

WIOA Workgroup - Policy

Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
DETR/WISS Office – 1923 North Carson Street, Carson City

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions-

Members Present:

Grant Nielson - Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - WISS
Brad Deeds - Department of Education
Lori Wilson - Department of Welfare and Social Services

Members Not Present:

Shelley Hendren - Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation
Jaime Cruz - Workforce Connections
Emilio Pias - Workforce Connections

Also Present:

Sandra Chamberlin - Department of Welfare and Support Services
Angelina Lynch - Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - WISS

II. Discussion regarding the new requirement for open meeting law compliance:

Grant Nielson advised meetings are now subject to the open meeting law. The agenda and approved minutes are subject to posting. Lori Wilson asked where these minutes are to be posted. Grant Nielson explained the Agenda will be posted on the DETR website, as well as the State's Open Meeting website. He explained that the Agenda had been posted on Friday, 05/01/15, as required to be compliant. After roll call, he advised a quorum was not met, we will be unable to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Ms. Wilson was then asked by Mr. Nielson any other groups working on WIOA implementation and policy were working under the open meeting law as well. According to Ms. Chamberlin, she is unaware of any other groups that have met, other than the Governance group. She then added that at the Governance Committee meeting on Friday, May 1, 2015, they were working under impression that they were working under the open meeting law, so they did not conduct any business and were adjourned until confirmation of the Committee's status could be made. She also advised there was a meeting with Finance, however, she was unable to attend and could not confirm their status either.

III. Review minutes of last meeting :

Grant Nielson asked if any improvements or additions to previous minutes. No comments were made. It was noted that this will be subject to approval at the next Policy Workgroup meeting in June.

IV. Discussion: Interaction with Governance Committee:

Grant Nielson confirmed with Sandra Chamberlin that she was not an official workgroup member, however she was serving in a capacity to assist and support the members of the workgroup. Mr. Nielson noted that the work done by the Workgroup is dependent upon the Governance Committee. Any policy that may be developed as a result of the change of the plan will need to be developed at the direction of the Governance Committee. He advised that as a result, he has been asked to serve as a liaison for the Workgroup at the Governance Committee meetings. It was agreed by all that one of the Workgroup members would be present at the Governance Committee meetings in the future in the event he would be unable to be present. He went on to add that DETR was going to be presenting updates to policy at the Governor's Workforce Investment Board that will relate to WIOA requirements. These are 5 or 6 sections that must be updated immediately to be compliant. He added that technical amendments will need to go before the Board at this point in time, but are asking for policy to be put in place to allow the changes to be implemented by DETR. He then asked Brad Deeds if the Department of Education had a board they went through to implement. Per Mr. Deeds, they actually go through the US Department of Education. He went on to state that at this point, he never had to go through the GWIB.

Mr. Deeds advised his State plan is due on an annual basis with the US Department of Education, although he imagines that may change with the implementation of WIOA. He has been unable to get clarification from the US Department of Education, however, he foresees it may be possible to get more answers mid-June. Mr. Nielson advised his understanding was that the only items GWIB was approving was Title I & III WIOA, Dislocated Workers, Adult, Youth, and Wagner-Peysner, and the plan itself. He added that the main concern will be the plan. He felt that being involved in the Governance Board will provide the group with more answers than they have right now, adding that unless they ask for policy to be developed by the Workgroup, he's unsure what additionally will need to be done, other than the development of each partner's individual plan. Lori Wilson stated she's educating herself at this point and is willing to work on it, but feels the need for direction. Mr. Nielson commented that the involvement with the Governance Committee should provide answers that the group does not have at this time. He asked Ms. Chamberlin if the Governance Committee was establishing policy at this time. Per Ms. Chamberlin, the main focus for the Committee has been on their internal procedure, mission statement, and the process for handling the information from all the groups. She added that no policy has been implemented at this time. Brad Deeds commented that he was under the impression that policy recommendations had been made regarding uniform branding for American Job Centers of Nevada, as well as what qualifies for an official one-stop or an affiliate.

V. Discussion: MOU review status/discuss required sections:

Mr. Nielson stated that the group was previously considering developing an MOU, advising at this point he was hesitant to proceed without guidance from the Governance group. He asked what the feeling from the other members was. Ms. Chamberlin asked for clarification on what an MOU was, whether between partners or agencies. Mr. Nielson responded that it was between agencies. Again stated he was hesitant to this without guidance from the Governance group. He added this could be between agencies, partners or multiple partners. Lori Wilson added that what she was envisioning, that they were working on an umbrella MOU to cover all the partners involved, with individual MOUs being developed by each individual local agency. She also added that they needed to be able to identify the elements they would have in common. Mr. Neilson agreed, stating that the group needed to identify the commonalities, such as referrals, data gathering, reporting, confidentiality. The group hasn't been able to see the reporting format, so is unable to move forward without more information. He also noted that they may need to do a loose framework of what is needed in the

MOUs, give that to the Governance Committee, have them sign off, then go from there and start fleshing it out. Mr. Nielson then suggested for the next meeting that they work define what elements need to be included. Brad Deeds then added that he had seen draft regulations, that pertained mostly to TANF and SNAP that states if you're part of a combined State plan that will replace your State plan. The last thing he wants to do is add to their workload. Ms. Wilson then advised she had received that information and that was something she was planning on looking into. She said that on the TANF side, 2 or 3 pages addressed the employment and training aspect, the remaining is about cash assistance, eligibility, what counts, what doesn't count. She stated she wasn't sure how well that would blend in with the WIOA state plan. On the SNAP side, they actually have an eligibility State plan, but there is a separate State plan for employment and training that could potentially be blended in to the WIOA plan. Her reluctance would be that they are currently pretty mobile as far as amending that and they are trying to enhance their program, and they are looking at having a couple of amendments throughout a State fiscal year for that State plan. If they combine it, do they get a whole other layer of an approval process on top of that to get it pushed forward. Ms. Chamberlin was unsure how that would work. She added that it looks like TANF folks are looking into it. Mr. Nielson stated it may change Ms. Wilson's willingness to participate, because if her plan becomes part of the larger plan, that would be a whole different thing for her. He stated the Governor may not want that. Ms. Wilson stated that she did not know what it looks like. It may be some format that is very doable and may help to drive the programs together. It's early yet and she has not had a lot of time to look into it. Mr. Nielson added that in the next year, a lot of this questions will be answered and this is just the start. He feels there will be a number of things to be learned, and it is a process. Sandra Chamberlin added she received an email from the National Skills Coalition that makes reference to a case study of New Jersey's planning for WIOA and a webinar coming up on May 19th. She stated will forward the email invitation to the group members, if there is anyone that would like to attend., Mr. Nielson asked if she could forward to the group.

VI. Next Meeting

June 3, 2015 9:00 AM at 1923 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada with constituents in Las Vegas available via teleconference.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM