



**MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 216  
January 10, 2018**

**Board Members Present:**

Perry England, Chair  
Beth Thew, Vice Chair, Representing Labor  
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business  
Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor  
Gary Chandler, Representing Business  
Gregory Christiansen, Representing Labor  
Lee Anne Caylor, Representing Business  
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government  
Rebecca Wallace, for Chris Reykdal, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)  
Jim Crabbe for Jan Yoshiwara, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)  
Dale Peinecke, Employment Security Department (ESD)  
Carolyn McKinnon, for Brian Bonlender, Department of Commerce (Commerce)  
David Stillman, for Cheryl Strange, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

**Board Staff Present**

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

**Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Perry England called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Hotel RL, in Olympia, WA.

**Chair's Report**

Motion 2018-216-01: Mr. Jeff Johnson moved to approve the November 15, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Mark Mattke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Eleni Papadakis opened her report with a thank you to all of the workforce partners for their enormous progress on the Infrastructure Cost Sharing Agreements. She then informed the Board about a couple of items that had come up since the written report was sent. The first item was that Senator Maralyn Chase, Chair of the Economic Development and International Trade Committee, has asked the Workforce Board to present a two hour work session focusing on the future of work. She also added that an upcoming meeting coordinated by Senator Patty Murray's office focusing the future of work, is in the process of being scheduled. The meeting will be the beginning of a series of conversations around the topic of the changing nature of work.

Ms. Papadakis reported that most of the Infrastructure Funding Agreements (IFAs) were in, we're just waiting on the last four, three of which are well on their way, just waiting on signatures and one was in progress but taking a little extra time due to a change in leadership. Staff expects all of the IFA's to be completed by the end of January. She noted that we have been in contact with our federal partners who are aware of the work that's going into completing the IFAs and has granted us some leeway since we are well beyond the January 1, 2018 deadline. She thanked all of the partners, especially the WDCs who had to change the way they view their funding going forward. The IFAs are a big deal and she's really proud of the system for working together.

Mr. Mattke commented that the next round of IFA negotiations is already upon us. We learned a lot of lessons through the first round and now it's time to really start working on building a framework for future negotiations. He asked if there was going to be any kind of convening to start the conversation on lessons learned and moving forward with the next round. Mr. Wolf responded that we are planning on having a convening, possibly in late February for a policy discussion heavily focused on debriefing from the first round of negotiations.

Ms. Carolyn McKinnon provided the Board with information on the Skilled Worker awareness program. She reported that right now Commerce has \$70,000 in grant money for industry workforce partnerships. The goal of the program is to prime the pipeline; especially with young people by making them aware and really understand that they could have a very bright and lucrative future in a high demand field, and get them through the front door of an education or training program in a high demand field. It is a match program that requires two dollars of partner match for every state dollar granted.

### **Upskill Backfill Panel Presentation**

Two panels, one from South Central WDC and partners and another from Workforce Central WDC provided the Board with a presentation and open discussion about their Upskill-Backfill projects.

South Central Workforce Development Council – Klickitat County

Project Focus – Aerospace Manufacturing

Panelist: Justin Merrell, South Central WDC; Richard Foster, Klickitat County EDC; Francois Wevers, Clark College presented on their upskill-backfill project. Their project is designed to upskill existing workers within partner companies and backfill with new employees, with a focus on populations facing barriers. The partner companies are committed to help grow the talent pipeline within the region. The project is designed to: engage five employers; provide upskill training for 95 current workers (with 86 receiving wage increases); and hire 67 jobseekers.

Partners include: Boeing-Insitu, Custom Interface Inc., Zepher Inc., Sagetech Inc., Innovative Composite Engineering, Klickitat County EDC, Clark College, Goldendale High School, and Columbia High School. The Grant Amount: \$250,000 (with \$396,053 leveraged totaling \$646,053).

Workforce Central – Pierce County

Project Focus – Construction Heavy/Highway

Panelist: MaryEllen Laird, WorkForce Central; John Hurd, Lakeside Industries; and Diane Kocer, AGC Education Foundation presented on their upskill backfill project. Their project is designed to upskill journey-level construction workers to foremen and backfill them with entry-level workers. The project is designed to: engage two businesses; train 20 existing workers for foreman responsibilities; hire 40 new jobseekers, with 25 coming from populations facing barriers. The new jobseekers will obtain one or more of the following: a high school credential, transition to postsecondary education, or an industry-recognized postsecondary certificate.

Partners: Tucci & Sons, Lakeside Industries, Construction Center of Excellence, AGC Education Foundation, and International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE). Grant Amount: \$250,000 (with \$149,000 leveraged totaling \$399,000).

