

Workforce Development Council Meeting
Regular Quarterly Meeting
April 3, 2008

AGENDA ITEMS

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| A. Call to Order | Warren Lotsberg | |
| B. Approval of Minutes | Warren Lotsberg | |
| C. Director's Report | Bill Molseed | |
| D. New Business | | |
| 1. PY 2008 Allotment of WIA / AEL Funds | Bill Molseed | Action |
| 2. Dakota Seeds | Kimberly Olson | |
| 3. Board of Vocational Rehabilitation | Grady Kickul | Action |
| 4. SCSEP State Plan | Todd Kolden
Jean Bennett | |
| E. Adjournment | | |

The agenda was amended to include a University Program Update by Paul Gough after the PY 2008 Allotment of WIA / AEL Funds.

AGENDA ITEM A CALL TO ORDER

The South Dakota Workforce Development Council (WDC) met in Pierre in the Kneip Building Conference Room # 3 on Thursday, April 3, 2008. The meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Warren Lotsberg at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was present.

Members Present

Warren Lotsberg, Chairman	Pam Roberts	D. J. Mertens
Pat Lund, Vice-Chairwoman	Grady Kickul	Rich Benda
Paul Gough	Shelley Stingley	Cal Geis
Helen Wegner	Roland Benson	Wally Myers
Patricia Kenner	Rick Melmer	

Members Absent

George Cook	Larry Tolzin
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Others Present

Bill Molseed	Deb Halling	Kathy Evens
Kari Porch	John Fathke	Brian Riedel
Jean Bennett	Marcia Hultman	Gloria Pluimer
Marcia Hess	Kim Olson	Jeff Kjenstad
Todd Kolden	Bill McEntaffer	Teresa Johnson

AGENDA ITEM B APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pat Lund made a motion to approve the January 3, 2008 minutes. Patricia Kenner seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

AGENDA ITEM C DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill thanked his colleagues for stepping in and helping out while he was out of the office during his recent surgery.

Federal Legislation

The administration and Congress started discussions regarding employment and training programs for PY09. Key elements set forth by the U.S. Department of Labor included a proposal to eliminate Wegner-Peyser. Wegner-Peyser is the cornerstone for the Department of Labor. The administration's plan is to combine Wegner-Peyser funds with Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds. The South Dakota Department of Labor (SDDOL) has been combining these funds through the WIA years, JTPA years and CETA years.

Another significant element in the U.S. Department of Labor's proposal is career advancement accounts. The career advancement accounts have been offered

previously, but this proposal requires a 20 percent state cash match. The career advancement accounts are certificates issued for up to \$3,000 to individuals coming to the career centers looking for work. The recipients can use the certificate for reemployment activities as they see fit. The parameters have not been set at this time.

The U.S Department of Labor requested a rescission of funds reaching back to July 2005. The rescission is in addition to all other rescissions and reductions over the past three years. The formula used to calculate the amount of the current rescission is complex. SDDOL has been asked to return \$937,000. This is nearly 5.5 percent of the funds received in PY 2005 through PY 2007. The funds for the rescissions will need to come from PY 2008 funds.

One advantage for South Dakota is our strong economy. We have not seen a major layoff recently, so dislocated funds can be transferred to adult funds. If South Dakota does have a major layoff we can apply for National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds.

SDDOL consistently leads the Dallas region in performance. The last report indicated SDDOL exceeded performance in 16 of the 17 measures and met performance in the 17th measure.

Federal representatives from the Dallas Regional office will be in Pierre during the week of April 7, 2008. They will be here for program and fiscal reviews.

State Accomplishments

SDDOL has been involved in the development of two grant proposals. The STEM (Science, Technology, Energy and Mathematics) application was put together by SDDOL, the Regional Technical Education Center in Yankton, the Governor's Office of Economic Development and other state agencies. SDDOL is involved with an energy grant. Lake Area Technical Institute was the primary sponsor but SDDOL strongly supports it.

On July 10, 2008, Ken Sorber from Western Governors University (WGU) visited South Dakota promoting a scholarship opportunity for individuals interested in teaching math and science in rural areas. SDDOL, working with South Dakota Career Centers (SDCC), set a goal to get 15 individuals to apply to WGU and apply for the \$7,500 scholarships. South Dakota exceeded the goal and 18 individuals applied. Seventeen of the eighteen individuals are in the program and the eighteenth should start next year.

South Dakota will be hosting a Commission on Adult Basic Education regional conference in July 2008. This will combine our annual summer institute with the regional conference.

AGENDA ITEM D NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM D1 PY 2008 ALLOTMENT OF WIA / AEL FUNDS

Bill Molseed thanked D. J. Mertens, Shelley Stingley and Larry Tolzin for reading Requests for Proposals (RFP) and meeting with SDDOL WIA staff to discuss funding recommendations for PY 2008.

