



1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 2  
P.O. Box 2057  
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057  
Phone (701) 328-5345  
Fax (701) 328-5320  
E-Mail: [jhirsch@nd.gov](mailto:jhirsch@nd.gov)

## NORTH DAKOTA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### MINUTES June 11, 2009

**MEETING DATE, TIME, & PLACE:** June 11, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., Job Service North Dakota, Bismarck, North Dakota.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charles Axtman, Alvin "Butch" Brandt, *Beth Zander (for Maren Daley)*, Candice Dietz (teleconf), *Kelly Jennings-Schatz (for David Farnsworth)*, Valerie Fischer, David Gipp, *Marsha Krotseng (for Bill Goetz)*, Rosella Grant, Jerry Jurena, David Kemnitz, Cathy Kruse, Wayne Kutzer, *Wanda Bye (for Carol Olson)*, Jane Priebe, *Monica Forster (for Paul Steffes)*, Bruce Walker, and Jim Walker.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Leo Cummings, Maren Daley, David Farnsworth, Shane Goettle, Lee Lampert, Jim Melland, Carol Olson, T.J. Russell, Paul Steffes, and Jackie Velk.

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Hirsch and *Frank Brager (for Robert Fode)*

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Dave Ellingson, Susan Gunsch, Jerry Houn, Larry Anderson, and Kevin Marchus.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Cheryl Leach

### CALL TO ORDER:

**Opening Remarks & Introductions:** Bruce Walker, Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and mentioned that he will be chairing the meeting for T.J. Russell. Bruce welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

**Administrative Announcements:** Travel vouchers are available for members and to see Cheryl Leach after the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

By consensus the June 11, 2009 agenda was adopted as published.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Bruce Walker motioned to approve the April 23, 2009 minutes with the spelling correction to Alvin "Butch" Brandt's last name.

**MOTION: Butch Brandt moved to approve the April 23, 2009 minutes with the spelling correction to Alvin "Butch" Brandt's last name. David Kemnitz seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

**CHAIRS REPORT:**

**Meeting Attendance:** Jim Hirsch reviewed the Attendance Record making each member aware of their attendance and the Attendance Policy. Jim stated that the attendance started with the November 2008 meeting.

The policy states:

- A. Member's attendance at Council meetings is essential to effectively conducting the business of the Council. Members, when they have conflicts with attendance, may designate an alternate to attend in their place to facilitate a quorum and completion of Council business.

Alternates will be allowed to vote and participated in discussions and decisions of the Council. Designation of an alternate must be provided in writing and presented to the Council Chair prior to the start of the meeting. ***Designation of an alternate will result in the minutes reflecting that the member was absent from the meeting.***

- B. Two consecutive absences from Council meetings shall result in a warning letter being sent out by the Council Chairperson.
- C. Three consecutive absences from Council meetings shall be cause for a recommendation by the Council Executive Committee, to the Governor, for forfeiture of appointment.

**2007-2009 Budget Updates:** Jim Hirsch reviewed the 2007-09 biennium budget stating that the budget update is through April 2009. Personnel are at 91% and

Total Operating is at 66%, overall expenditures are at 76% with no foreseeable issues. We are in line and should be coming in under what we have budgeted.

**2009-2011 Budget Updates:** Jim Hirsch reviewed the 2009-2011 biennium budget request that was submitted and approved for the next biennium. This budget will go into effect July 01, 2009. You will see that the budget we submitted for the federal funds starting July 01, we took a reduction of approximately \$6,000. If you go back to the previous biennium (05-07), we took a \$10,000 cut in the federal operating dollars at that time because Job Service was seeing a reduction in the Workforce Investment Act. Because of the additional programs Workforce Development has brought in, we have been able to reduce the various fund sources. We shouldn't foresee any problems.

Bruce Walker motioned to approve the 2007-09 and 2009-2011 budget update.

**MOTION: Jerry Jurena moved to approve the budget report update for 2007-2009 and 2009-2011 as presented. Cathy Kruse seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

**Sunset Policy 2-13-09 (0) – Eligibility for Dislocated Worker Services:**

**POLICY:** The policy is the placement of a profiled claimant in a selection pool by the One-Stop Center meeting the eligibility for dislocated worker services. The conditions "general announcement" of a plant closing has been met under any of the following conditions.

