



Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Members:

Kathy Nishimoto, Chair
Duckwall-Pooley Fruit Co.
Management

Tom Chamberlain
Oregon AFL-CIO
Labor

Al Dorgan
United Steelworkers of America
Labor

Cynthia Hurkes
Oregon Commission on Children & Families
Public

Tamara Russell
Miller Nash LLP
Management

Patrick Smith
Lane, Coos, Curry, Douglas Building Trades
Labor

Mary J. Taylor
Freeman Marine
Management

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm. All were welcomed by Acting Chair Al Dorgan.

Present*:

Tom Chamberlain
Al Dorgan
Cynthia Hurkes
Kathy Nishimoto
Tamara Russell
Patrick Smith

Staff to Council:

Rebecca Nance

Not Present:

Mary Taylor (unable to attend telephonically due to phone outage on Southern Oregon Coast)

*Quorum requirement met

Others Present:

Laurie Warner, Employment Department Director
Mark Anderson, Oregon Resource & Referral Network
Martin Burrows, OED Business & Employment Service Administrator
Tom Byerley, OED UI Administrator
George Dunford, Acting OED Chief Financial Officer
Jennifer Shawcross, UI Actuary
Mary Wood, OED UI Economist

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Pat Smith to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2009 meeting. Motion seconded by Kathy Nishimoto. No discussion. Minutes approved as presented.

Election of Chair

Al Dorgan nominated Kathy Nishimoto for the position of Chair. Tamara Russell seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Acting Chair Dorgan declared Kathy Nishimoto Chair by unanimous consent.

Work Share Program Status Update

UI Administrator Tom Byerley reviewed the Work Share program and answered questions posed by Council members. Prior to the current recession there were usually 50 to 60 employers participating per year. As of December 31, 2009 there were 828 employers with Work Share plans in place.

Of these 828 employers, 221 are required to reimburse for calendar year 2010.

Bylaw Review

Copies of the most current bylaws were distributed to the Council for their review and input. The Council asked about the possibility of attendance requirements.

Chair Kathy directed Staff to do some research on how other Councils handle attendance requirements. The possibility of adding the ability of Council members to participate telephonically if they reside more than 100 miles outside of Salem, the thinking is this may attract members east of the mountains.

Quality Child Care & Employment

Council member Cynthia Hurkes previewed the Oregon Resource and Referral Network "Child Care Dream" power point.

Cynthia talked about the Resource and Referral Network's core functions and the importance of quality child care and worker productivity and peace of mind.

The Council would like Cynthia to present on the "Return on Investment" of child care and the work place.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Reauthorization

Martin Burrows presented an update on WIA reauthorization that included a history of WIA and its predecessors. WIA was scheduled for reauthorization in 2003 but it didn't happen, it has been operating under a Continuing Resolution since its expiration.

Martin also reviewed some of the US Department of Labor's goals as they pertain to WIA reauthorization, including: improving accountability; promoting innovation; combining Adult and Dislocated Worker program funding; reducing Governors' set aside; maintaining Trade Act program expansion; and others.

Martin also reviewed some of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies areas of interest, including: system realignment; true One-Stop high quality service delivery; better use of technology; appropriate use of waivers; industry recognized credentials; accountability; and others.

Follow Up Items:

1. Link to National Public Radio's piece on self-directed work
2. WIA Reauthorization pending Congressional action
3. Draft letter to 2011 Oregon Legislators re: UI Diversions

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:26pm.