

Full Board Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2015

9:30 am (CST)

Fairfield Inn & Suites
805 Allen Drive, Grand Island, NE

Call to Order

Pamela Lancaster, CEOB Chair, called the meeting of the Greater Nebraska Chief Elected Officials Board to order at 9:32 am.

Roll Call

Roll Call was called by Yvette Montes, Administrative Assistant, and a quorum was established.

Members Present (10):

Jack Anderson

Stanley Clouse (Vice-Chair)

Henry Steve Erdman

John Fagot

Kent Greenwalt

Hal Haeker

Pamela Lancaster (Chair)

Hilary Maricle

Timothy Nelsen

William Stewart

Members Absent (4):

Sue Fuchtman

Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley

Christian Ohl

Staff and Guests Present (12):

Nebraska Department of Labor - Terri Malek-Madani, Joan Modrell, Yvette Montes, Stan Odenthal, Elizabeth Schuster, Patricia Comfort, Kelsey Miller, Randy Kissinger, Karen Stohs, Bernie Hansen, Becky Maggart;

Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Board – Greta Kickland, Cameco Resources

Notice of Publication

Yvette Montes, recorder for the Greater Nebraska Chief Elected Officials Board, announced adequate legal notice of this meeting was posted in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Columbus Telegram, Grand Island Independent, Hastings Tribune, Kearney Hub, Norfolk Daily News, North Platte Telegraph, Scottsbluff Star-Herald, and the Sidney Sun-Telegraph. Let the record reflect that the notice was published in accordance with the open meeting law requirements and published in the Greater Nebraska area. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act was available at this meeting and could be obtained from legal counsel or administrative staff.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Lancaster noted all members received the May 27, 2015 CEOB Executive Committee Meeting Minutes prior to the meeting. She called for any corrections or additions. There were no corrections or additions. A motion was made by Hal Haeker to approve the May 27, 2015 CEOB Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. John Fagot seconded. Motion carried by voice vote. Several members voiced abstentions after motion carried stating their absence at the meeting or they were not elected officials at that time. Further discussion ensued and Chair Lancaster entertained a motion to approve the minutes per form, considering it was a new board and they would not have quorum to approve the minutes otherwise. No further discussion ensued.

Old Business

Chair Lancaster noted there was no Old Business to report. She welcomed board members and thanked them for choosing to serve on the board and she appreciated board member participation. She remarked that Government likes to turn responsibilities over to elected officials for oversight, particularly financial responsibilities and oversight.

New Business

Item 5A: Local Area Plan Modification

Stan Odenthal, Greater Nebraska Administrative Entity, recommended a Local Area Plan Modification proposing a transfer of \$300,000 of Dislocated Worker Program funds to the Adult Program with all funds coming from FY16 funds, effective October 22, 2015. Section 134(b)(4) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was referenced which states a local board may transfer funds, if such transfer is approved by the Governor, up to and including 100 percent of the funds allocated to the local area, under the Adult or Dislocated Worker Programs, between such programs.

Enrollment and financial data were presented that supported the transfer request. He emphasized the needs based off of the local area.

- Current active enrollments for the Adult program (208) exceed the Dislocated Worker Program (159)
- More FY15 Dislocated Worker program funds (\$639,716) than Adult program funds (\$386,416)
- Expected carry-in funding for the Dislocated Worker program (\$848,073) greatly exceeds the Adult program (\$455,436), which also includes carry-in plus FY15 funds as expected October 1, 2016
- Adult program average monthly operating costs (\$31,188) exceed Dislocated Worker program average monthly costs (\$23,505)
- Current quarterly funding limits for Dislocated Worker program participants is \$2,500 versus the current quarterly funding limits for Adult program participants which is \$700.

Chair Lancaster called for questions. There were none. She entertained a motion to approve the Local Area Plan Modification which would consist of the transfer of funds between the Dislocated Worker Program and the Adult Program in the amount of \$300,000. A motion was made by John Fagot to approve the transfer of funds. Stanley Clouse seconded. No further discussion ensued. A roll call vote was taken.

