

Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development
WORKFORCE SYSTEMS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting

Date: June 23, 2017
Time: 10:00 A.M.
Place: Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City

Members Present: Richard McPherson, John Hawkins, Ken Doke, Nathaniel Harding, and Donnalla Miller.

Staff: Jeane Burruss and Linda Emrich.

Guest(s): Bill Bryant

Welcome

Co-chair John Hawkins opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He reminded the attendees that according to the bylaws, while this is an open meeting, the meeting is not open to comments from guests unless they are asked a question from the committee and then they are allowed to respond to it. The agenda was reviewed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ken Doke to approve the June 9, 2017 meeting minutes. Nathaniel Harding seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

Policy Discussion for Possible Action

Co-chair McPherson said that we would begin with the discussion of the policies and asked Jeane Burruss for comments.

Jeane explained that this is not the normal process but it is because of some information we got from the Department of Labor. We would usually give you three days to comment on a policy before it is sent out, but that is not the case now. Erin made the choice to send them out to the Chief Local Elected Officials and to Board Staff for comments and that time period was not up until 9:00 a.m. this morning. So, it would be in our best interest to not vote on these at this time. The comments are going to be addressed and the SOS team will decide as to whether or not to incorporate any comments into the policies. The policies will then be re-sent out to the WSOC for a three-day comment period next week sometime. The WSOC can approve them and the policies can be ratified at the next Governor's Council meeting on July 28, 2017.

- Board Certification Policy – Jeane said that this is a 2-year certification of the local workforce development board that is required every two years by the U.S. Department of Labor. When WIOA was first implemented, the local WDBs were certified for 2-years in 2015. They are ready to be certified again. There are nominations from their Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEOs) and their Chambers of Commerce. The board certifications will be effective July 1, 2017. If the boards are not certified, they cannot get their WIOA funding. The SOS Team makes sure each person nominated has a business through the Secretary of State's office and all proper representation on the board is checked for the

business sector and for the public/private sector. A local chamber of commerce must sign off on the nominations.

- Center Certification – Jeane explained that this is a brand new policy that had to be in consultation with the CLEOs. In the last law, WIA, it was important to have good quality service come out of the centers that were designated by the agencies and had most of the partners co-located with them. Now DOL has come up with a certification process and actually, they have gotten this certification process from what we did about four years ago with the system certification. It is the same concept and most of it is the same criteria. Jeane added that in the policy they are going to have to form groups that go out to each one of the centers that are designated by the board and make sure all of these requirements are met. That will not be done by the state. The board will appoint a team that will go out and certify these centers. Donnalla Miller and the team came up with this and the National and Federal people looked at what we did and based their policy on it. There has been lots of feedback on this that is being addressed by the SOS team and OOWD.
- MOU Policy – Jeane explained that in the system building effort, you must have a Memorandum of Understanding in the local areas. One of the things that we have always done is to have the system partners at the table. But just having them at the table and deciding what your services are and how you are going to support those services and how you are going to provide them to the public is not really enough. The state directors are very appreciative of the fact that we are putting out a policy saying that this is our Memorandum of Understanding of how you are going to provide those services, what kind of resources you are going to put into this, and the MOUs will be good for four (4) years. They will have to be addressed every year to see if there have been any major changes. We do service mapping, resource mapping, a gap analysis, etc. to make sure that services are provided in a very quality and professional way.

John Hawkins asked as far as infrastructure costs, that's looked at on a different level? Jeane responded that we have a pilot going on right now to actually address the infrastructure costs. This is something that has never been done before. We have always just written out an MOU and say that we are going to share this cost or that cost, but nobody was ever mandated to do it. But now, the new law says that you have to – it's mandated. The new law says who is involved (partners) and what process to go by to find out who is going to help pay for the system. There are four core partners in this system that are mandated that they have to share costs: Wagner-Peyser (OESC), DRS (Rehab), ABE (Career Tech), and Title I (OOWD). Jeane said that there was a lot more that came out of the pilot than they anticipated. They do have a formula that most of them can agree on. We've had CFOs in the room to work on it too but nothing has been finalized yet. This will be only a state model for those to look at to see how you can put together your infrastructure. One of the things that the Dept. of Labor has done is giving us a pass. It doesn't have to be June 30, 2017 when it is required to be in effect, but now it is January 1, 2018 when it is to be finalized. Jeane added that the WIOA says that if a local area cannot come to an agreement on how they are going to put together their infrastructure piece and their funding piece, the state's infrastructure model has to take over, the Governor will sign off on it and make sure it is done correctly. This evaluation will be done on a yearly basis. If just one partner in a local area that does not agree, that will put it over to the Governor (for the one area involved). Richard McPherson added

that the cost sharing and procurement process, etc. is going to be a challenge. OESC is the lease holder and OMES is involved in a lot of this, so we just have to work a lot through this. Jeane said that the core partners have been very involved with the process too.

There will be no action at this time for the policy discussion – tabled.

Revised Plan Discussion

The WSOC voted that the revised plans were to be turned in by July 9, 2017. Everyone has submitted their revised plans by the deadline. The revised plans have been reviewed again by the SOS team. At this time, there has been only one plan approved. We'll need a vote on the approval of the one plan and the other plans will need to be approved with substantial modifications that have to be done. This has all been outlined and the one comment that every reviewer has made is that they have all done a great job in revising the plans. The WSOC said that the revised plans will need to be back in by July 10th based on a conditional approval that the modifications are made. If the WSOC wants to vote on them, there is one plan that can be approved (Southern) and there are 5 local plans that can be approved conditionally based on their modifications being made and submitted by July 10.

The WSOC reviewed the plans, revisions and their ratings that was presented on a PowerPoint that Jeane showed. John Hawkins added that all of the plans must have all of the required signatures. (This is a state requirement.) Discussion followed.

Motions

John Hawkins made a motion to approve the Southern Area's revised plan. Ken Doke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A second motion was made by John Hawkins to approve the plans from five (5) local areas (South Central, Eastern, Central, Northeast, and Tulsa) contingent on that their revisions are made and submitted by the deadline of July 10, 2017. Donnalla Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A third motion was made by Ken Doke to approve one regional plan, Northeast Region, subject to their revisions being made and submitted by the deadline of July 10, 2017. The motion was seconded by John Hawkins. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Jeane Burruss said that there is one more document in your meeting packets for information and that is the Letter of Intent for the Southwest Area to consolidate with the Northwest Area. Their Chief Local Elected Official has met with all of the county commissioners of their eight counties and it was voted unanimously by the Consortium to consolidate the counties of the Southwest Workforce Development Board with the counties of the Northwestern Workforce Board to create one workforce development area. They have begun the process of meeting together to work on meeting the requirements and the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development has offered technical assistance to them in this regard. This has to be accomplished by September 31, 2017. There is a lot of work in combining two areas, changing fiscal agent, etc. Extra precautions will be taken to ensure that services will not be interrupted in these areas.

Other

John Hawkins asked Jeane to ask Mike Widell to put together a report for their next meeting on the Open Meetings Act to change the bill so they can meet via teleconference and are able to vote at the meeting. Those laws need to be updated.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be determined based upon need.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:01 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Emrich*