- (A) A formal notice of the plant closing has been provided to the Governor or to the States Dislocated Worker Office.
- (B) The facility management has provided a notice, either written or verbally, to their workforce of a pending plant closing.
- (C) The facility or its management has made general public statements to the press, radio, or TV, that the plant was planning to close.
- (D) No formal announced plant closing notice has been issued by the facility or the management, but it is general confirmed knowledge among policy makers, community leaders, and the general public that a plant closing is pending.

Self-employed individuals, including family members and farm and ranch hands meet the eligibility under the WIA Dislocated Worker program as a result of general economic conditions or because of natural disasters under the following conditions:

- (A) The declaration of a natural disaster by the Governor of North Dakota covering their area of residence.
- (B) The Unemployment Rate for the area they reside in exceeds 150% of the monthly published State Average Unemployment Rate.
- (C) The self-employed individual has been forced to discontinue their self-employment due to bankruptcy or potential bankruptcy.

**MOTION: Rosella Grant moved to approve Sunset Policy 2-13-09 (0) – Eligibility for Dislocated Worker Services as written. Butch Brandt seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Youth Development Council Report:** Jim Hirsch (for Dave Ellingson) reported that the major agenda topics were the AmeriCorps Recovery Act stimulus funding and the options for Program and Service Delivery System. The discussion ensued as to how the youth stimulus dollars will be integrated and coordinated with other stimulus dollars and packages that were coming to the state. There are significant opportunity programs from all agencies to collaborate and integrate services across the state to the clients. We would like to see some of the Council members taking a lead in trying to provide presentation to local school boards (Minot, Newtown, Turtle Mt.). We will have the opportunity to present to the school boards about how we can leverage stimulus money and JAG dollars to set up programs to serve at-risk-youth. Currently, Williston has a successful pilot program. We would like to see that replicated across the state.

Jim Hirsch reported that The Youth Council received an overview of the Modification Two -Year Five- of the Five Year State Strategic Plan for the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 –Wagner Peyser. They did pass a motion recommending the Workforce Development Council support the plan, specifically the Youth Services Section of the plan.

**Workforce Summit Steering Committee Report:** Jim Hirsch mentioned that the 2009 Governor’s Workforce Summit is scheduled for October 8-9, 2009 at the Ramada Plaza Suites in Fargo, ND. The registration brochure is available online. All receipts must be submitted to the Workforce Development Division for reimbursement using a travel voucher. If the registration is sent via postal to the Workforce Division, we will process the registration and payment will be provided through the Department of Commerce. Early bird registration ends July 31, so all registration needs to be submitted by this date or there is a \$50 charge in addition to the registration fee after July 31. After this date members will be required to put the expense on their credit card.

Jim Hirsch mentioned that a block of rooms have been reserved at the Ramada Plaza Suites. The rooms are \$79 per night; therefore the state rate is not applicable. The Expressway Suites is also offering State Rate of \$55 for the nights of October 7-9, 2009. Request the Workforce Summit Rate when reserving your room.

Jim reported that the Summit Steering Committee is putting the final touches on the program agenda and panels are still being sought that can offer best practices. Jim noted that if there are any companies that have an effective program in cultural diversity or managing generation in the workplace or best practices from the K-12 system that we can showcase to let us know.

David Kemnitz commented that he has an e-blast list that Commerce could use to send Summit information. Jim noted that we will provide the Governor Workforce Summit “Save the Date Letters, Newsletters, and Registration Brochures” targeted to organized labor to Mr. Kemnitz to forward to their members using his group email lists.

## **FINAL WORKFORCE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### **IMPACTS AND ACTION NEEDED**

**Job Service North Dakota:** Beth Zander reported that the bulk of the funds are federal. Most state legislation is tied to unemployment insurance.

Beth reported on SB 2016 (budget bill). The budget bill requested continuation funding for Workforce 20/20, the same allocation as last time and the continuation of new job training programs. Both were approved and we also built into the budget funding to continue the feature of the online labor exchange system called “Spidering”.

