

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
FEBRUARY 26, 2010

The minutes from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday February 26, 2010, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Terrietta Robinson at (916) 654-8035 or James W. Scholl at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
Workforce Services Division

Attachments

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, February 26, 2010

Agenda

- 10 a.m. **Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics** Bob Hermsmeier
Workforce Services
Branch (WSB)
- New Division Chief/Transition
 - Paperless/Documentation
 - Low Expenditure Reporting of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) 70 Percent "Requirement"
 - State Jobs Initiative
 - Operation Welcome Home
 - WIA 25 Percent Dislocated Worker Application/Approval Process
 - Elevate America
 - WSN Update
 - Job Training Automation Handbook Published
 - CalJOBS Security Updates Completed
- CWIB Updates** Barbara Halsey,
California Workforce
Investment Board
(CWIB)
- Clean Energy Workforce Training and Employment Partnership Grant
 - Regional Industries Cluster of Opportunities Grant
 - State Energy Sector Partnership Grant Awards
 - Status of CWIB's annual grants for Exemplary Performance and High Concentration Youth
 - Status of ARRA 25 Percent Rapid Response Policy Directive
 - Status of Local Plan Modification Directive

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, February 26, 2010

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics

New Workforce Services Division (WSD) Chief/Transition—Bob Hermsmeier reiterated his plan to retire at the end of March. He was also pleased that Michael Evashenk has been appointed the new Division Chief. Bob is working with Michael to transition the Division Chief responsibilities.

Low Expenditure Reporting of ARRA Funds—The Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) have done an excellent job expending and reporting the youth funds. Unfortunately, many LWIAs have very low expenditure rates for both the Adult and Dislocated Worker funds. The Department of Labor (DOL) has an expectation as of September 30, 2010, that California will show expenditure rates of at least 70 percent on all three ARRA funding sources. The California Workforce Association (CWA) recently alerted all of its members to this issue and the WSD put out Information Notice [WSIN09-42](#) - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Expenditures dated February 18, 2010. Based on input from their membership, CWA members reported that two of the major causes were the lack of: 1) accrual accounting and, 2) timely invoicing by the California Community Colleges. Bob Hermsmeier agreed with the Advisory Committee's suggestion for EDD to directly contact those LWIA's that had low reported expenditure rates so they can explain how they plan to improve the situation in the future.

State Jobs Initiative—In the Governor's Budget submitted in January, he proposed a \$500 million Jobs Initiative that is expected to train an additional 140,000 workers and help create 100,000 new jobs. The Employment Training Panel (ETP) will partner with community colleges and other workforce development organizations to deliver training focused on green jobs and other key industries prioritized by ETP, such as manufacturing, goods movement, biotechnology, information technology services, multi-media, health care and construction. The initiative provides up to \$200 million to employers for training new employees or retraining existing employees for new jobs, and \$300 million in reimbursement funds available to employers for training and employing out-of-work Californians.

Operation Welcome Home—The Advisory Committee was provided an update on this new Governor's initiative designed to directly connect with the 30,000 veterans annually returning to California in order to better assist them in making the transition from the military to their communities. As part of this effort, EDD will be hiring approximately 325 new staff dedicated to conducting this outreach and direct contact with these returning veterans. The group had a general discussion regarding the objectives of the initiative.

Concern was raised regarding the need to make sure that this work was coordinated with the WIA funded veterans' grants.

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) 25 Percent Dislocated Worker Application/Approval Process—While currently there are only a few LWIA requests for these funds, EDD would like to start a dialogue with the LWIAs to improve the application and approval process. In March, Jose Luis Marquez, the Deputy Chief from the Program and Technical Assistance Section, will establish a workgroup that will include both state and local area members to streamline this process.

Elevate America—This is a Microsoft funded project that gives unemployed individuals a voucher that allows them to learn the Microsoft Office Suite applications. In the very near future, we expect the Governor to issue a press release announcing this project. Individuals who receive this voucher do not have to be enrolled into WIA. The Job Training Automation code for Elevate America indicates this is not a WIA funded grant. Therefore, the data for the participants enrolled under this code will not be subject to data validation or reported to the Department of Labor. The collection of data on these participants is solely so California can report the information to Microsoft in accordance with the agreement for this project.

Paperless/ Documentation—In the Spring of 2008, the State of California thought we had reached an agreement with the DOL to allow the learning labs to establish a “paperless” customer flow. This was the basis for Draft Directive [LLDD-10](#) - Integrated Reporting and Program Accountability dated June 5, 2008. California used the State of New York’s model as the basis for this process. During a January 2010 DOL data validation review, California learned that DOL had not reached an agreement. The EDD acknowledged responsibility for any Learning Lab that implemented the process outlined in Draft Directive [LLDD-10](#). Jessie Mar from Program Review Branch indicated that the EDD monitors were looking at the documentation and would also try to validate the LWIA paperless process. The State is not asking for any hardcopy documents except those that were picked in the monitoring sample. By March 10, 2010, the State will put out a draft policy revision to [LLDD-10](#). Also, the Learning Labs will be invited to a meeting hopefully in early March to discuss the policy revision. The EDD is also trying to partner with the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide validation for the date of birth based on drivers’ license information.

The WSN Update—The Request for Proposal (RFP) to replace CalJOBS and JTA is targeted to be released by May 15, 2010, with the contract being awarded in September. The RFP requires the successful vendor to create an easy interface with LWIA local systems. In the meantime, Dennis Petrie wants to revisit the state moratorium on allowing LWIA’s expenditures for upgrading their local systems.

Job Training Automation Handbook Published—On February 11, 2010, Directive [WSD09-8](#)—WIA JTA System Client Forms Handbook was published.

Cal JOBS Security Updates Completed—The EDD hired an outside private vendor to perform a security audit on CalJOBS. The recommendations have all been implemented.

CWIB UPDATES

Clean Energy Workforce Training and Employment Partnership Grant—There have already been 425 enrollments and all of the contractors will be ramping up in the next few weeks.

Regional Industries Cluster of Opportunity Grants—There had been 13 applications for these funds. A February 19, 2010, press release announced the 10 successful applicants.

State Energy Sector Partnership Grant Awards—CWIB received \$6 million from DOL for this 36 month grant. The CWIB identified six areas on a regional basis to receive these funds with the first step being to provide clean energy training.

Status of CWIB's Annual Grants for Exemplary Performance and High Concentration of Youth—The CWIB received six applications for the High Concentration of Youth that was incorporated in a Secretary's Office Action Request (SOAR) to obtain Secretary Bradshaw's approval to release these funds. On exemplary performance, the CWIB has calculated the awards for Program Year (PY) 2007-08 and is partnering with EDD to calculate the PY 2008-09 awards. After these awards are calculated, the CWIB will do a SOAR to obtain Secretary Bradshaw's approval to release these funds.

Status of ARRA 25 Percent Rapid Response Policy Directive—This directive is anticipated to be released in early March.

Status on Local Plan Modification Directive [WSD09-7](#)—This Workforce Services Directive dated February 4, 2010, supersedes Workforce Services Directive WSD08-5, dated September 24, 2008, and finalizes Workforce Services Draft Directive WSDD-29, issued for comment on December 22, 2009.

Information Notice on utilizing 25 percent funds for layoff activities—There will be an Information Notice released that gives the workforce system guidance for helping Tier 1 and Tier 2 suppliers or other local business associated with a mass layoff.