The Board discussed the projects and how we make these types of projects sustainable and how to ensure they are reaching targeted populations.

### **Business Engagement**

Mr. Patrick woods provided members with an update on the progress to build a comprehensive inventory of business services that are provided across the Workforce System. He reported that staff are currently working with agencies and that the inventory information is in the process of being developed. He expects the inventory to be completed by March 1.

He reported that the Inventory Chart that was approved by Board has been sent out and that during early November we began to receive draft responses provided by first wave of volunteer workforce partners including: Services for the Blind (DSB), Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR/DSHS), State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), Employment Pipeline (EP/DSHS), and Department of Commerce. In December 2017, Mr. Woods met with system partners in a series of follow-up meetings to work with them on how to best report and describe their activities. Additionally, in response to our partner's requests, the reporting system will be revised to make better use of technology and provide an online reporting method.

Some early themes that came out of the responses are that system partners support the priority of increasing business engagement and hope that the inventory will lead to positive changes. It appears that some programs are providing a significant amount of business services; however,

there seems to some difficulty in understanding the depth and breadth of services provided across the system.

The Board discussed how to best collect information and work together to support the business engagement activities already taking place. They also discussed increasing business engagement where it needs to be increased by working with the business community to really dig in to find out what exactly it is they need from the system and where the system can be changed to provide the services that are most beneficial to the business community.

### **Legislative Update**

Ms. Nova Gattman provided the Board with a legislative update. She reported that session started January 8, and noted that this is the short 60-day session. She shared that there is new legislative committee leadership, particularly in the Senate, and that Board staff will be working this session to build relationships with the new committee members that we haven't had the opportunity to work with as much over the last couple of years. She gave an overview of the new membership, including Senator Maralyn Chase's new position as Chair of the Senate Economic Development and Trade Committee, and Senator Lisa Wellman's new position as the Chair of the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee.

Ms. Gattman went over the Bill Tracker Handout with the Board, calling their attention to a few key bills on the list. The first was a bill to eliminate regulation of yoga teacher training schools (SB 5141). She explained the agency's role in licensing and regulating private career schools, and that the staff's concerns with the bill, including creating a precedent for other similar programs to pursue legislation, and student protection from unforeseen school closures and complaints. She gave brief overviews of several other bills. The last bill she brought to the Board's attention was a bill that will eliminate the requirement of legislative approval for the Board's strategic workforce development plan (TAP, House Bill 2486).

She closed her presentation by informing the Board that regular updates are made to the bills of interest and committee presentations on Board's Legislative Update page of the website.

Ms. Beth Thew asked if there is anything the Board can do to support staff through the session. Ms. Gattman replied that as we get further along in session, there will likely be times when she will need members to advise staff on their position on certain bills, or possibly testify, and that she will contact them as needed.

### **Engaging In *Talent and Prosperity for All* (TAP) Implementation**

Mr. Eric Wolf gave an overview of the WIOA (TAP) plan review process. He reminded the Board that under the requirements of WIOA, the Board must update their ten-year strategic plan every four years; however, because TAP is the first strategic plan under WIOA, it is required to be reviewed after two years. He noted that we still do not have exact guidance from the Feds on what needs to be included in the review but that is a national problem as they work out some staffing shortages at the federal level. It has not been total radio silence, we have received information on the potential of plan reviews being due in Mid-March instead of early April. He noted that based on the Board's direction, the review will largely focus on operational clean-up and will not make wholesale changes to the plan's priorities of strategic direction. He brought the Board's attention to the Department of Vocational Services implementation of Order of Selection which is the prioritization for services of individuals with disabilities based on the severity of their disability and level of need. Entering into Order of Selection is the largest change to the plan anticipated this review period, as it assumes some portion of previously eligible users will not be served by DVR. Mr. Wolf informed the Board that the next step in the process is to meet in February for an initial review of the updated plan before releasing the plan for the customary 30 day public comment period. The updated plan will be presented to the Board again for their review and consideration before the March 14 Board meeting.

The Board discussed the process for local plan reviews.

### **Workforce Board 2018 Retreat Planning Process**

Mr. Patrick Woods went over the process for deciding the priorities for the upcoming retreat, which begins with a survey to Board members and stakeholders. He asked that anyone who wants to be on the survey development team, please let him know. He went over some sample questions.

After an in-depth discussion that Board agreed that the retreat will focus on Board strategy, priority setting and the development of a policy agenda.

### **Meeting Evaluation and Wrap Up**

The Board took a moment to review the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.