**Career & Technical Education:** Wayne Kutzer reported SB 2019 passed both chambers, 46-0 in the Senate and 87-0 in the House. We received just over \$2.7M increase in our Grants line item, total grant to schools line item is at \$27,150,000, including: \$1.55 M increased funding for schools, \$1M in cost to continue funding for Virtual Area Centers, \$250,000 to fund technical assessments for those students who concentrate in CTE; this is part of the new federal reporting requirements.

We received funding for one FTE (\$150,000) for the agency to supervise Career Advisors and \$240,000 to provide Career Advisor training leading to their Career Development Facilitator Certification. The agency now has a total of 28.5 FTE’s.

We received \$200,000 to equalize funding in Farm Management between secondary based and postsecondary based programs; all will receive 64% reimbursement on program costs. The total Farm Management line item is now \$749,802. We also provide \$807,790 out of the grants line for a total of \$1,555,592 to Farm Management. Not funded was the \$305,000 for cost to continue funding for the Workforce Training Regions (TrainND). The total funding remains at \$3M, therefore funding needed for salary will need to be raised through local revenue from training.

Additional language was included in the bill to direct the State Board of Higher Education to conduct a study of the Workforce Training System including effectiveness, responsiveness, and a review of the appropriate funding mechanism and report back to the next legislative session. The mechanism refers to how the funds flow through CTE.

In HB 1475, CTE received \$50,000 for innovation grants. This funding goes to both secondary and postsecondary schools to help fund robotics competitions in secondary schools. We now have \$120,000 with funding received last biennium for this activity.

**Department of Public Instruction:** Valerie Fisher reported that we have \$110M dollars that will go out to the schools. Valerie stated that the pressure is going to be in performance. The stimulus funding is still a hit and misses between Title I and School Reorganization and Financing. Therefore we are trying to put together applications for how that money will be allocated and appropriated and the quarterly follow-up required by all agencies getting stimulus money.

HB 1400 was the major education bill; it was a lengthy bill with multiple summaries now available to the bill. The big point for DPI is the Career Advisors and the role of the Career Counselors. We received two FTE's for that. The department got four FTE's which has not happened since the early 60's. The two FTE's will go for approval and accreditation and will be tied into a career role and work very closely with Career and Tech Ed's FTE. The department budget HB 1013 followed the Governor's recommendations, receiving four FTE's, and the Adult Education funding increased by \$1,850,000 for the biennium (\$925,000/yr). The Feds cut us about 10.5% this year.

**Department of Commerce - Workforce Division:** Jim Hirsch (for Shane Goettle) reported the Commerce budget has a total of \$192,287,408 with \$54,026,303 in general funds; \$129,384,632 in federal funds (includes \$68,594,635 in stimulus dollars), and \$8,876,473 in special funds. The Federal Fiscal Stimulus Funds include: Community Development Block Grants, Community Services Block Grant, State Energy Program, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, Weatherization Assistance Program, and Emergency Shelter Grants. Tourism received an increase of \$1,162,000 with tourism infrastructure grants to the Lewis & Clark Foundation; \$1.5M, and Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation \$500,000.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship received an allocation of \$400,000 for Innovate ND, \$1M for a new Technology-Based Entrepreneurship Grant Program, and Entrepreneurship Awards (HB 1202) up to \$1M from BND New Venture Capital Program Funds which awards to business incubators and entrepreneurs.

Centers of Excellence was funded for \$20M total; Workforce Development received a 50% increase in the Operation Intern Program to \$900,000, Workforce Enhancement Grants was funded at \$1M, Workforce Training Quadrants received \$3M, Childcare Provider Grants received \$1.25M to the ND Development Funds for loans and grants to licensed child care providers for infrastructure and equipment. \$500,000 was to Commerce for grants to child care providers for small infrastructure projects and technical assistance; child care workforce development and quality improvement \$3.6 million, and Student

Financial Aid received \$19,374,044 in needs-based assistance; \$3M for Academic & Tech Ed Scholarships, and \$1M for Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math Student Loan Forgiveness.

Career Advisors (HB 1400 & 1013) reported a requirement that each school district have one career counselor for every 300 students, 1/3 of career counselors' requirement can be fulfilled with career advisors, and \$240,000 for career advisor training and certification.

