

IDAHO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

August 26, 2010 – Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

Council Chair Con Paulos called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. He welcomed everyone and thanked those members joining in on the phone. He stated that today's agenda is brief but important as members consider two proposals – one for the Governor's 10% employment service discretionary funds and a second for the annual labor market information plan.

Roll call was taken by Idaho Department of Labor's Workforce Policy Adviser Cheryl Brush. She announced the following on the phone or present in the room:

Con Paulos, Chair
B.J. Swanson, Vice-Chair
Dave Whaley, Labor Representative (in the room)
Betty Kerr, Region I
Tony Fernandez, Region II
Jerry Beck, Region IV
Doug Sayer, Region V

Cheryl also announced the following staff: Roy Valdez, Deputy Director for Workforce Development and Field Services sitting in for Director Roger Madsen, Dwight Johnson, Sue Simmons, Bob Uhlenkott, Georgia Smith, Melinda Adams and Pat Nelson.

Transmittal #1 – Governor's Employment Service (ES) 10% Strategy

Chair Paulos invited Idaho Department of Labor's Workforce Policy and Planning Administrator Dwight Johnson to present the proposal for the use of the ES 10% strategy.

Dwight explained that the proposed ES 10% spending strategies are:

- Four regional business service specialist positions
- Enhanced business services activities that deal with proactive business activities with a sector strategy approach such as one-on-one meetings within a targeted sector to listen and learn their workforce needs, leading office team discussion and strategy regarding how best to respond to employers identified needs within a targeted sector, coordinating targeted industries workforce needs with education, economic development and workforce partners.
- Staff training on business outreach techniques, sales and marketing of services, and how to more effectively work with industry sectors prioritized by the regional planning process.

Dwight stated that the department is requesting the Council reconsider its current funding strategy of allocating the Governor's 10% funds on a formula basis to the regional areas and target the funds in support of the department's Business Solutions Initiative.

It was moved by BJ Swanson, seconded by Betty Kerr that Transmittal #1 be approved. The council accepted Transmittal #1 unanimously by voice vote.

Transmittal #2 – WIA Workforce Information Plan

Chair Paulos called on Idaho Department of Labor's Chief Research Office Bob Uhlenkott to present the proposal. Mr. Uhlenkott said the department is seeking input and an endorsement from the council to apply for the 2010-2011 Workforce Information Grant.

Bob explained that the plan would:

- populate America's Workforce Information Database with state and local information
- produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections
- conduct and publish relevant economic analyses, special workforce information determined to benefit the governor and the state and local WIBs
- post products, information and reports on the internet
- partner and consult with workforce investment boards and other key workforce and economic development stakeholders.

It was moved by Dave Whaley, seconded by B.J. Swanson that Transmittal #2 be approved. The council accepted Transmittal #2 unanimously by voice vote.

Transmittal #3 – WIA Youth in Need Distribution Formula

Chair Paulos called on Idaho Department of Labor's Workforce Development Assistant Deputy Director Cheryl Brush to present Transmittal #3 for distribution of the Governor's 15% discretionary funds to areas with a greater funding need for at risk youth.

Cheryl explained that it is necessary to adopt a new strategy for providing additional assistance to local areas. The current formula was adopted at a time when the state was experiencing year after year reductions in funding and attempted to direct part of the funding to those areas that experienced a loss. For this program year, no area in the state lost funding although some experienced a reduction in the share of funding. Therefore, no areas would qualify for this part of the funding unless a change is made to consider relative share rather than absolute dollar levels.

Because the formula must be directed to areas that have "high concentrations" of eligible youth, the current practice of allocating half of the funds to areas with youth poverty rates that exceed the state average continues to be a viable option that directs funding to those areas most needing funding for their eligible youth.

With stimulus funding, the council adopted another criteria and that was to recognize the limited opportunity available in those areas with smaller allotments. Only those areas with an initial allocation of \$250,000 or less would be eligible to be considered for Youth in Need funds. With allocations for youth ranging from less than \$140,000 to more than \$940,000, this further targets funds to areas experiencing significant demand for services.

Cheryl further said that the staff recommends that the council adopt the following formula for distribution of Youth in Need funds:

1. Only those areas with initial allocations of \$250,000 or less will qualify for funding.
2. Half of the funding will be distributed equally to those qualifying areas that experienced a reduction in their share of youth funds and spent 80% of prior year formula youth funds.
3. Half of the funding will be distributed equally to those qualifying areas that have a poverty rate for youth that exceeds the state average poverty rate for youth.

If this formula is adopted, the Youth in Need funds for PY 2010 would be awarded as follows: Region 1- \$0, Region 2- \$0, Region 3 - \$0, Region 4 - \$25,000, Region 5 - \$25,000, Region 6 - \$50,000.

It was moved by Doug Sayer, seconded by Tony Fernandez that Transmittal #3 be approved. The council accepted Transmittal #3 unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment:

Chair Paulos announced that the next full council meeting will be on November 18th in Boise and will have Lindsay Woolsey here to do a brief introduction to sector strategy approaches. We also hope to have the governor join us.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.