

SD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Regular Quarterly Meeting
January 3, 2013
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. CT
Conference Call
Toll-free dial-in number: (866) 410-8397
Conference code: 4674229512

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| A. Call to Order | Warren Lotsberg | |
| B. Roll Call | Kari Porch | |
| C. Approval of Minutes | Warren Lotsberg | |
| D. Director's Report | Bill Molseed | |
| E. New Business | | |
| 1. Dakota Seeds Internships | Ann Gesick-Johnson | Action |
| F. Adjournment | | |

AGENDA ITEM A CALL TO ORDER

The South Dakota Workforce Development Council (WDC) met by conference call on January 3, 2013. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Warren Lotsberg at 1:30 p.m. CT.

AGENDA ITEM B ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Members Present

Warren Lotsberg, Chairman	Sarah Folsland	Marcia Hultman
Wally Myers	Cal Geis	D.J. Mertens
Ann Gesick-Johnson	Grady Kickul	David Westbrook
David Giovannini	Randy Hanson	Paul Gough
Shelley Stingley		

Members Absent

Tom Bohnet, Vice-Chairman	Melody Schopp
---------------------------	---------------

Others Present

Bill Molseed	Kari Porch	Tia Kafka
Robert Kean	Jeff Kjenstad	Mary Gates

AGENDA ITEM C APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Wally Myers made a motion to approve the October 10, 2012 minutes. David Giovannini seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

AGENDA ITEM D DIRECTOR’S REPORT

After weeks of working with the USDOL Regional Office, we finally received official notice from DOL confirming acceptance of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Wagner-Peyser (W-P) State Plan, and the state’s negotiated performance levels. This notice also provided approval for four waivers for the state:

1. Approves continued use of Common Measures for WIA and W-P performance; (reduced performance measures from 17 to 9)
2. Approves transfer of up to 50 percent of funds between adult and dislocated workers;
3. Authorizes use of local funds for incumbent worker training for layoff aversion strategies (strong economy will see little use); and
4. Authorizes On-the-Job (OJT) training reimbursement to employers to be based on a sliding scale and workforce size of the employer
 - a. 90 percent reimbursement for employers with 50 or fewer workers;

- b. 75 percent for employers with 51-249 workers, and
- c. 50 percent for employers with more than 250 workers.

The State Plan was previously made available to the council members and the final approved copy may be accessed through the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) website. I will send the link to this website to all council members.

The New Year's Eve/New Year's Day compromise between the Senate and the House to avoid the "fiscal cliff" has delayed sequestration for two months. The bill includes an agreement to reduce the overall fiscal 2013 and 2014 discretionary spending caps by \$12 Billion (split between defense and domestic spending). Funding for WIA and other Labor/Education programs continue to be vulnerable to significant budget cuts. This is something we will be following closely.

Congress has yet to pass a 2013 appropriations bill. Currently the federal government is operating on a Continuing Resolution through March 2013. This provides funding for federal programs at the current levels, including our WIA and W-P programs. It appears that Congress will likely pass another continuing resolution (CR) for the balance of the federal fiscal year through September 2013.

The New Year's Day fiscal compromise also extended the federal unemployment insurance payments and the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program for a year (including the newly added disconnected youth and veterans categories for eligibility). The bill also includes a one-year extension of tax credits for the wind-energy industry.

Until Congress comes to final terms on budgetary issues, we remain in a state of uncertainty as to the funding levels for our services for the current year and next program year. As things in Washington progress we will keep you informed.

AGENDA ITEM E NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM E1 DAKOTA SEEDS

Ann Gesick-Johnson, Department of Tourism and State Development, provided information on four businesses applying for funding through Dakota Seeds. The four businesses are asking for funding for seven internships for a total \$14,000. She requested approval for Dakota Seeds to provide funding for the following businesses.

CHR Solutions in Mitchell provides business consulting, engineering, software solution, and technology managed services to clients. They are

requesting four interns to install, configure, and verify software for new and existing clients. Dakota Seeds recommends approving funding for four interns for a total of \$8,000.

designArc, LLC, in Brookings is a small architectural firm. They are requesting one intern from South Dakota State University's new architectural program to work with established architects on projects. Dakota Seeds recommends funding one intern at \$2,000.

Buhler Industries in Salem manufactures agriculture equipment. They are requesting an engineering student to work on product development and design to their engineering department. Dakota Seeds recommends funding one intern at \$2,000.

DataSync, Corp, in Sioux Falls is a software development company. They are requesting an intern to assist with software development. Dakota Seeds recommends funding one intern at \$2,000.

A motion receiving a majority vote to approved the recommendations made by Dakota Seeds was made. **Motion passed.**

AGENDA ITEM F ADJOURNMENT

Shelley Stingley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 p.m. Wally Myers seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**