



GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

500 E. Third Street, Room 200
Carson City, Nevada 89713
Telephone (775) 684-3911 * Fax (775) 684-3908

MEETING MINUTES

Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB)

Agriculture Sector Council

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

2:00 p.m.

Some members of the Council may be attending the meeting and other persons may observe the meeting and provide testimony through a simultaneous videoconference and teleconference conducted at the following locations listed below:

Place of Meeting:

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation

2800 East St. Louis Avenue, Conference Rooms A-C
Las Vegas, NV

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation

500 E. Third Street, SAO Auditorium
Carson City

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation

Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation
1325 Corporate Boulevard
Reno

Council Members Present: Amber Smyer, Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Jeff Sutich, Heather Steel, Dr. Ron Pardini, Mike Catalano, Dr. Frederick Steinmann, Jeff Bryant, Mike Pointer, Christie Gescheider.

Council Members Absent: Dave Coon, Senator James Settlemyer, Jeff Brigger, Rob Hooper, Dr. Boyd Spratling (excused), Rod Adams, Peter Wallish (excused).

Ex-officio Members Present: Jeremy Hays, Jim KostECKI, Melinda Lyons.

Ex-officio Members Absent: John Collins, Ben Daseler, Kyle Casci.

DETR WSU Staff Present: De Salazar, Coralie Peterson

Others Present: None noted.

**Please note that all attendees may not be listed above.*

- I. Welcome, Introduction and New Members.....Amber Smyer, Chair
Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, Agriculture Sector Council

The Chair of this Council, Amber Smyer, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m., and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Ms. Smyer welcomed new member, Christie Gescheider and asked her to provide a brief work background.

- II. Roll call and Establishment of a Quorum.....Coralie Peterson, Administrative Assistant
Workforce Solutions Unit, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, (DETR)

Ms. Peterson called roll and informed the Chair that a quorum was present.

- III. Verification of Posting.....Coralie Peterson

Ms. Peterson verified that the agenda for this meeting was posted according to NRS. 241.020.

- IV. **First Public Comment Session**Amber Smyer
Members of the public will be invited to speak before; however, no action may be taken on a matter during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson.

Ms. Smyer announced the First Public Comment Session and invited members of the public to speak. Hearing no comments, Ms. Smyer moved to the next agenda item.

- V. **For Possible Action** - Approval of the September 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes.....Amber Smyer

The Chair asked for approval of the September 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes. A motion for approval was made by Dr. Ron Pardini and was seconded by Jeff Bryant. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- VI. **For Possible Action** – Approval of the July 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes.....Amber Smyer

The Chair asked for approval of the July 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes. A motion for approval was made by Dr. Ron Pardini and was seconded by Dr. Frederick Steinmann. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- VII. **For Possible Action** – Approval of the May 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes.....Amber Smyer

The Chair asked for approval of the May 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes. A motion for approval was made by Mike Pointer and was seconded by Dr. Ron Pardini. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- VIII. **Presentation** – Overview of the In-Demand Occupations Training.....John Thurman, CEO
NevadaWorks

Brett Miller, Manager
Strategic Planning &Analysis
Workforce Connections

By way of a PowerPoint presentation, Melinda Lyons provided an overview of the sector training provided by **Nevadaworks**. Ms. Lyons explained that Nevadaworks is the agency who receives WIA (Workforce Investment Act) federal funds for training in the northern part of the state.

Ms. Lyons showed the amount of Federal funds allocated by Nevadaworks into programs in 4 different funding streams:

1. Adult Programs (using the In-Demand Occupations identified by the sector councils)
2. Dislocated Workers Programs
3. Youth – In School Programs
4. Youth – Out of School Programs

Providers are determined through a RFP (request for proposal) process. Currently, Nevadaworks is using 27 agencies (schools, non-profit organizations). Ms. Lyons explained that training providers must be on the Eligible Training Provider List and currently there are no certified training providers for the Agriculture Sector (although 1 client requested *office training* for a company in the sector). She said that Nevadaworks’ goal is to add eligible trainer providers who meet the requirement of leading to an industry-recognized certification.

Brett Miller proceeded to provide an overview of **Workforce Connections** as the local workforce investment board for southern Nevada who administers WIA funds for training and employment services, through a network of service providers contracted from the Eligible Provider List through an RFP (Request for Proposal) process.

Workforce Connections provides employment training for in-demand occupations. If there is demand for an occupation, they can provide training, and hopefully the participant will choose employment in that area, although he stressed that the program is client-driven.