Economic Development had an increase of \$400,000. The ND Trade office received \$2,064,000, five percent of State Mill & Elevator profits to APUC, PACE funding of \$8M, and Ag PACE funding of \$2.4 M. Economic Development Related Bills included in HB 1428 & SB 2060 was Renaissance Zone Program changes to include: may extend the duration of renaissance zone status increments of up to five years, \$7.5M cap for investments in renaissance fund organizations, three block island not required to be within half mile of renaissance zone and public utility infrastructure. Development of Life Science Industries creates a safe harbor zone for corporate farming laws for non-food agriculture. Equine processing facility feasibility study \$50,000. Beginning Entrepreneur Loan Program guarantees capped at 5% of BND's tier one capital. SB 2040-Sales & Use Tax exemption for equipment used in telecommunications infrastructure development.

Energy Development – Biofuels Blender Pump Grants – \$2M, Great Plains Applied Energy Technology Center in Bismarck received \$5M (HB 1350), Renewable Energy Program received \$3M (SB 2014). Energy related bills, EmPower ND Commission, Renewable Energy Program & Biomass Incentive and Research Program combined, tax benefit to power plants for CO2 capture and reduced tax rate on oil wells.

Housing Bills SB 2247 – The limit for housing property tax exemptions is increased from \$75,000 to \$150,000 and includes condominiums and townhouses; HB 1165 – Mobile home and manufacturing house finance program. Infrastructure Bills – SB 2012 – \$1.35 billion for transportation including funds for counties, cities, and townships. HB 1304 – changes the allocation of oil and gas gross production taxes resulting in \$30M increase to counties and cities.

Commerce Related Bills: SB 2110 – Commerce Agency Bill – cleans up language to reflect current practices, expands Operation Intern to include apprenticeships and high schools students, creates a rural development office and council in statute, and ND Economic Development Foundation's "activities of the State" change.

The interim Studies – Technology-based entrepreneurship & economic development best practices. The study includes a review of best practices implemented by the department of commerce and the effectiveness of the

foundation, the States workforce system, Higher Education study to include workforce needs and contributions to economic development and energy development related studies.

## **STATE COMMISSION ON NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATE**

### **AmeriCorps\*State Project Updates:**

**AmeriCorps:** Jerry Houn reported on AmeriCorps projects. Jerry commented that we are trying to fund projects that can help youth across the state; helping youth to obtain practical experience through their service. Jerry reported that for the current year we have awarded \$500,000 in funding to five projects. We have one new project being funded in Maddock ND. We awarded 108 positions; 106 were filled. Next year we will fund six projects, one being a new project. There may be the possibility that funding will increase from \$500,000 to \$600,000 next year, which means the potential to fund new projects.

**Learn and Serve:** Jerry Houn reported that we have applied for and received the formula funding for the Learn & Serve Grant. The Department of Public Instruction will no longer administer that grant. This also opens up the opportunity to apply for the Learn and Serve funding with the community-based funding; working with the Senior Corps Program associated with the state office in Fargo. That request is over \$200,000. The only opportunity for us to apply for that grant is if we apply for formula funding with the Learn & Serve. We haven't been officially notified yet that we have received the grant. Jerry commented that we plan on utilizing the formula funding by teaming up with the JAG program in Williston this fall.

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **WIA Title I and Wagner-Peyser Plan Modification -**

**Public Comment:** Jim Walker reported that since the last meeting, the Planning Committee posted the draft Modification Two to the State of the North Dakota State Strategic Five-Year State Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act to the Commerce and Job Service Website for Public Comment. Two comments were received. The comments were incorporated into the plan modification. A draft of the plan was also sent to the Region IV ETA for review. No issues or concerns have been identified, and a copy of the Final Plan Modification was provided to each of the Workforce Development Council members in electronic format. The Plan is posted on [www.ndworkforce.com](http://www.ndworkforce.com) website. The Planning Committee workgroup met on June 08, 2009 to review the Final Plan Modification and recommended it be forwarded to the NDWDC for approval.

