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**MEETING NOTES
NORTH DAKOTA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 29, 2004**

Meeting Date, Time, & Place: September 29, 2004, 5:00 p.m., Royal Fork Buffet, 4325 13th Avenue South, Fargo, North Dakota 58103.

Members Present:

Al Lukes, Maren Daley, Sharon Buhr, Alvin "Butch" Brandt, Dave Kemnitz, Jim Walker, Tom Schiwal (on behalf of Carol Olson), Dave Massey, Bruce Walker, Rosella Grant, Jim Dahlen, Michel Hillman (on behalf of Robert Potts), and Jim Hirsch.

Members Absent: Carol Olson, Cathi Christopherson, Charles Axtman, Leo Cummings, Robert Potts, Wayne Kutzer, Dr. David Gipp, Brian Mathews, David "White Thunder" Trottier, Lee Lampert, Lee Peterson, Paul Steffes, Robert Blackford, and Cheryl M. Kulas.

Guests Present: Beth Zander, DeAnn Berg, Korriane Lang, Julie Schepp, Roxanne Bossert, Jim Wells, and Jill Splonskowski.

Opening Remarks & Introductions: The Chair, Al Lukes provided a welcome to members.

Administrative Announcements: Al Lukes announced that since there is not a quorum, the Council will vote on the items presented toward the end of the meeting if a quorum has been established.

Approval of Agenda: Al Lukes asked Council members to approve the agenda.

All members agree to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: Al Lukes asked for approval of the June 17, 2004, meeting minutes.

All members affirm their approval of the June 17, 2004, meeting minutes.

Chairs Report

Budget

Jim Hirsch stated that the operating budget has been expended at 32%, but does not reflect the expenses from the Region IV Youth Summit. The Workforce Development Council will try to charge off salary costs to other grants in the future. Some adjustments to the travel budget have been made due to IVN meetings. Some of the costs of the travel budget are being moved over into the Information Technology budget.

Governor's State of the Workforce Summit

Jill Splonskowski reported to members about the progress of the Governor's Workforce Summit 2004. To date, there have been 222 registrations. The Sponsorship Committee has raised \$26,000 in sponsorships from both the private and the public sector. There will be 16 different booth vendors participating at the Summit. Four nationally recognized keynote speakers will present at the Summit and several dozen volunteers have agreed to help out with the coordination of the event.

Maren Daley made a motion on behalf of the Council to thank Jill Splonskowski for her extraordinary efforts during Jim Hirsch's absence in pulling the Summit together. Bruce Walker seconded the motion. All members agree with the motion to thank Jill Splonskowski for her efforts.

2005 Meeting Dates

Jim Hirsch explained that the 2005 meeting dates have been sent to all Council members for their approval. Two Council members previously indicated that they would like the meeting held during mid/late January 2005. It was agreed to leave the meeting dates as scheduled due to conflicts when the Legislature is in session.

Labor Market Information Plan & State Five-Year Strategic Plan Modification Two

Jim Hirsch stated that electronic approvals will be sent to Council members for their submission in order to meet the numbers for approval. The regular Workforce Development Council meeting quorum is 14 members.

Youth Council Report

A Youth Council member was not available at the meeting to give a report.

High School to College Transition Workgroup

Michel Hillman explained that a joint board meeting was held and the board members passed a motion whereby the University System will look at competency-based admissions. A University System workgroup is looking at using 4 different sub-tests for admissions. The intent is not to screen students out, but to prepare them for college. The workgroup is tying in the ACT tests with competency tests. Having a feedback plan is extremely important to prepare a student for college.

The competencies for admission to the 4 year campuses would be designed for 4 years, 2 years, and those students who choose not to attend a college/university. The student would receive a certificate stating that he/she has the basic necessities needed to enter into the outside world.

The cost for the ACT plan in the 9th grade would be \$10.00 per student, and the University System is asking the Workforce Development Council for their support or to act as a partnering agency with them. The 9th grade test would be an elective test, whereas the ACT test needs to be taken in order for a student to enter a community college or a university.

Michel Hillman stated that some positive results of this certificate program for North Dakota students could be as follows:

- 1) More students prepared for college
- 2) Less students in remediation
- 3) More students in high school going to college
- 4) More students graduating from college

Dave Massey suggested that the Department of Public Instruction should provide the Council members with information regarding “No Child Left Behind” and some results of programs that have been successful in the public school system.

Discussion began among Council members on the quality of North Dakota’s education system, how our state is facilitating the system, and how we are implementing our testing requirements.

Council members are very interested in this concept and agree that they are supportive of meeting in January 2005 to learn and discuss more about this program. Council members would also like to see the University System provide more specific recommendations back to them.

Al Lukes then asked for member introductions around the room.

WIA Fund Usage Report

Maren Daley from Job Service North Dakota outlined a report entitled the "Funds Flow under WIA of 1998". The report presented the appropriation entities for Youth Activities, Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. Statewide activities (mandatory & allowable) include a budget of \$871,527. Very few discretionary funds are used for activities. A total of \$5.7 million dollars is allowed for all of the above activities.

NDInfo.org

Roxanne Bossert explained the NDInfo.org project which began in the year 2000. Roxanne Bossert and Jim Wells work together to provide an online access service directory which is community based. Their budget runs anywhere from \$30,000 - \$100,000. The database has over 4,400 organizations listed and is free of charge. The service directory offers a calendar of events as well as many other modules and links. A grant reporting module was added to the site in 2001. A placement module was requested by the Department of Human Services in order to coordinate/collaborate on placement services.

The newest component of the site is a transportation module. Public forums were held across the State and pertinent transportation needs were collected. Cybercites helped build in the transportation module which is now 98% complete. This transportation module is being used as a nationwide example by the United States Department of Transportation. The site has a "frequently asked questions" link and has the ability to conduct surveys. The site also offers a special announcements board.

Emergency services and medical services are the two newest components of the site. On November 30, 2004, NDInfo.org will be hosting an event showcasing the introduction of the transportation module. NDInfo.org is currently in search of board members and asks the Workforce Development Council to spread the word about this service delivery site to anyone they believe would be interested. The website address is listed below:

<http://www.ndinfo.org>

New Business and Recommendations

North Dakota Energy Education & Career Awareness Project

Jim Hirsch mentioned that the Governor's Office will use \$25,000 of the Governor's Set-Aside funds to promote the ND Energy Education & Career Awareness project.

Resolution on Child Care

Jim Hirsch explained that the Resolution on Child Care supports the need for professional child care development services, the need for statewide strategies, and the concept of apprenticeships.

Since there is not a quorum at the meeting, this item will be addressed and voted on at the January 2005 meeting. Dan Polk will be asked to provide follow-up information at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the North Dakota Workforce Development Council will be held on January 6, 2005, in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Action Plans:

- ✚ **Dave Massey to provide Council members with information regarding “No Child Left Behind” and results of programs that have been successful in the public school system.**
- ✚ **Workforce Development Council members to spread the word about NDinfo.org to anyone they believe would be interested.**
- ✚ **Jim Hirsch to ask Dan Polk to provide follow-up information to Council members at their January 2005 meeting regarding the Resolution on Child Care.**