Secretary Roberts and Secretary Melmer explained changes to the Alternative School program with the passage of the Rule of 18, requiring youth to remain in school until the age of 18. Currently, SDDOL contracts with the South Dakota Department of Education (SDDOE) to receive \$450,000 in state general funds which is combined with WIA youth funds and school district funds to fund 17 alternative high schools. Starting in PY 2009, the \$450,000 general funds will stay with SDDOE and will be used to fund all alternative high schools. Program year 2008 will be a transition year for the 17 SDDOL-affiliated alternative high schools. Letters were sent to all school districts associated with the SDDOL-affiliated alternative high schools. The letters explained the changes in the funding of the alternative school. SDDOL staff will contact and meet with SDDOL-affiliated alternative school staff to make the transition as easy as possible. The Watertown school district opted not to provide the funding necessary to meet the match for NOVA in PY 2008.

The WIA RFP readers recommended level funding for the alternative high schools.

Shelley Stingley made a motion to approve the readers' recommendation for funding the WIA Alternative Schools. Wally Myers seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

It was recommended the Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) and ES Civics grants be funded at the same level as they were in PY 2007.

Cal Geis made a motion to approve the AEL recommended funding levels. Grady Kickul seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

The SDDOL had some flexibility in the amount they can use to fund the WIA Youth programs. Over the past four years, the programs have been funded at the same level; therefore the WIA readers recommended a five percent funding increase for the WIA Youth Programs.

The Watertown Career Learning Center (CLC) did not submit a RFP for WIA youth or alternative high school funding. Watertown School District opted to run NOVA, the alternative high school rather than to contract with the CLC. The Brookings CLC submitted a RFP. However, SDDOL, in visiting with the Brookings CLC board, determined the program had been weak for years. SDDOL has agreed to provide interim director services through the end of PY 2007.

Shelley Stingley made a motion to approve the readers' recommendation for the Youth Program funding. Cal Geis seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

AMENDED AGENDA ITEM BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE

Paul Gough distributed a report on degrees conferred by the public universities over five years and four Board of Regents press releases. The report on degrees conferred provides the numbers of associate, baccalaureate, graduate and professional degrees in each program and university for fiscal years 2003 through 2007.

The news releases announced a job fair at Black Hills State University (BHSU), the success of the BHSU job fair, an Aberdeen Area Job Fair and a Career Fair at the SD School of Mines & Technology.

AGENDA ITEM D2 DAKOTA SEEDS

Rich Benda, Governor's Office of Economic Development Secretary, provided information on Dakota Seeds. Dakota Seeds, one component of the Governor's Workforce 2025 initiative, will provide students with additional opportunities to obtain internships and assistantships. Working with South Dakota businesses, the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) will provide 1,000 additional internships for students and provide a pipeline for permanent employment opportunities. The Dakota Seeds applications will be approved by the WDC. The initial internships and assistantships will be provided in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields but then expand to other fields. The businesses providing the internship or assistantships must provide at least a 50 percent match of the amount GOED will reimburse. The maximum amount of funding for the scholarship and assistantship is \$2,000 for undergraduate students, \$8,000 for master's degree students, and \$10,000 for PhD students.

The WDC will approve applications from businesses to provide internships and assistantships at the July 9, 2008 WDC meeting. The businesses will be responsible for finding students to fill the internships and assistantships.

AGENDA ITEM D3 BOARD OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

Grady Kickul, Division of Rehabilitation Services, provided information on the Vocational Rehabilitation Board. According to law, a representative from the WDC must serve on the board for Vocational Rehabilitation. Larry Tolzin served in this capacity for the past ten-years and has reached term limits. Grady thanked Larry for his time and dedication to the board and asked for a volunteer to serve on the board or asked for the WDC to approve him as the WDC representative for the Vocational Rehabilitation Board. Warren Lotsberg made a motion to appoint Grady Kickul to serve as the WDC representative on the Vocational Rehabilitation Board. Pat Kenner seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Grady also presented the annual update on the State Plans for the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) and the Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI). Both agencies are under WIA. Grady provided schedules of public meetings and proposed attachments to the State Plan. The attachments will be submitted with the annual updates of the State Plan to the U.S. Department of Education.

AGENDA ITEM D4 SCSEP STATE PLAN

Todd Kolden, SDDOL Technical Services administrator, and Jean Bennett, Experience Works regional director, provided information on the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). A draft copy of South Dakota's SCSEP four-year State Plan was presented to the WDC for their input before submission to the U.S. Department of Labor.

SCSEP is a community-service and work-based training program for older workers. It was authorized by Congress as part of the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide subsidized part-time community-service work-based training for low-income persons 55 years of age or older. To be eligible for the program, individuals must be 55 years of age or older, within 125 percent of federal poverty level, unemployed, residents of South Dakota and have poor employment prospects.

SDDOL is the recipient of the SCSEP grant and manages it through the Governor's office. The SDDOL sub-grants to Experience Works. The SDDOL is responsible for the grant management, performance and the SDDOL Career Centers help in recruiting individuals for the program.

AGENDA ITEM E ADJOURNMENT

The next WDC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2008 in Pierre in the Kneip Building, Kneip Conference Room # 3 at 10:00 a.m. CDT.

Wally Myers moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. CDT. The motion was seconded by Pat Lund. **Motion passed.**