Jim Hirsch reviewed the WIA Title I and Wagner-Peyser Plan Modification. The Recovery Act, signed by President Obama on February 17, 2009, is intended to preserve and create jobs, promote the nation's economic recovery, and to assist those most impacted by the recession.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provide the following levels of additional workforce funding for North Dakota.

- \$34.4M in Title I Education for the Disadvantaged to help close the achievement gap and enable disadvantaged students to reach their potential
- \$3M in State Employment Service Grants to match the unemployed individuals to job openings through Job Service North Dakota and allow North Dakota to provide customized reemployment services;
- \$M in Dislocated Worker State Grants, to support immediate strategies for regions and communities to meet their need for skilled workers, as well as long term plans to build target industry clusters with better training and a more productive workforce;
- \$1.2M for WIA Adult Programs
- \$2.9M for WIA Youth Programs
- \$1.6M for Vocational Rehabilitation to help individuals with disabilities prepare for and sustain employment.

The significant investment of stimulus workforce funds presents a unique opportunity for the workforce system to accelerate its transformational efforts and demonstrate its ability to innovate and implement effective One-Stop service delivery strategies. Given the dramatic the infusion of new funding, ETA is requiring that states submit a modification to their WIA/Wagner-Peyser Act State Plan to describe revised strategies to meet the intended use the additional funds provided under the Recovery Act. This modification covers the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

The plan modification outlines how the State will make immediate use of the Recovery Act funds, while taking an expansive view of how the funds can be integrated into transformational efforts to improve the effectiveness of the workforce delivery system. Implementation of the Recovery Act will yield increased services and training for North Dakota workers, and an invigorated, more innovative delivery system capable of supporting future economic growth.

**MOTION: Jim Walker moved to approve the Modification Two of North Dakota State Strategic Five-Year State Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and Wagner-Peyser Act, and to forward this Plan to Governor Hoeven for signature. Butch Brandt seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

**WIA Incentive Awards Updates:** Jim Walker reported on the following 2009 Incentive Proposal Recommendation and Awards. In checking the status of the North Dakota Incentive Award, we were advised that the State did not meet the WIA Title IV Literacy and Numeric Gains for the Youth Program and also did not qualify under the Department of Education's Adult Education and Family Literacy Act. We are working with the proponents for projects submitted for WIA Incentive Award funding to find alternative funding options.

Jim Walker mentioned that the impact from the loss of \$750,000 in Incentive Award Funds the past three years by not meeting the performance criteria was discussed by the Planning Committee. Based on discussion, the Planning Committee is recommending that the Chair of the North Dakota Workforce Development Council appoint a workgroup to meet with each of the three State Agencies to review the Performance Indicator's; identify the current service delivery models, what barriers of the current service delivery models have on meeting performance standards, and identification of revised service delivery models which may include dual or concurrent program enrollments to meet requirements for the Incentive Award Criteria.

**MOTION: Jim Walker moved that the Chair of the ND Workforce Development Council appoint a workgroup to meet with each of the three state agencies (DPI, Job Service, CTE) to review performance indicators, identify the current service delivery models, the barriers the current service delivery models have on meeting performance standards, and identification of revised service delivery models which may include dual or concurrent program enrollment to meet requirements for incentive award criteria. David Gipp seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS**

#### **American Recovery & Reinvestment Act:**

**Job Service:** Beth Zander gave a brief recap reporting that they received \$2.9M in Workforce Investment Act for youth. Beth stated that the majority of the funds have been obligated. 600 youth were predicted based on conservative counts. The staff is thrilled to be promoting the Summer Program for Youth. The work experience activities started June 01, 2009. We do have two contracts with Career and Tech Ed to provide three days of Career Exploration Activities. The second contract is for Leadership Training and Work Readiness Skills. This is being done in 41 locations. Beth noted that some youth will take both activities.

Beth reported that The Adult and Dislocated Worker Program received \$1.2M in Adult and \$916,000 in Dislocated Worker. The budget is pushing the money out to the field so they can use it for training and support services for participants. We are looking at putting one temporary staff person to assist with enrollments and monitoring, and one temporary staff person in the division of the agency for check and balances.