For: (10)

Jack Anderson
Stanley Clouse
Henry Steve Erdman
John Fagot
Kent Greenwalt

Hal Haeker
Pamela Lancaster
Hilary Maricle
Timothy Nelsen
William Stewart

Against: (0)

Absent: (4)

Sue Fuchtman
Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley
Christian Ohl

The motion carried without abstentions.

Item 5B: Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Board Representative

Chair Lancaster stated the nomination packet for Cristina Thaut was sent in advance to all board members. She remarked that Cristina works as the WIOA Program Director at the Indian Center, Inc. and replaces Jessica James-Grant in that position. It was proposed that she replace Jessica James-Grant on the Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Board as a Workforce Representative as well. Chair Lancaster called for a discussion. There was none.

Chair Lancaster entertained a motion to approve Cristina Thaut to the Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Board. Jack Andersen moved to approve the appointment of Cristina Thaut to the Greater Nebraska Workforce Development Board. Hilary Maricle seconded. No further discussion ensued. A roll call vote was taken.

For: (10)

Jack Anderson
Stanley Clouse
Henry Steve Erdman
John Fagot
Kent Greenwalt

Hal Haeker
Pamela Lancaster
Hilary Maricle
Timothy Nelsen
William Stewart

Against: (0)

Absent: (4)

Sue Fuchtman
Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley
Christian Ohl

The motion carried without abstentions.

Item 5C: Local Area Designation Request

Stan Odenthal proposed the Motion to Approve the Local Area Designation Request, as it pertained to the geographic boundaries of the Greater Nebraska Local Area, as it goes forward under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Under Section 106(b)(2) of WIOA, it requires the state to designate certain regions within the state to be completed after consultation with Local Area boards and chief elected officials. It also requires the Governor to designate local workforce development areas after a consultation process with the state board, chief elected officials and local boards.

Regional consultations were held in each of the Local Areas. Greater Nebraska - July 22, 2015; Greater Lincoln - August 18, 2015; and Greater Omaha - August 20, 2015. Three kick-off events were held around the state with One-Stop partners and other WIOA partners, to discuss their ideas pertaining to regional and local area designations. Information presented at the consultation meetings included Regional Boundary Considerations, Commuter Pattern Information, Participant Information by County, and Financial Impact of Local Boundary Changes.

The regional consultation meetings resulted in three options.

- Option A: Maintain existing 88 county area
- Option B: 86 county local area with Cass County moving to the Greater Omaha Local Area and Seward County moving to the Greater Lincoln Local Area
- Option C: 85 county local area with Cass and Dodge counties moving to Greater Omaha Local Area and Seward County moving to the Greater Lincoln Local Area

Stan Odenthal reported statistical data and discussed the financial impact the proposed changes would have on each of the Local Areas. He conveyed the recommendations of the Greater Lincoln and Greater Omaha Local Areas. Joan Modrell communicated the methods used by the other Local Areas to determine their proposed changes. Lengthy and comprehensive board discussion ensued. Board members voiced concerns over loss of resources, negative impact on services, financial impact to local programming, and challenges the proposed changes would bring under Options B or C. Supporters of Option B and C expressed the potential benefits and opportunities for Nebraskans in the gaining Local Areas and the prospect of determining what is best for the state. Stan Odenthal continued to present and outline the Minimum Percentage (Hold Harmless) Provisions of WIOA and the WIOA requirements of continued designation for existing Local Areas. He emphasized the State's Timeline which designated March 3, 2016 as the deadline for the State Combined Plan.

Stanley Clouse moved to approve Option C: 85 county local area with Cass and Dodge counties moving to Greater Omaha Local Area and Seward County moving to the Greater Lincoln Local Area. John Fagot seconded. Further lengthy discussion ensued. A roll call vote was taken.

For: (4)

Jack Anderson
Stanley Clouse

John Fagot
William Stewart

Against: (6)

Henry Steve Erdman
Kent Greenwalt
Hal Haeker

Pamela Lancaster
Hilary Maricle
Timothy Nelsen

Absent: (4)

Sue Fuchtman
Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley
Christian Ohl

The motion was defeated.

Timothy Nelsen moved to adopt Option A: Maintain existing 88 county area. Henry Steve Erdman seconded. Chair Lancaster clarified that the designation is valid for 2 years because of their performance. No further discussion ensued. A roll call vote was taken.

