

**Bear River Service Area Council
Meeting Minutes
Bridgerland Applied Technology College
Wednesday, February 17th, 2010**

In attendance:

David Bryan	Pepperidge Farm
Commissioner William Cox	County Commissioner, Rich County
John Davidson	B.A.T.C. Cache County
David Farnes	Pioneer Care and Rehabilitation
Jim Hooker	Hooker Appliance
Randy Hopkins	State of Utah, Department of Workforce Services
Wayne Kirk	Manufacturing Extension Partnership / United States Army
Michael Liechty	Cache School District
Peggy Madsen	Box Elder County Employees
Evan Maxfield	Morrell Consulting c/o Morrell Financial Stewardship
Marian Olson	Utah State University
Daren Orme	State of Utah, Rehabilitation Services, Northern Utah
Lana Powell	State Farm Insurance
Bruce Rigby (Chair)	Zions Bank
Commissioner Kathy Robison	Cache County Council Member
Dawn Skorka	Wal-Mart
Commissioner Richard VanDyke	Box Elder County Commission
Scott Williams	U.S.U. Extension Agent 4-H Youth Development
Jacqueline Yeager	State of Utah, Department of Human Services, Division of CFS

Excused:

Amber Drake	Convergys
Jeff Gibson	Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers
Paul Goldman	Paragon Medical, Cache County
Kevin Hamilton	Box Elder County Community Development
Kelly Johnson	E.A. Miller
Roger Jones	Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG)
Chad Munns	Munns Manufacturing
Thom Smith	Alcoa
Robin Williams	Logan City School District

Guests:

David Bassett	Evanston Workforce Center
Kelly Gray	Evanston Workforce Center
Karen Gunn	Salt Lake Community College

Department of Workforce Services Staff:

Julie Anderson	Program Specialist
Jill Bingham	Brigham & Logan E.C. Manager
Kristen Donoviel	Bear River Service Area Director
John Mathews	North Region Economist
Carrie Peterson	Administrative Secretary
Connie Laws	OSD Program Manager
Andrea Sutton	Program Specialist
Susan Wright	Regional Council Liaison

1. **Welcome / Introductions**

- Bruce Rigby, Bear River North Regional Council Chair, welcomed the attendees to the meeting and called the meeting to order.
- David Bassett and Kelly Gray attended the meeting to represent the Evanston Workforce Center. They would like to be involved in the meetings to develop a partnership with the Utah counterparts.

2. **Consent Calendar**

- Bruce Rigby called for a vote to approve the minutes from the August 19th, 2009 meeting.

Action Item: Commissioner William Cox made the motion to approve the August 19th, 2009 meeting minutes. Commissioner Richard VanDyke seconded, and the Council unanimously approved the August 19th, 2009 meeting minutes.

3. **Regional and State Youth Council Report**

- Scott Williams reported the following -
- Additional WIA (Workforce Investment Act) Youth Funds are not yet available. It is anticipated additional WIA Youth Program Funds may be available in April.
- DWS has continued to provide services to youth currently enrolled in the WIA Youth Program. Youth enrolled in the program continue to receive services and funds as appropriate. The only impact to the program has been the inability to enroll new youth until additional funds are allocated.
- DWS has served 108 youth in Brigham City and 123 youth in Logan.
- Foster Care youth attending (or getting ready to attend) post-secondary education continue to be enrolled in the WIA Youth Program. ETV (Education and Training Voucher) Funds are distributed through the WIA Youth Program for youth in Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) programs. The ETV Funds are only available for school activities.
- Youth exiting Juvenile Justice Services Millcreek Secure Facility are being enrolled in the WIA Youth Program. The youth receive only regular WIA Youth Program Funds. Currently, the youth are being enrolled to the WIA Youth Program and are being provided with case management services, school enrollment, and case monitoring. However, DWS cannot support any activities that require funding until additional WIA Youth Program Funds are allocated.
- DWS will be conducting annual monitoring of the WIA youth cases. Outcome measures have increased significantly. The literacy/numeracy measure has increased from 7% to 20%. The negotiated level is 26%. Obtaining 80% of that level is acceptable, which is 21.6%.
- Bruce Rigby asked if the Regional Council could do anything to help DWS with the youth program.
- Julie Anderson responded that DWS is looking for internship opportunities for the youth. If employers would like to offer an internship site, they can contact Julie Anderson, DWS Program Specialist, or WIA Youth Workers, Vicki Fenton at the Brigham City EC, or Juan Lucero at the Logan EC.

Action Item: Bruce Rigby called for a vote to approve the Regional and State Youth Council report. Commissioner Bill Cox made the motion to approve the Regional and State Youth Council report, Kathy Robison seconded, and the Council unanimously approved the report.

4. **ARRA and SESP Grants Update**

- Connie Laws provided an overview of the ARRA and SESP Grant Opportunities. The D.W.S. website offers links to the U.S. Department of Energy Grants. Grant opportunities with the workforce development aspects are included on the D.W.S. website urls;

<https://jobs.utah.gov/services/stimulus.asp> and <https://www.recovery.utah.gov/>

