

Planning/Organizational Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2009

The Planning/Organizational Resources Committee meeting was called to order at 4:58 p.m. by Chairperson Lynn Wagner

MEMBERS PRESENT: Debbie Clausen, Lonnie Doan, Pam Furlan, Becky Lambert, Mary Stouffer, Joel Torbeck, Bill Urnikis, Lynn Wagner, Gerald Waszkowiak

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anthony Bollman, John Fritts, Judy Mason, Tom Pigati

OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Keller

Approval of Minutes

Gerald Waszkowiak motioned to approve the June 17, 2009 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Bill Urnikis and carried.

Review & Approve Adult & Dislocated Worker Plan Modification for ARRA Funds

Joel Torbeck stated that DCEO (Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity) divided funds up amongst areas, rather than ask for grant proposal money. He also stated that Dislocated Workers Center (DWC) received an additional \$200,000.00 under the ARRA (American Reinvestment & Recovery Act). He said the WIA program in Cook County did not meet performance and therefore funding was taken from them and reallocated amongst the areas of the state. Lynn Wagner said the budget and graphs need to be corrected to include Dixon. Joel stated that ARRA money may not be available next year and the DWC needs to make sure they can sustain their enrollment.

Review & Approve Modification for PY 2008 Reallocations for Adult, Youth & Dislocated Worker Programs

Bill Urnikis motioned to approve Adult & Dislocated Worker Plan Modification for ARRA Funds and Modification for PY08 Reallocations for Adult, Youth & Dislocated Worker Programs. Motion was seconded by Gerald Waszkowiak and carried.

WIB Budget Report

Becky Lambert dispersed the WIB Budget to members. She reminded members that the Board used to receive \$50,000.00 per year for board expenses. She said this year, no funds will be available.

Lynn Wagner stated that partners like DHS and Joel have picked up postage for us to do our recent mailings.

Pam Furlan informed members that the Manufacturing Summit is still being pursued. She said funding for this project will be from the LaSalle County Development Connection, North Central Illinois Council of Governments, and Lee County Industrial Development Association. She said she will contact her counterpart in area #4 to see if her board is interested in sponsorship. Pam stated she submitted a proposal for an energy grant on the green theme

and unofficially has heard it was not approved. She said she resubmitted a tech assistance grant and has not heard anything yet.

Other Business

Lonnie asked for an update on Kohl's. Pam informed members that Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is federally funded. She said when there is a closing of a facility that causes unemployment; BEST cannot help laid off employees for 180 days. Pam stated that the employees at the Wisconsin Kohl's employees are not displaced because have been offered jobs in Ottawa. She said that depending on the types of jobs, there may be incumbent worker training funds available. She stated that Dianna Schuler is developing a list of possible job opportunities for the spouses of the transferring Kohl's employees.

Pam informed members that reauthorization is being discussed. She informed members that on October 23, 2009; Local Workforce Board Chairs, Chief Elected Officials and Staff will meet for breakfast to discuss the Illinois Workforce Investment system. She said the meeting will include DCEO Director Warren Ribley and the following items will be discussed: The makeup of workforce boards and whether they should continue to be Private Sector led. Should the board continue to include partners or does it need to be more focused on education and labor. Lonnie asked for input on these discussions, mentioning that Indiana no longer has a Local Board and it now is ran at the State level.

Pam said ideas are being discussed to have a regional Board noting that there would be more collaboration to be gained as a regional board as opposed to a local board. She stated that the NCI Works Board is already regional serving 4 counties. Gerald Waszkowiak said we have much more diversity. Lynn Wagner said some cities have a larger population and if LWIA#12 were to go regional, it would be lost due to population.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Lonnie Doan motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Debbie Clausen and carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Karen Keller