For: (9)

Stanley Clouse
Henry Steve Erdman
John Fagot
Kent Greenwalt
Hal Haeker

Pamela Lancaster
Hilary Maricle
Timothy Nelsen
William Stewart

Against: (1)

Jack Andersen

Absent: (4)

Sue Fuchtman
Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley
Christian Ohl

The motion carried.

Item 5D: One-Stop Operator Competitive Process Requirements

Stan Odenthal presented another WIOA requirement. As required by Section 121(d)(2)(A) of WIOA, the law requires the local board to select the One-Stop operator through a competitive process, at least once every 4 years. One-Stop operator eligibility and the selection process were reviewed. The selection timeline, current progress, and expectations were discussed. The selection deadline of July 1, 2017 was stressed. He stated the expectation that the new board standing committee will have an active role in planning for the One-Stop operator competition and the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) currently serves as both the operator of the One-Stop system and the Administrative Entity, which is the service provider for the Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs. He recommended a RFP for both, or at a minimum, one for the One-Stop operator.

Joan Modrell highly recommended a RFP and adequate funding for the infrastructure of the One-Stop operator system due to new WIOA requirements and increased responsibilities under the new legislation. She also recommended a RFP for the Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs and stated NDOL would facilitate the process through the state's procurement system, but would not apply due to an inherent conflict of interest. The State would place themselves in a default position, if acceptable bids are not received. She proclaimed that RFP processing could take 6 to 9 months and re-emphasized the selection deadline of July 1, 2017.

Chair Lancaster gave a historical overview of prior experiences with the RFP process in the Greater Nebraska area and noted the potential difficulty finding an interested party to administer the program now, especially with limited funds. She stated the majority of funds are used to provide services, and limited to little funds, are allotted for administrative costs. Hal Haeker recalled the struggle and lack of interest the board encountered the last time they were required to RFP an Administrative Entity and voiced concern if one was not selected.

Chair Lancaster entertained a motion to comply with the statutory requirement to move forward and ask NDOL to lead RFPs. Stan Odenthal recommended a more appropriate motion. John Fagot moved to move forward with the state RFP process for the Administrative Entity, for Adult Services, for Dislocated Worker Services, for the Youth component, and the One-Stop operator. Kent Greenwalt seconded. No further discussion ensued. A roll call vote was taken.

For: (10)

Jack Anderson
Stanley Clouse
Henry Steve Erdman
John Fagot
Kent Greenwalt

Hal Haeker
Pamela Lancaster
Hilary Maricle
Timothy Nelsen
William Stewart

Against: (0)

Absent: (4)

Sue Fuchtman
Charles "Chuck" Harris

Joe Hewgley
Christian Ohl

The motion carried without abstentions.

Let the record reflect Stanley Clouse departed the meeting.

Item 5E: WIOA Performance

Stan Odenthal reported current quarter and cumulative quarter data and provisional performance measures for PY14 Quarter 4, Statewide and for Greater Nebraska in quarter ending June 30, 2015. He noted statewide performance goals were exceeded with 8 of 9 (99.9%) performance measures for cumulative 4 quarter results and aggregate scores of 108.5% for Adult, 101.1% for Dislocated Workers, and 109.7% for Youth. No questions or discussion ensued.

Item 5F: Program Enrollments

Stan Odenthal continued to present statistical data centering on active enrollments in the Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs by quarter. Regional figures reported were for the period of April 1, 2015 through October 8, 2015. No further discussion ensued after the group confirmed Greater Nebraska's data was included in State-wide figures.

Item 5G: Proposed 2016 Meeting Schedule

Chair Lancaster announced the proposed full board meeting dates of January 28, 2016, May 26, 2016 and September 29, 2016. She noted all dates were on a Thursday. March 31, 2016 is reserved for the first Committee Meeting. Stan Odenthal declared both boards, the CEOB and the Workforce Development Board, will be scheduled to meet on the proposed dates to accommodate schedules. No further discussion ensued.

Public Comment

Chair Lancaster asked for public comment. No public comment.

Adjournment

Chair Lancaster entertained a motion to adjourn. Henry Steve Erdman moved to adjourn the meeting. William Stewart seconded. No further discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Lancaster adjourned the meeting at 11:24 am.

11/06/2015

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