

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
APRIL 30, 2010

The minutes from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call that took place on Friday, April 30, 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/ MICHAEL EVASHENK, Chief
Workforce Services Division

Attachment

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, April 30, 2010

Agenda

10 a.m.

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics

Michael Evashenk
Workforce Services
Branch (WSB)

- Status Report and Projection Analysis of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Expenditures (as of March 31, 2010)
- National Emergency Grant (NEG): On-the-Job Training Opportunities
- WIA allocations for Program Year 2010-11
- ARRA 2010 Summer Program (Procurement of Service Providers)
- Purchases of Labor Exchange and Client Management Software
- Negotiation of Performance Goals

CWIB Updates

Barbara Halsey,
California Workforce
Investment Board
(CWIB)

- State Energy Sector Partnership Grant
- Regional Industries Cluster of Opportunities Grant
- State Plan and Waivers

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, April 30, 2010

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics

Status Report and Projection Analysis of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Expenditures—Michael Evashenk reiterated the Department of Labor's (DOL) goal that 70 percent of the ARRA funding be spent by September 30, 2010. Based on the March 31, 2010, financial reports, the State has achieved a 47 percent expenditure rate. Using a straight-line projection methodology, we estimate that the State will meet the DOL goal; however, there are some local areas that are not keeping pace with the statewide average expenditure rates. The Regional Advisors have been asked to provide assistance with those local areas who are reporting low expenditure rates. Concerning the ARRA 15 percent funds, all of the subgrants have been or will be released soon. Concerning the ARRA 25 percent funds, all of the funding has been included in subgrants. The State has recently released a new policy directive indicating that these funds can be used for Rapid Response or Additional Assistance activities. Doug Sale indicated that the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) has received a number of concerns from local areas that once the ARRA funding expires then staffing will have to be cut to a level that can not accommodate all of the participants trained under ARRA and formulae funding.

National Emergency Grant (NEG): On-the Job Training Opportunities—Jose Luis Marquez reported that California submitted a \$33.4 million request for this NEG that included 29 local areas. The DOL announced in a recent webinar that they are revising the application criteria and asking each state to resubmit their application by May 24, 2010. The DOL is now requiring each applicant to submit a letter of commitment from at least one employer with their application. The DOL has informally told the State that we will probably not receive the full amount of our request so that we need to develop a process for distributing any funding received. Each local area will be receiving a detailed e-mail on these new requirements in the near future. Note: this e-mail was sent on May 5, 2010.

WIA Allocations for Program Year 2010-11—Michael Evashenk indicated that California's WIA allocation was reduced overall by about 7 percent. Specifically, the Adult and Youth programs were reduced by about 6 percent and the Dislocated Worker program was reduced by about 9 percent. All three of these programs are covered under California's hold harmless provisions. Stewart Knox indicated that California needs to be heard nationally that this funding needs to be supplemented because some counties have well over a 20 percent unemployment rate. Jennifer Mitchell indicated that the California Workforce Association (CWA) would be compiling the amount of this reduction per each Congressional District. Michael offered to supply CWA with any public information they needed to complete their analysis.

ARRA 2010 Summer Program Procurement of Service Providers—Michael Evashenk indicated that WIA Information Notice [WSIN09-51](#), Expiration of ARRA Youth Waivers (March 11, 2010) announced that the waiver expires on September 30, 2010. The local areas are encouraged to contact their Regional Advisors for assistance.

Purchase of Labor Exchange and Client Management Software—Art O’Neal indicated that WIA Information Notice [WSIN09-53](#), Moratorium on Workforce Information Technology Solutions—Withdrawal (April 1, 2010) now allows the local areas to consider purchasing labor exchange and client management software and supporting hardware. The State needs to be an adviser on all software purchases to be sure that the systems can link with the new Workforce Services Network. If the local area’s system has a security issue it could mean that the State systems are compromised. Art also indicated that this includes any VOS (Virtual Operating System) subscription services provided by vendors. Art encouraged the local areas to contact him before their Request for Proposal was finalized. Jose Luis Marquez volunteered to help put together an environment scan survey to inventory local areas’ case management and reporting systems as this information would help inform the purchase of a replacement for the Job Training Automation system. Art also agreed that reestablishing the Management Information System User’s Group could be beneficial for both the State and local areas.

Negotiation of Performance Goals—Art indicated that recent performance levels are below the currently negotiated goals for the current year. His staff is in discussions with DOL to lower these goals for the current and the next year. After this work is finalized, he and his staff will enter into performance negotiations with each local area.

CWIB Updates

State Energy Sector Partnership Grant—The CWIB has received \$6 million and expects the State Legislature to grant them spending authority in a few weeks.

Regional Industries Cluster of Opportunity Grants—There are 10 regional partnerships who received \$200,000. The first action clinic was April 28, 2010, and the next action clinic is scheduled in October. These funds can provide technical assistance to local areas.

State Plan and Waivers—The DOL has issued guidance that they will automatically extend the state plan for next year, so the approval process should be relatively easy. The CWIB has requested that DOL also extend all of the existing waiver requests and has asked for three additional waivers:

1. The Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Waiver would allow California Community College’s courses to be automatically added to the ETPL.
2. Rapid Response Incumbent Worker Training Waiver would make it easier for local areas to use rapid response funding for training.
3. On-The-Job Training Waiver could allow reimbursement to employers with less than 51 employees for up to 90 percent of their cost for training of our participants. Employers with less than 251 employees could be reimbursed up to 75 percent of their cost for training our participants.

State Board Meeting—The CWIB will meet on May 19, 2010, and the Policy and Issues Committee will meet on May 18, 2010.