

DELAWARE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
Modern Maturity Center – DuPont Ballroom
Board of Directors Meeting – June 23, 2009
9:30 a.m.

Attendees: Jeff Bross - Acting Chair, John Castle, Ed Capodanno, Alice Coleman, Pat Creedon, Rob Lau, Samuel Lathem, Hon. John McMahon, Jim Randall, Ben Shaw, Dana Shreve

DOL Staff: Eileen Schneese, Tom Smith, Linda Carmichael

DWIB Staff: Gwen Jones, Bill Potter, Julia Hayward

Quorum achieved.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Minutes – Motion made by Acting Chair, Jeff Bros to approve the minutes of May 19, 2009. Motion seconded by Sam Lathem. All in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Youth Council - Chairman, Dana Shreve provided detailed information regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) allocations for Youth Summer Employment Opportunities released March 20, 2009. Presentations were made at Buena Vista by a total of 12 providers, with a total of 17 programs for funding (by geographical location) for youth summer employment. Out of 13 out-of-school programs submitted 7 were approved for funding and 2 out of 4 submitted for in-school were approved. Distribution of the funding is 30% city of Wilmington, 30 % New Castle County, 20% Kent County and 20% Sussex County. We are asking Delaware Clergy in Sussex to reach out to Cool Springs and other employers that can help make funds go further. A motion was made by Dana Shreve to approve the Summer Youth Work Experience funding recommendations. The motion was seconded by Ed Capodanno. All in favor. Motion carried.

Performance Measures & Customer Satisfaction – Jeff Bross reported in the absence of Bob Clarkin. All categories of the minimum requirements and standards have been met.

Financial Oversight – Chairman, Rob Lau reported. We are right on track with expenditures and that he will be meeting with Gwen Jones and Diane Brooks with the next month to review our end of the year budget and plan for PY09 fiscal budget.

Public Relations & Community Outreach – Chairman, Pat Creedon reported on the Governor’s Entrepreneurial Business Conference held on June 5, 2009 at Wilmington’s Chase Center on the Riverfront. The conference was a part of an outreach campaign between the Delaware Workforce Investment Board (DWIB) and the Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO) to usher in the resources Delaware’s small businesses need to succeed. This conference served as a small business success “road map” to all who attended and helped clearly identify small business, resources, support entities and their core competencies. Nearly 500 individuals attended the conference and the feedback has been very positive.

Proposal Review & Certification Committee - Chairman, John Castle reported that Proposal presentations were made by a total of eight (8) providers, with a total of 14 requests for funds by geographical locations for adult & dislocated workers. John made a motion to approve funding recommendations totaling \$1M, allocated to 4 out of the 8 agencies requesting funding for Adult & Dislocated workers intensive service. Motion made by John Castle to accept the funding recommendations, seconded by Ben Shaw. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Proposal Review & Certification Committee has discussed raising the ITA for degreed programs. John made a motion to increase the ITA for Associates and Bachelor degrees from \$4,500 to \$5,000.00 in light of the adult population we are now serving. The motion was seconded by Ed Capodanno. All in favor. Motion carried. Providers are submitting renewals for the 2010 program year. Renewals will be reviewed and voted on electronically by the committee.

A pilot program for online courses, in collaboration with Delaware Technical & Community College (DTCC) and Strayer University was discussed. John Castle made a motion to accept DTCC and Strayer University as the educational institutions to begin DWIB online courses. Jim Randall questioned why other institutions such as Phoenix University weren't being considered. Gwen Jones informed the committee that Phoenix has issues with WIA performance requirements. Linda Carmichael added that they also are involved in an ongoing investigation with DAG's office. Motion seconded by Pat Creedon. All in favor. Motion carried.

Secretary of Labor, the Hon. John McMahon thanked the review committee chairs for their leadership of the review committees this year. Secretary McMahon also informed the committee that the DWIB will become a priority on the Governor's list after July 1 and that we will be discussing membership, as the Board is being reconfigured, expanded, and revitalized.

Gwen Jones reported on the Provider List Adjustment form (PLAF) stating, the form provides flexibility allowing us to adjust to the needs of the clients we serve.

Chairman's Report

ABE/GED Update - Julia Hayward reported that to date, twenty individuals from the Fox Valley site have earned their GED with one more awaiting results from the June 3rd and 4th GED test. Another student will test on June 25th.

Blue Collar Training Fund Update – As of March 18, 2009, the delinquency billing issued to employers had an outstanding delinquency balance of \$399,512.59 (this amount excludes bankruptcy/judgment cases). During this most recent delinquency billing cycle, we collected \$73,874.83, reducing the delinquency balance to \$325,637.76. The next delinquency bill will be mailed this week and the results from this billing cycle will be mid-May. Ben Shaw observed that the trend shows that collections are low in June and pick up again in August.

State Plan– Bill Potter reported. Another sign of close cooperation is the most recently submitted modification to Delaware’s Demand Driven Two-Year Workforce Plan. As part of the ARRA Delaware is required to update its workforce plan and submit it to U.S.DOL by June 30, 2009. The three agencies worked hand-in-hand and around the clock to get the 41 page modification to the federal government prior to the deadline.

National Emergency Grant (NEG) – Bill Potter reported. If there was a time when DWIB, DOL, and the Division of Employment & Training (DET) operated in silos, it is long forgotten. Today they are joined at the hip, and working closely with Gov. Jack Markell’s office to submit grant applications which will help Delawareans find jobs and build businesses. The grants include National Emergency Grant (NEG), State Labor Market Information Improvement Grant (LMI), State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) and Training, and others.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) – Tom Smith gave a brief report on the ARRA funding and enhanced services we are able to deliver as a result of the this additional funding for Adults, Dislocated Workers (Intensive Services) and Youth (Summer Employment).

Old Business – Sam Lathem asked where we were with BRAC.

New Business - .

Meeting Adjourned