The Wagner-Peyser money was a \$3M allocation. That money is more difficult to apply, but the end result will bring people to the realization that they can get the job or they need the training and helping them to utilize the WIA

dollars for training. The WIA funds for, Youth, Adult, and Dislocated Worker dollars have to be spent and obligated by June 30, 2011. The Wagner-Peyser funds must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

**Career & Technical Education:** Wayne Kutzer reported that CTE did not receive stimulus funding, so there is no report.

**Department of Public Instruction:** Valerie Fischer reported that DPI received approximately \$31M. It is targeted for the Title I area for disadvantaged youth, helping to close the achievement gap for the economically challenged. Valerie commented that the money is going to be difficult to spend. The schools see that money as “staff “ and we are encouraging them not hire staff since it is a one time funding source. Schools also see this money as opportunity to fix parking lots, roof repairs, construction, reconstruction, band uniforms, etc. These are things they desperately need; however these things do not help close the achievement gap. There are certain funds allowed for construction and a certain amount of construction will be done. Valerie commented that the schools have to be eligible for Title I. There are several districts across the state not eligible for the funds. There is an application process that schools are completing and submitting that the Title I staff are reviewing and approving right now, by the end of August we should have an idea of how many schools requested money, how much they are receiving, and what they are using it for.

**Department of Human Services:** Wanda Bye reported that Vocational Rehabilitation gets \$1.8M of the stimulus money. We had a lot of input from the community regarding how they would like to see Voc Rehab utilize these funds. Now we are at the point of taking a look at the information and deciding what to do. Right now we have 12 proposals coming from the regions; those proposals are coming from private providers that have ideas in regards to job development in those communities. We also have requests from Higher Education in regards to disability services individuals working with education. High schools are also requesting funds. We have some requests that we are pursuing further for the whole area of system technology, and possibly contracting for positions for use of assisted technology with the labs we already have, however we need additional people to work with the disabled population. We also contracted for a Benefit Planning position. That position will be located in Bismarck. There is one in Minot and Fargo of which have other funding sources, but we felt it was important to have a third position. We also have had requests in the state to enhance services for the traumatic brain injured.

We also need to expand the TBI services and we might look at contracting for that type of position. This is short term funding; we have to have focus on increased employment.

Wanda reported that that Voc Rehab has six projects for summer programs. This is the second year we have done this and would like to continue doing summer programs. We are looking at how to expand services for the senior year of high school and also looking at Higher Education and those students going on to college by increasing funding for disabled students that would like to pursue higher education. Wanda commented that the JAG Program would fit really well with their State Plan in regards to transition services.

## **WORKFORCE TRAINING UPDATES**

**Workforce 2020 Report:** Beth Zander reported (handout) on the State Funded Job Training Program for Approved Projects 2007-09 Biennium. The report shows the Project Title is identified by code and the cost status is identified with businesses making use of Workforce 2020: 1= is start up (\$18,006.05), 2= expansion (\$782,093.14), 3= existing (\$605,854.21). The report also illustrates the average cost per trainee this year is at \$465.02. The percentage paid by Workforce 2020 is 35.8%. Beth commented that we make sure the employer contribution is around 50%.

**Workforce Training Quadrants:** Marsha Krotseng reported that the Workforce Training Director and staff are putting the finishing touches on the action plans for the coming biennium. They are also preparing for the Governor's Workforce Summit. The training director is interested in doing a presentation on the generational theme and will contact Jim Hirsch regarding the Summit Agenda for a panel presentation regarding management decisions and employee retention in the new generation environment.

Marsha reported that the Bismarck SW Region is setting up a Certified Nurses Assistant (CAN) Program in Dickinson; in the NW Region, Williston had a dedication opening ceremony for their new training facility; in the NE region, Lake Region area has a mobile lap-top lab that is delivering computer training in small towns. They have eight laptops that can be taken into rural areas. They are also working on their Wind Energy Technician Program. They have an instructor in place and are doing a client workshop for program applicants; 16 applicants will be accepted into the program. They also are working on CDL training. They had their first class in March. The July CDL accelerated class will be in conjunction with Job Service.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

### **Job Service North Dakota**

**WIA Financial Reports:** Beth Zander reported on the Financials for Program Year 2008 - Status Report of March 31, 2009 (handout). Beth reported that they are  $\frac{3}{4}$  into the expenditures. The Local Area Allocations reports that The Local Adult has expended 60% and committed 74%; Local Youth expended 55% and committed 71%; Local Dislocated Worker expended 59% and committed 76% with a total of 58% expended and 73% committed. This is right in line with  $\frac{3}{4}$  of

the year. In the Statewide Activities, the National Guard & Army Reserve will be removed. Those funds will be obligated since that contract was not carried out. The total statewide administration is 76% expended and 100% committed; total state wide other activities is 63% committed, and the total statewide allocation is 72% committed.

