

CWDC
5-30-08

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Attending: Glenn Little, Verlia Dexter Dutton, Rich Baer, Booker Graves, Ken DeBey, Tracy Boyd, Linda Murphy, Elise Lowe-Vaughn, Judy Emery, Carmen Velasquez, Mark Warne, Christy Culp, Bette Matkowski, Don Mares, Joe Barela, Peter Pike, Dani Crane, Tom Looft, Jim Lyons, Mary Russell, Nancy McCallin, Sue Carparelli, Pauline Burton, Nancy Todd, Nancy Smith.

On Phone: Robin Wise, Linda Perez, Jim Kiner (Proxy for Peggy Herbertson), Mary Layton, Ken Fly, Gary Yakimov, Kirsten Hostettler.

Welcome and Introduction: Rich Baer

Jobs Cabinet Overview: Rich and Jim Lyons
Member of Jobs Cabinet, attorney, community leader.

The idea of the Jobs Cabinet is to bring sectors together in terms of creating jobs for the future: education, workforce development, labor, and economic development. Bring sectors together to meet the needs of the business first by sector, then by renewable energy in the 5 regions of the state. In order to do this they have drafted 30 – 35 people from each of those sectors together to reach the goals. They have asked the workforce offices to staff the efforts to talk to, listen to and meet the right people. In the fall they should be able to make a report to the Governor based on intelligently gathered information. The Jobs Cabinet is looking to help the state long term, for the next 10 years. They do have a website and the meetings are open to the public. The schedule for meetings is listed on the website and it is strongly encouraging the Council members join in the meetings.

Partnership with CDLE: Don Mares

In the last 8 months or so he has been working on relocating the Council into CDLE. Tuesday the Governor signed the bill. It is intended to allow the Council to be streamlined with CDLE for partnership regarding budgeting, etc. They will be more “connected”.

Director’s Report: Booker

Rich has spent time on the phone and in person with many on the Council and chairs and co-chairs of the subcommittees.

There was a presentation by Booker regarding what the Council does, administrative duties and strategies and how duties are distributed, meeting dates, how the Council operates as well as the subcommittees, structure of Council and how they are appointed, staff and support.

Required is an annual report to the Governor's office, CIMS measured the successes, Colorado Performance Excellence System, market penetration in the workforce systems, and timely spent discretionary dollars.

What the law requires was outlined by Rich during a presentation with explanations and answers to questions from the Council. The Council acts as the facilitator for the locals to operate the subcommittees. 9 federally recognized WIBs, 1 of which is the rural consortium. The Council supports LMI production and contributes to the maintenance of LMI. The Council proposes to the Governor distribution plans for WIA funds. He approves state allocation plans for distribution of WIA and Wagner-Peyser funds to the local regions, provides technical assistance, reports and info to support effective implementation of employment plans. The Council ensures the state meets the requirements of the WIBs and that they are led by a business person.

SYC: Bette Matkowski

Mission – state workforce system for all youth: healthy foundations & supports; career preparation; leadership & connecting activities; employment. Focus on regionalism, sustainability.

SDPC: Nancy McCallin

This subcommittee develops state and local level relationships with local WIBs, potential partnerships. Projects include WELLS Center, Platte Valley Project, WEIC, Talent Development Report, COMSTEC, JAG, and 20 discretionary grants totaling over \$2M. Future projects: transportation initiative, Microsoft pilot, work readiness certification, sector strategy implementation.

BOAM: Sue Carparelli

This subcommittee communicates the benefits of Colorado workforce system to businesses job seekers and stakeholders to increase the visibility. Guides and supports members of the Marketing Taskforce which is comprised of local brand ambassadors that take the lead for their center's marketing and outreach plans, initiated Workforce Development Month (September), in its 5th year. The system now serves as high as 9% in some regions, up from 2%. With that comes countrywide recognition.

SWIS: Booker

This subcommittee makes administrative policy recommendations, best practices (CPEX), CIMS (based on the Baldrige System), manages the discretionary fund distribution and certification of boards and workforce investment areas. Projects include: e-Colorado portal, Project TRAIN, DPN, RMWDA Conference, technical assistance to CWDC, discretionary fund allocation recommendations, CIMS.

Project TRAIN is the largest impactable committee for a coordinated response for people with disabilities. The presentation for Project TRAIN was presented by Judy Emery from WIN Partners.

This coalition expands the workforce for persons with disabilities. The DPN initiative has developed the infrastructure within the workforce centers to assist job seekers with disabilities, targeting youth. This committee has been involved with the national evaluation and national technical assistance and training and evaluation contract. US DOL continues to financially support this initiative that expanded partnerships with workforce. WIN Partners is developing national tools. They are testing the SSA waivers and testing the intervention comprised of navigator, benefit planner and career counselor. If the program is successful, SSA will support a change in regulations across the country. They have met the recruitment goals.

Another project is the Person-centered Independence Planning Project (PIPP) is based in Jefferson county and partners youth 18 – 22 to meet their needs and services for youth with disabilities and their families regarding resources, etc.

Additionally, Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) is working with CP of Colorado and will be a financial planner for people with disabilities to help them go back to work.

Colorado was contacted by US DOL with unsolicited funds to look at the WIRED initiative to work with underrepresented populations.

A recent success is the online training that has been established with a 7-module training program for workforce staff and will receive incentive dollars for completion. The staff is only required to complete 5 of the modules but most are completing all 7. To date over 150 workforce staff members have completed the training.

They have conducted a customer service focus group from individuals that received services in 6 local regions. Report should be available July 2008.

Next steps/Comments/Questions: Rich

He is hoping for a 1.5 day offsite strategy session in September to find focus for the future of the Council. He is encouraging communication with thoughts, questions, concerns, suggestions. Glenn will contact members with a date when the session is finalized. Potential strategies will be emailed to members in advance of the session.

The Chair is looking for volunteers to speak with each of the local WIBs to solicit their input regarding where the focus should be. Sue Carparelli, Mark Warne, Tony Gagliardi, and Bette Matkowski have volunteered thus far.

There are still 9 openings on the Council. Dave Moore from Colorado Rockies has retired. They are all business representative openings. Please contact Rich or Booker with candidates.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Council meeting date and meeting dates of the subcommittees will be sent out by Glenn Little via email to the members.