

South Dakota Workforce Development Council (SDWDC)  
Meeting Minutes  
October 5, 2016  
Kneip Building, Conference Room # 3  
700 Governors Drive, Pierre SD

Chairman Giovannini called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. (CDT). Kari Porch called the roll. A quorum was present.

**Members Present:** Chairman David Giovannini, Vice-chairman Lee Anderson, Secretary Hultman, Eric Weiss, Tiffany Sanderson, Mary Lehecka-Nelson, Scott Peterson, Mark Rogers, Lindsey Heiss, and Keri Wientjes.

**Members Absent:** Jim Borszich, and Randy Stainbrook

**Others Present:** Director Bill McEntaffer, Kari Porch, Kendra Ringstmeyer, Laura Trapp, Karen Callahan, Dawn Dovre, Mackenzie Decker, Kim Olson, Mark Anderson, Andrew Szilvasi, John Anderson, Julie Ruggiero.

Chairman Giovannini introduced Keri Wientjes, the Human Resource director at Mobridge Regional Hospital and Clinics. They have 190 employees. Keri previously worked at the Department of Labor for 10 years and the Department of Social Services.

Mark Rogers made a motion to approve the July 20, 2016, meeting minutes. Lee Anderson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Secretary Hultman announced the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) central office is relocating to 123 W. Missouri Ave. Staff will be moved to the new office by the end of October.

Director McEntaffer provided the director's report. He introduced Julie Ruggiero as the new program specialist. Her position will be funded through the Accelerator Grant for apprenticeships. She will be working with John Bolger, State Director for Apprenticeship programs with the US Department of Labor, businesses and organizations to increase the number of apprenticeships in South Dakota.

WIOA staff have been working on new policies and procedures. Over the next few months staff will be involved in trainings for the new policies and procedures, and the new data management system.

DLR submitted the latest version of the Unified State Plan on September 1. The Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL) has more than 500 elements DLR will need to collect.

DLR recently received a grant for just under \$1 million to assist with implementing the new data management system.

DLR submitted a grant proposal for the ApprenticeshipUSA State Expansion Grant. If awarded, the grant will begin on November 1. Funding will help with the implementation of pre-apprenticeships which lead to a registered apprenticeship. DLR will focus on healthcare, skills trades and manufacturing.

Director McEntaffer provided information on the 14 required youth elements under WIOA. He asked for the Council's approval to use the sole-source exception when there is an insufficient number of eligible providers or when appropriate under the State's Procurement regulations.

Tiffany Sanderson made a motion to allow DLR the discretion to contract with quality providers as long as they follow the State of South Dakota procurement process for the youth elements using the sole-source exception (WIOA Section 123). Eric Weiss seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Secretary Hultman may require a request for information from businesses interested in providing these services.

Mary Lehecka-Nelson, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) provided an update on the Governor's Community Initiative Grant. In December 2014, the Council read proposals for the grants and provided recommendations to the Governor's office.

Associated General Contractors (AGC) constructed three carpentry and heavy equipment labs. The labs are being used in the Sioux Falls area. The grant is closed.

Brookings Economic Development Corporation requested funding for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. Funds budgeted for the aviation program will be used to purchase an aviation simulator. Add-on equipment for the new welders will be purchased instead of purchasing a welding simulator. Funds were awarded to the Boys and Girls Club to provide scholarships. Twenty-four students were placed in summer internships and four students in fall internships. This grant is still in progress.

Yankton Area Health Education Center (AHEC) received funding for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training for adults. The program has been working to increase awareness of the CNA as a career. Thirty-seven adults and 31 youth were accepted into the program. Twenty-one adults and 30 students completed the program. Twenty-one adults and 21 youth passed the exam. They did not use all of the funds awarded. The program is closed.

The City of Pierre was funded to provide paid vouchers to both students interested in pursuing a post-secondary education and students not planning to attend post-secondary schools. Twenty students and 26 businesses applied. Fifteen students were placed in eight businesses. The program will continue for the 2016 -2017 school year.

De Smet Development Corporation was awarded money for training and scholarships. They did not get the resources needed, so the program did not move forward.

Greater Huron Development Corporation was awarded money for English as Second Language (ESL) training, working with youth and upward mobility. The programs will continue through 2016 with more integrated training for individuals with limited English skills. Upward mobility opportunities, CDL classes, technical skills classes, leadership training and new residence and alumni recruiting will continue.

