

## COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE

June 2, 2006

*(Draft Pending Approval)*

#### Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Paul Linzmeyer (Chair), Roberta Gassman, Doug Moquin, Aaron Olver (for Mary Burke), Christopher Ruud, Tina Koehn

**Members Absent:** Joel Rogers, Lee Rasch, Dean Welch

**CWI Staff Present:** Sue Gleason, Sheryl Billups

**Others Present:** Gary Denis and Diane Reynolds (DWD/DWS), Mark Mundel (Southeast WDB), Amy Charles (Southwest WDB), Kris Pawlowski (West Central), Beth Sullivan (Western), Teresa Barch (WAJTE), Marty Gholston (Second Chance)

#### Key Issues

I. Call to Order/Minutes

Linzmeyer called the meeting to order at approximately 9:10 a.m. Gassman moved, and Moquin seconded, approval of the February 28, 2006 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Special Innovations Projects

Staff (Billups) briefly reviewed the priorities established by the CWI for the grants and the review process used. This included an interagency review team (DWD, Commerce, WTCS, DPI) augmented by three non-state representatives (COWS, and CWI business representatives from the Workforce Strategies and Systems Committees). Staff also reviewed next steps, noting that the Committee's discussion on projects is intended to inform the Secretary as she makes final decisions, in consultation with the Chair. Billups reviewed the project ratings reflecting the consensus of the Ad Hoc Review Committee (high, medium, low priority projects), pointed out several options for approaching funding decisions, and noted that, rather than committing all funds, some funds could be reserved for later use on other/new projects.

Committee members discussed several projects from all priority groupings, including medium and low priority categories. There was general support for the first three "high priority" proposals. The Chair, supported by other Committee members, wanted to see a strong business presence in projects, including the "Virtual" job center proposed by the Southwest WDB. In response to questions, staff noted that the "Second Chance" program had recently received funding from the State Legislature and it was not clear whether the expansion proposed in the proposal would be supported with the new state money or with the requested CWI dollars. Members also expressed interest in the WRTP, the Bay Area Manufacturing Alliance, and the Bay Area Dislocated Worker proposals, noting respectively the link to unionized high wage jobs; the importance of employer involvement, and the value of career laddering.

Linzmeyer suggested that the top three proposals be considered further and that any uncommitted funds be reserved for later use.

### III. Workforce Strategies Committee Report

In the absence of Committee co-chairs, staff provided an update on Strategy Committee activities.

#### **A. Advanced Manufacturing Projects**

Billups reminded members that the CWI has reserved \$100,000 for projects in advanced manufacturing, and the Strategies Committee has responsibility for proposing how the funds will be used. She referred members to the Workforce Strategies Committee rankings of project concepts, briefly reviewing the ideas behind the first three (Manufacturing Skills Standards, Current Unmet Needs, and Advanced Manufacturing Solutions). Gleason noted that with only \$100,000 available for this project area, little in the way of direct services could be expected; rather the Committee should be thinking in terms of "system" building. During discussion, Gassman recommended that the Department of Commerce and technical college system be involved in discussions of how these funds are used. With the input of only a few Committee members reflected in the priority ranking, the Committee agreed that the project ideas should be referred back to the Strategies Committee for further discussion and formal recommendation.

#### **B. GROW II Principles**

Gleason reviewed the principles that are intended to guide the next round of GROW grants, explaining that Strategy Committee suggestions from its last meeting had been incorporated. She further explained that an emerging issue is whether to include as part of the grant application a requirement that partners present the proposal in person. Committee members expressed support for this suggestion and suggested it be included in Special Innovation Projects in the future as well. Gleason also explained that Second Quarter reports on the GROW grant will be available prior to the June 16 meeting. Ruud emphasized that the key to success for these grants is to ensure accountability, a view that was supported by other Committee members.

**Action:** Gassman moved, and Moquin seconded the motion, to accept the principles as presented with the addition of ensuring business involvement and increased accountability.

### IV. Workforce Systems Development Report

Christopher Ruud reported on the recent activities of the Systems Development Committee to advance its current priorities, noting the following outcomes of its May 3 meeting.

- The Committee's recommendation for improving the workforce development system, as approved by the CWI, as well as the Ad Hoc Recommendations concerning Milwaukee, have been sent to the Governor. The DWD Secretary will be giving a report on DWD response to the System recommendations at the June 16 CWI meeting.
- The Committee decided not to disband the Ad Hoc Work group until there has been successful movement on the recommendations, with an accountability loop. He noted that DWD plans to kick off a leadership team through the summer.
- The Committee is looking at another set of recommendations to address its next four work plan action steps. These deal with increasing participation in a comprehensive workforce system, stream-lined administrative roles, and benchmarks for continuous improvements.
- The Committee decided to put on hold its efforts to develop a "dashboard"/balanced scorecard until the metrics initiative is finalized.metrics

- The Committee hopes to have another set of priorities in the fall, with business issues among areas of interest. This involves making it easier for employers to hire people with employment barriers and "cost of hire" issues. An area that may be looked at is the role of temporary staffing agencies.

V. Other Issues

Gleason reported that the State received \$714,000 in incentive funds from the U.S. DOL resulting from Wisconsin meeting performance standards for three programs in Program Year 2004: WIA, Carl Perkins, and Adult and Family Literacy. DWD and WTCS staff are working together to develop a proposal for use of the funds. The proposal will focus on advanced manufacturing and adult education, targeted to youth, dislocated workers, and incumbent workers.

Ruud reported that the co-chairs of the Workforce Strategies and Systems Committees are have started to meet periodically to review what each Committee is doing. He indicated the meetings (via telephone) will probably occur quarterly to briefly "touch base" on potentially overlapping activities to ensure they are not duplicating work.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.