Mr. Miller estimated that 30% of typical participants need little assistance, perhaps help in their job search, or may need supportive services, such as work boots or bus passes. 70% of the participants need more assistance, which can include short-term classroom or on the job training. He added that short-term training is defined as a year or less, with a cost of \$10,000.00 or less, and must lead to an industry-recognized certification.

He went on to explain that due to the high employment demands in southern Nevada, they could not use the same training policies as northern Nevada, and noted that in 2014, they found employment for 2,300 individuals, but approximately 60,000 to 70,000 are still unemployed in the Las Vegas area. Placement rate is typically 70-80% (occupational skills training) and 90-95% (on-the-job training).

Strategies used by Workforce Connections to support the industry sectors include:

- *Local Employer Advisory Panel* – provides feedback on what is needed by employers (for example, soft skills, such as personal appearance or interview techniques)
- *Sector-specific RFP’s* – effective way to focus a provider to a particular sector
- *STEM Workshops* – One Stop Career Centers provide STEM workshops to expose participants to new technology (for example, robotics)

Mr. Miller provided reports that showed training provided and employment by sector. He then was asked and answered questions from the sector council members about workforce training. When he concluded his presentation, the Chair thanked both Nevadaworks and Workforce Connections for the information they provided and moved to the next agenda item.

IX. Discussion – Update on the Pilot Program.....Amber Smyer

Ms. Smyer noted that concern has been encountered as to who would provide Worker’s Compensation for the participants in the internship and she is currently working to resolve the issue affecting specifically

greenhouse management, and asked to have further conversation with new member, Christie Gescheider offline, to better understand/address employer challenges/concerns. She also mentioned that host sites need to be identified for the first few events, and also that the draft RFP sent to the members will need to be adjusted, and she stated she would continue to update the council members.

X. **Discussion/Possible Action** – Approval of the Updated Agriculture 2014-2015 Strategic Plan and Q1 Assignments.....Amber Smyer

Ms. Smyer asked for the sector council members to review and provide input on the changes she had made to the Strategic Plan. Discussion ensued amongst the sector council members about the strategic plan. Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams raised a motion to approve the Strategic Plan with the suggested changes, and Jeff Sutich seconded the motion. All members approved and the motion carried unanimously.

XI. **For Possible Action** – New Business and Future Agenda Items.....Amber Smyer

Suggestions for new business and future agenda items mentioned in this meeting included:

- Update reports on the Strategic Plan – Amber Smyer

XII. Next Scheduled Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.Amber Smyer

XIII. **Second Public Comment Session**.....Amber Smyer

Members of the public may now comment on any matter or topic, which is relevant to or within the authority or jurisdiction of the Board. You may comment now even if you commented earlier; however, please do not simply repeat the same comment you previously made. Please clearly state and spell your name. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson.

Amber Smyer announced the Second Public Comment Session and invited members of the public to speak. As no comments were made, the Chair moved to the next agenda item.

XIV. Adjournment.....Amber Smyer

Ms. Smyer adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration by the public body, and/or pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. The Chair may continue this meeting from day-to-day. Pursuant to NRS 241.020, no action may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

GOVERNOR’S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
AGRICULTURE SECTOR COUNCIL

Amber Smyer (Chair), Dave Coon (Vice Chair), Senator James Settelmeyer,
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Jeff Sutich, Heather Steel, Dr. Ron Pardini, Jeff Brigger,
Mike Catalano, Rob Hooper, Dr. Boyd Spratling, Dr. Frederick Steinmann, Rod Adams, Jeff Bryant, Mike Pointer,
Heston Johns and Peter Wallish

***Notice:** Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting should notify Coralie Peterson, DETR, Workforce Solutions Unit, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., in writing at 2800 E. St. Louis., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104; or call (702) 486-0523; or fax (702) 486-6426 on or before the close of business Tuesday, November 18, 2014.*

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following locations on or before 9:00 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting: DETR, 2800 E. St. Louis, Las Vegas, NV; DETR, 500 East Third St., Carson City, NV; DETR, 1325 Corporate Blvd., Reno NV; NEVADA

JOBCONNECT, 3405 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 119 Water St., Henderson, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 2827 N. Las Vegas Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 1929 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 172 Sixth St., Elko, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 480 Campton St., Ely, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 121 Industrial Way, Fallon, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 475 W. Haskell, #1, Winnemucca, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 4001 S. Virginia St., Suite G, Reno, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 1675 E. Prater Way, Suite 103, Sparks, NV; GRANT SAWYER OFFICE BUILDING, 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV; LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV; NEVADAWORKS 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Building A, Unit 1., Reno, NV; WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS, 7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, NV. This agenda was also posted on DETR's Web site at www.nvdetr.org. In addition, the agenda was mailed or e-mailed to groups and individuals as requested.