Belle Fourche Development Corporation was awarded funds for constructing three basements for Governor's homes. All three basements have been constructed and occupied by families. The project is closed.

Black Hills Community Economic Development Corporation was provided funds for workforce development for Energy and Metal Industry, and to develop computer knowledge for grades K-12. The project is closed.

Rushmore Region has completed about half of the projects requested for funding. Excellence in Computer Programming developed explicit resources. Specific training was provided to metal workers, manufacturers and knowledge intensive companies. The decision was made to not pursue the energy industry project.

Gregory Business Industry Development Corporation contracted with Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) for on-site CBL training. They had 23 applicants, and only 10 applicants could be funded on a first-come, first-served basis. Nine students completed the written test with eight completing the driving test and finding employment in the Gregory area. The project is completed.

Wagner Area Growth never got off the ground. They ran numerous ads for training in CDL and welding, but only had few responses. They did not feel the class would be worth the effort.

Yankton Area Progressive Growth was given funding for CTE and STEM programs at several area schools. Twenty-six students from area schools participated in the summer manufacturing academy and 14 in the summer automotive academy. The students earned half of a CTE credit and the manufacturing academy students earned a credit from MTI. Dual credit welding classes with MTI included 10 students from Mitchell and 20 students from Yankton. Dual credit CAD classes included three students from Mitchell and 30 from Yankton. The project is completed.

Watertown Development Corporation was funded to offer incentives for relocation expenses, scholarships and tuition expenses for employees and spouses. The project funded relocation expenses for nine employees and assisted with the upgrade training of 66 employees. The project is on-going.

Aberdeen Development Corporation was funded to provide ESL classes. They contracted with Northern State University (NSU). Classes started August 2015. Approximately 67 students have been tested for placement. Class sizes range from seven to 10 students. The project is on-going.

Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) was approved for funding to transport students from area schools to attend the Career and Tech Academy. Transportation began in the fall of 2015. Forty-six students are enrolled in the academy this year. This is 41 percent increase. With matching funds, a career coach was hired to work with students. The project is on-going.

Scott Peterson stated the funds and experience Belle Fourche received for the basement project was very beneficial to the Belle Fourche community. The West River Foundation has partnered with the Belle Fourche school for many years to construct a house, however, finding a location to place the houses has always been a challenge. After completing the basement project, the Belle Fourche Development Corporation partnered with the school and the West River Foundation. The West River Foundation still funds the houses, but the Belle Fourche Development Corporation took the experience from the basement project, purchased land in Belle Fourche and built basements for the houses constructed by the school. They have also brought NeighborWorks into the community. The projects will help with the affordable housing shortage in Belle Fourche.

The Council discussed providing information on best practices and inviting the organizations back to future Council meetings to provide an update on their projects.

Eric Weiss, Division Director for the Division of Rehabilitation Services, provided an update on the Governor's Awards, Ability For Hire and National Disability Employment Awareness Month. He provided the program from the Governor's Award Ceremony. The ceremony took place on September 13, 2016 at the Capitol Rotunda. The event recognizes employer contributions, employers who know the value of hiring individuals with disabilities. It also recognizes individuals that have played a role in the achievements of people with disabilities, and other South Dakotans for their contributions toward the rehabilitation and employment of people with disabilities. The award recipients are chosen from nomination forms. The Division of Rehabilitation Services works with the nominations in the spring. Nomination forms can be found at <http://dhs.sd.gov/drs>.

Eric provided a news release proclaiming October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). The news release provided a listing of events taking place around the state. NDEAM is designed to raise awareness of disability employment issues and celebrate the contributions of workers with disabilities.

Eric provided a brochure with information on the Ability to Hire campaign. Ability to Hire targets businesses with the goal to educate them on hiring individuals with disabilities. The organization provides employers with resources and technical assistance needed

to hire individuals with disabilities. Eric showed video testimonials featuring employers who have hired individuals with disabilities.

Director McEntaffer and Julie Ruggiero provided information on the apprenticeship program. The Council discussed the distinction and importance between the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship. Tiffany Sanderson stated the enrollment in the construction trades classes in the classrooms have been increasing over the last few years. DLR has a goal to have classroom hours in registered apprenticeship programs also apply toward college credits.

Mark Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:42 p.m. (CDT). Tiffany Sanderson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Hultman  
Cabinet Secretary