

AGENDA ITEM # 1
Approved May 3, 2006
COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Workforce System Development Committee
February 17, 2006

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Business Co-Chair; Christopher A. Ruud, Executive VP, Ruud Lighting, Racine; Co-Chair Tina Koehn, Vice President of Administration, UMOS, Menomonee Falls; Fredi-Ellen Bove for the Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services; Thomas L. Burse, President, Buveck Consultants/Construction Managers, Milwaukee; Jessica Clark for the Secretary of the Department of Corrections; Bill Clingan, for the Secretary, Department of Workforce Development; Donald L. Rouse, retired VP Corporate Operations, Kohl's Department Stores, Hartland; Georgann Stinson, Vice President, General Converters and Assemblers, Racine; State Representative Josh Zepnick.

Committee Staff Present: Linda Williamson, Pamela O'Brien.

Others Present: Mark Kessenich and Gerard Randall, Milwaukee PIC; Sheryl Billups, Connie Colussy, Dianne Reynolds, DWS-DWD; Francisco Sanchez and Teresa Barch, WOW WDB; Gary Meyer, Job Service, Oshkosh; Jennifer Riggerbach, UWM.

Mr. Ruud called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item #1 Minutes:

Ms. Stinson, seconded by Ms. Bove, moved to approve the minutes of December 9, 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 Recommendations on Priority Action # 1:

Mr. Ruud provided the background for the two-page draft recommendations. He and Ms. Koehn developed the recommendations based on materials previously reviewed, most notably, the November 1994 Legislative Audit Bureau report on *An Evaluation of Employment and Job Training Programs*. Mr. Ruud summarized that report and then discussed the justifications behind each recommendation. He suggested that staff pursue the possibility of using WIA state-wide funds to pay for partner agencies to join the job centers as part of recommendation #3. Mr. Clingan stated that workforce partners would undoubtedly embrace these recommendations conceptually and provided kudos to the Co-Chairs. He expressed a concern about the "Vision" because he would not want to see this visionary piece bog down the implementation of the recommendations. There was further discussion about "under one governing organizational umbrella and one funding structure" and also about the possibility of phasing in these recommendations. It was agreed that in the CWI transmittal letter to the Governor, it should acknowledge that there may be phase-in steps to implement these recommendations. Mr. Clingan stated that if this is accepted by the Governor, the CWI could also request a response or timeline as to how this would be phased in. Mr. Ruud wants that type of accountability which was discussed further related to timelines and an action plan.

Mr. Rouse moved, seconded by Representative Zepnick, to approve the two-page Action Item #1 as is, for presentation to the Executive Committee and then action at the CWI meeting of March 16, 2006. Upon the CWI's approval, we would expect to have a reply from the Governor's office on the acceptance of the recommendations along with an implementation plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Representative Zepnick suggested that members of the Executive Committee and this Committee meet with the Governor to discuss the next steps. Mr. Ruud stated that he wants to proceed in the same manner for the rest of the priority action steps, requested staff to forward those again to Committee members, and asked members to volunteer to draft recommendations for discussion at future Committee meetings. It was agreed that the same process would be used: Committee members would frame the recommendations, staff would draft the document and make certain it reflects the Committee's desires, then DWD Division Administrator Mr. Clingan would review it, and any further revisions would be handled through the CWI Liaison before public circulation in the meeting packet.

Agenda Item # 4 Program Funding:

Ms. Billups presented the employment and training program funding charts. Mr. Ruud thanked her for the excellent information, and noted Ms. Bove's involvement of providing further guidance to staff. There was discussion about the charts and member's stressed how vital this information was to sort out the funding streams for infrastructure participation. They discussed the various ways of defining "alignment," committing resources, and how the job center support level matches proportionately to the program's funding level. Ms. Bove reviewed the purpose of this exercise: to understand more clearly the infrastructure funding, and understand more clearly the multiplicity of programs and program operations.

It was agreed by consensus that

- **The funding level summary chart be included as a support document for Action Item # 1 as part of the report to the Executive Committee and CWI;**
- **An additional column that would identify the allowability within the current federal or state program restrictions;**
- **There needs to be a definition on "infrastructure" that staff will develop which can also be used as part of recommendations for some of the action steps.**
- **This discussion will be used to frame a recommendation around action step #5.**

Mr. Rouse presented WOW's partner job center cost allocation chart that illustrated what partners contribute to the infrastructure.

The Committee recessed in order for the *Ad Hoc* Committee to convene (due to a lack of a quorum at their scheduled 9:00 a.m. meeting). Ms. Koehn chaired the meeting and entertained a proposed amendment to the recommendations by Representative Zepnick on the leadership compositions: **"DWD convenes a Milwaukee leadership team that includes representatives from the Mayor's Office, the Private Industry Council of Milwaukee County, Milwaukee Area Technical College, a representative from the Milwaukee 7 group and someone from the business community/private sector appointed by the Mayor."** Mr. Clingan moved, seconded by Mr. Rouse, to accept the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as amended. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item # 2 *Ad Hoc* Committee

The full Committee resumed and discussed the *Ad Hoc* Committee's report. There was discussion about DWD's role, and the need for accountability. The charge of the Committee was discussed based on a question from Mr. Randall as well as concerns about duplication. The Chair wanted to have it acknowledged that the newly created oversight groups would not be a duplication of existing efforts but would transcend to the larger goals and vision for Milwaukee and the region.

Mr. Ruud proposed to eliminate # 4 from the action item # 1 and have it be a stand alone item back to the CWI Committee. Ms. Koehn moved, seconded by Mr. Rouse, to delete recommendation # 4 from the previous Committee's action. The motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Koehn moved, seconded by Mr. Clingan, that the Committee approve the *Ad Hoc* Report and Recommendations as adopted by the *Ad Hoc* Committee.

Agenda Item # 5 Follow-up Workforce System Partnerships:

Ms. Colussy underscored issues that were already discussed by the Committee: Barriers to partnering at the job center level, WIA performance standards that do not address the full level of activities that are being provided in the infrastructure; and, WDAs operate under conditions that have responsibility without authority.

Agenda Item # 6 Program Metrics/Dashboard:

This item was tabled for the March Committee meeting with a status report on the benchmarking regional metrics initiative and embellishment of the draft chart on the differences as well as accountability.

There was discussion about how to handle the *Ad Hoc* Committee report and UWM report for a press release and press conference. It was agreed that the press release would be drafted for the CWI Executive Committee meeting and that the CWI will hold a press conference in Milwaukee on March 16, 2006.

Mr. Rouse moved, seconded by Ms. Koehn, to adjourn the meeting that was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.