**WIA Performance and Participation:** Beth Zander reported on the WIA data for PY 2008 participation. The Negotiated Performance Measures Summary shows the level achieved for the Adult Program is at 102.1%; the Dislocated Worker Program level achieved is at 105.9%; and the Youth Common Measures is 97.3% level achieved for program year 2008. Beth reported that we are struggling in the Literacy/Numeracy areas.

Beth also reported The Adult Program Analysis of Populations Served shows a total enrollment of 798. The male to female ratio shows an increase in male enrollment, it usually is 50/50, however with the increase in oil field training and truck driver training the male percentage is high (male 525 - female 273). These careers are pretty gender specific; therefore this may have contributed to the result. The Veterans is reporting 5.76%.

The Dislocated Worker Program Analysis of Populations Served is showing a total enrollment of 225. There were 117 males and 108 females. The Veterans reports 8.89%. The Youth Program Analysis of Populations Served is showing 589 enrolled with 308 being male and 242 female. The Dislocated Worker Programs showing total participants served is 798 adult and 225 dislocated workers. Total training services reporting 230 adult and 105 dislocated services.

**Department of Public Instruction Report - Title II:** Valerie Fischer reported that the Adult Learning Center in Williston is very run down and insufficient and will be moving downtown due to the President of the Williston College being very active in Adult Education and being very supportive of a new facility.

DPI also participated in the dropout prevention NDEA grant from Americas Promise. With this grant, the summit was able to be held and they offered teams to come in and look at their dropouts. There were 22 teams coming in from across the states. To see the impact of what the dropout in their community really means long-term, the teams were given information, data, and statistics then worked on action plans. Next year they would put their action plan into place and receive support and assistance by the summit sponsoring agencies, trying to better themselves in not just offering dropout interventions but looking at prevention. The JAG program was presented and there was interest. Valerie commented that part of the issue has been there was never a common definition of dropout and every district looks at dropouts in a different way. It was obvious that we need legislative intent to define what graduation rates and dropout rates are. Valerie commented that districts struggle with this because the data can be manipulated. But our rates are 16% variance in what the dropout rates could be. It depends on how you identify them.

The teams understood that they need to have a common definition for everyone, a process in which to identify and record accurate numbers. Truancy, and expulsion data was also reviewed. Three of four reservations did presentations. There is a high percent of Native American students who do not graduate. We are trying to look at what predictors and indicators we can identify in the elementary schools. One of the conversations was “do we change the compulsory attendance age?” In ND you must stay in school until 16 years of age. The problem is you usually know who is going to drop out. We need to look at alternative programs for these students.

The teams broke into workgroups and the recommendation of the workgroup was that they need more current technical programs across the state and they need to have them available for the younger students. This was very well received and certainly feasible. There were a lot of issues discussed and the implications of dropouts on the economy and legal system, the social system was brought to the forefront. It is not an education problem but everyone’s problem. The lieutenant governor facilitated the workgroups and there were three senators and one representative there. They participated fully in recognizing that the numbers do not paint a pretty picture.

**Career & Technical Education – Carl Perkins:** Wayne Kutzer reported that CTE files on an annual basis, not a quarterly basis; therefore there are no numbers to report at this time.

## **ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council Discussion and Planning - NONE**

**PUBLIC INPUT: NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1. Chair of the ND Workforce Development Council will appoint a workgroup to meet with each of the three state agencies (DPI, Job Service, CTE) to review performance indicators, identify the current service delivery models, identify barriers the current service delivery models have on meeting performance standards, and identification of revised service delivery models which may include dual or concurrent program enrollment to meet requirements for incentive award criteria.**