- On January 29th, 2010, US Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis announced that Utah will receive \$4.6 million in a Green Jobs Training Grant as authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). This grant is designed to teach workers the skills required in emerging industries, including energy efficiency and renewable energy. The Charter for the State Energy Sector Partnership was created by the State Workforce Investment Board to capture these funds and the grant will be administered through DWS. Charter membership includes the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the Utah System of Higher Education, Utah College of Applied Technology and others. This is a win-win partnership for DWS.
- The grant will help Utah workers gain access to occupations in demand and support energy efficiency strategies that support the emerging green economy.
- The grant is designed to achieve the following goals:
 - Create an integrated system of education, training and supportive services that promotes skill attainment and career pathway development for low-income, low-skilled workers leading to employment in green industries.
 - Support states in implementing statewide energy sector strategies including governors' overall workforce visions, state energy policies and training activities that lead to employment in targeted industry sectors.
 - Build and strengthen partnerships dedicated to building a skilled clean energy workforce.
 - Develop new partnerships with other agencies receiving Recovery Act funds to support strategic planning and implementation efforts.
- This grant is part of a larger Recovery Act initiative totaling \$500 million to fund workforce development projects that promote economic growth by preparing workers for careers in the energy efficiency industries. The members of the State Energy Sector Partnership are currently meeting to determine the details in administering this grant such as training slots, locations, curriculum development and recruitment. Once the details are finalized, staff will be notified and implementation will begin. DWS has had some media attention regarding this grant that has already generated questions and phone calls throughout the state from individuals and organizations on how they may apply for training or become a vendor.

5. **Presentation on utahfutures.org**

- Andrea Sutton, DWS Program Specialist, provided an overview of the utahfutures.org career Internet website. The program has been purchased by the State and will be used as the career information systems for schools.
 - This system will be available to junior high school students and will allow them to access their Student Education Occupation Plan (SEOP).
 - High School students will be able to manage their high school SEOP. Search for colleges and apply for financial aid.
 - Post-secondary students can build their career portfolio. Search for education and career opportunities.
 - The program will allow Utah citizens to search for career and education information to upgrade their skills.
 - Employers will be able to connect their business to UtahFutures.org to advertise job openings and recruit candidates.
 - Links will be available to access occupation / employment, education / training, and assessments.
- The search engine that will be available in April will include employer services and it will allow employers to be more involved with education for the trained workers.
- The program will allow users to develop a WordPerfect resume that can be saved to the program.
- A reality check program will be available for students to learn about the funds they will need to

support the lifestyle of their choice for different occupations.

6. **Cluster Acceleration Program Report**

- Karen Gunn, Salt Lake Community College, Dean of the School of Professional and Economic Development, offered an overview of the Cluster Acceleration Program Report.
- A presentation was offered on the Salt Lake Community College State Energy Partnership with the Department of Workforce Services. The following SESP goals have been outlined -
 - Create statewide strategy to position Utah as a regional and national leader in energy workforce development.
 - Create seamless career ladders / transition for a mobile and marketable workforce within the state.
 - Leverage existing resources and build capacity in emerging occupations related to energy.
- The benefit to the State is recruitment and retention of a skilled workforce responsive to the industry-driven needs of the energy sector. The program may support up to 1,400 participants in the training program. It was estimated that 300 and 400 would be involved in training for the Wasatch Front North and Bear River Service Areas. Eligibility criteria will be used to determine if participants will be eligible to enroll in the training program.
- There is funding for six case managers to support the program and to work with different training entities across the state. The workers will be involved in placement and matching the workers with employers.
- The grant will cover the cost of the training program for the participants.
- The goal will be to increase job placement, retention, and growth by establishing viable, mature energy sectors.
- The slideshow presentation will be e-mailed to the Council members.
- John Davidson asked what could be used to help retain and train faculty who will train the program.
- Connie Laws explained the funding for the program will cover the cost of instructors, equipment, and supplies. The Board of Education approved a new energy management degree two-year program. Vocational Rehabilitation will be involved in the referral process.
- DWS and Salt Lake Community College will be working in partnership to obtain job-training grants for workers who would build the wind-energy turbines.

7. **Economic Update**

- John Mathews, D.W.S. North Region Labor Market Economist, provided an economic update for the Bear River Economic Service Area.
- The economic snap shots will be made available each month on the DWS website jobs.utah.gov.
- Box Elder County is struggling with double-digit unemployment.
- Bruce Rigby asked if migration to the State of Utah would impact the housing market.
- John Mathews explained Utah's population growth would have impact on the home market.

8. **Regional Chair's Report**

- Bruce Rigby noted he would like to continue to identify areas where the Council can help and provide support and ideas to help DWS. He would like to capitalize on some ideas and on areas of focus.
- He asked the attendees who are employers to consider internship opportunities for youth.
- Lana recommended DWS send the information out to employers in the quarterly mailings.
- Kristen Donoviel explained on-the-job training opportunities would be available to employers that allow the Department to reimburse employers the wages for the worker.
- Bruce Rigby recommended sending the information through the Chamber of Commerce to

inform employers of the programs.

9. **Regional Director's Report**

- Randy Hopkins, D.W.S. Wasatch Front Service Area Director, was provided with an opportunity to comment on Departmental issues. He reported D.W.S. is working to develop a Demand Driven approach for an employer driven focus for Employment Counseling services. Committees are meeting to determine management structure and how D.W.S. can establish working employer partnerships. D.W.S. wants to establish partnerships to provide a trained workforce for the future.
- Kristen Donoviel has been selected as the Bear River Service Area Director. She is excited to help job seekers gain the skills they need to maintain employment.
- Randy Hopkins explained this would be the last meeting he would be attending. He also explained that support staff to the Council, Carrie Peterson and Susan Wright, would not be attending any future Bear River Council meetings.

10. **Other Business**

Utah Career Days are scheduled -

- April 14 – 15, 2010 at the Legacy Events Center in Farmington.
- April 28 – 29, 2010 at the Bridgerland Applied Technology College in Logan.

Junior High and High School students will have an opportunity to learn about careers in the energy, manufacturing, construction, automotive, and engineering industries.

11. **Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

12. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.