Recognition and Announcements

- See Attachment I for Recognition and Announcements.

Approve Consent Agenda

- **Approve Agenda**
- **Approve April Minutes**
- **Approve Local Plan**
- **Approve Annual Report**
- **Ratify DOL Community Based Job Training Grant Support Letter**

Motion made by Janet Ludden with second by Mike Chanaka to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

Nominate Chair-Elect

If anyone is interested in being elected as the WIB's Chair-Elect, please contact Mary Jo for more information.

Butch Howard tabled this agenda item until the August 5th full board meeting.

Committee Reports

Market Trends and Oversight Committee

Dan Strittmater updated the board on the Market Trends and Oversight Committee (MTOC), a name voted on at a recent meeting of the new merged committee. The following updates were shared from the MTOC:

- Luke Weisberg attended the April meeting to discuss the Working Learner's collaborative grant, which the Greater Metropolitan Workforce Council received to streamline assessments for students, organize resources for career counselors, and create a metro-level skills panel of employers to provide a resource of industry experts to advise special projects.
- The County approved the WIB's proposal to work with the RENEW project. The MTOC will get project updates at their meetings.

Barb Mednick discussed the Issues Awareness Program. The goal of this program is to inform WIB and community members on key workforce issues, while establishing the WIB as a thought leader in workforce development. The MTOC has started to work on the format for Issues Briefs, which will be documents sharing relevant information on the issues at hand, its local impact, action taken and action recommended. The committee is currently testing the template that will be used to write the Issues Briefs. Once approved by the MTOC, other committees can select issues of importance to their work and create Issues Briefs. Barb Mednick and Trixie Golberg were thanked for their work in initiating this program.

Mary Russell updated the board on the Healthcare Initiative. The 15 students are finishing their classroom work in June and all have job shadows planned for the end of June. In July, the teachers will work with the students to help them prepare for their certification test in August. The collaboration includes 14 community partners; the partners will look at measures and outcomes at the end of the program and will discuss next steps. Ideally, the collaboration will follow the students through the first six- to twelve-months of their employment. Initiative partners have met with Senator Franken to provide information on the Healthcare Initiative and the Center for Law and Social Policy, which is overseeing FastTRAC and other similar programs for the Joyce Foundation, to discuss the program and its teaching model.

Education Committee

At their May meeting, the Education Committee invited the education partners of the Healthcare Initiative to discuss the education piece of the initiative. Representatives from Saint Paul College and the Hubbs Center were at the meeting to talk about the program's model, which integrates Adult Basic Education instruction with

Medical Billing and Coding content. The committee has asked members from the RENEW project and the Blue Green Alliance to come and discuss their training efforts at their July 26th meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

Youth Council

Dave MacKenzie informed the board that the Youth Council is in the process of recruiting new members and is need of a Chair-Elect. Members interested in these opportunities should contact WIB staff. During the May meeting Claudia Brewington, Intergovernmental Relations Specialist for Ramsey County, updated the Council on what occurred in the legislature during the past session and what is upcoming in the next session. Funding will be tight across the board and in response, the Council needs to create a strong message in support of their programs, including Building Lives. Over the summer, the Youth Council will strategize how best to craft their message to the legislature.

Terry Zurn showed the Building Lives video, made by SoulTouch Productions, with assistance from youth in Workforce Solutions' program. Members requested that staff put this video on the WIB's website.

Other

The East Metro Women's Council presented at a recent White Bear Rotary meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made by Mike Chanaka with second by David MacKenzie to adjourn the meeting at 3:52 pm.

Motion Carried.

Attachment I

Ramsey County WIB Meeting June 3, 2010

Recognition:

- Thank you to Kathy Engesser, Barb Mednick, and Mary Russell for their work on the WIB's 2009 Annual Report.
- Thank you to our Ramsey County workforce partners for their contributions to the WIB's 2009 Annual Report.
- Thank you to Kathy Engesser and Barb Mednick for their work on the spring edition of the WIB's newsletter, Workforce Connections. The newsletter was sent to WIB and committee members, in addition to other community partners. Please let Kate know of other individuals who should be on the distribution list.
- Thank you to partners for their contributions to the 2010 Local Plan, including Workforce Solutions, DEED Job Service, DEED Rehabilitation Service, Adult Basic Education, Quality Career Services, the Greater Metropolitan Workforce Council and State Services for the Blind.
- Thank you to Barb Mednick for her continued focus on the development of the WIB's Issues Awareness concept.
- Thank you to Dave MacKenzie and the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center for hosting the Youth Council's April meeting.
- Thank you to WIB members Mary Russell and Joe Crowe for their participation in a meeting with representatives from the national Center for Law and Social Policy regarding the WIB's Healthcare Initiative. The meeting focused on the partner collaboration and the integrated curriculum and teaching model used with the Medical Billing and Coding program.
- Thank you to Mary Russell and Commissioner Carter for their participation in a meeting with Senator Franken at the Hubbs Center. Mary presented the Healthcare Initiative along with two participants from the class. Also represented at the meeting was MnSCU, Saint Paul ABE, DEED and the M-Powered program.
- Thank you to Claudia Brewington, Intergovernmental Relations Specialist at Ramsey County, for updating the Youth Council on legislative items at their May meeting.
- Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota presented their Public Partner of The Year Award to Ramsey County Workforce Solutions on May 11, 2010. Workforce Solutions exemplifies creativity and collaborative approaches in assisting Goodwill-Easter Seals fulfill their Mission and serve residents in Ramsey County. Workforce Solutions was presented their award at the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners Meeting and Goodwill-Easter Seals' Annual Power of Work Dinner.
- Congratulations to Workforce Solutions as they are one of 11 Workforce Service Areas in Minnesota that will be a part of a \$5M National Emergency Grant (NEG) award from the US Department of Labor to serve additional dislocated workers coming into the WorkForce Centers.
- Congratulations to Workforce Solutions Dislocated Worker Team for receiving a Best Practices Award for Innovation in client services from DEED.

Announcements:

- The annual YouthLEAD Recognition Event will be held at the Harriet Island Pavilion on June 23 from 5-6:30 pm. Youth completing employment programs are recognized by their counselors for their successes in the past year. All are welcome to attend!
- The WIB is seeking individuals for two leadership positions on the board- Chair-Elect of the WIB and Chair-Elect of the Youth Council. Individuals interested in serving as Chair-Elect of the WIB must be business representatives. The role of Chair-Elect of the Youth Council is open to all members but must be approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. Nominations will be called for both positions. Please contact Mary Jo for more information.
- All members are asked to join a WIB committee. Membership on the Market Trends and Oversight Committee and the Education Committee is voluntary. Membership on the Executive Committee and Youth Council are by approval. Refer to the 2010 calendar for upcoming committee meeting dates and contact Kate for further information and to select your committee.
- The next WIB meeting is August 5, 2:30-4:30.