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**MEETING MINUTES  
NORTH DAKOTA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2006**

**Meeting Date, Time & Place:** September 12, 2006, 9:30 a.m., North Dakota Department of Commerce, 1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 2, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503.

**Members Present:** Al Austad, Anita Kostek, Ann Pollert, Cheryl Penny, Debbie Painte, Gaylene Massey, Gloria Maragos, Harley Engelman, Kent Ellis, Larry Anderson, Leo Cummings, Scott Holdman, and Jim Hirsch.

**Members Absent:** Dave Ellingson, Patty Allery, Tim Eissinger, and Wayne Kutzer.

**Guests Present:** Cornelius Grant, Dale Patrick, Dave Massey, Don Fischer, James Burgum (via phone), Jayme Renner, Jerry Houn, Kira Weiss, Mark Wagner, Ruth Lacher, Scott Davy, Susan Gunsch, and Jill Splonskowski.

**Opening Remarks & Introductions:** Scott Holdman provided a welcome and members/guests introduced themselves around the room.

**Administrative Announcements:** Two new Youth Development Council members were introduced: Kent Ellis and Larry Anderson.

**Agenda:** Scott Holdman asked for a motion to approve the September 12, 2006, agenda.

**Motion:** Al Austad moved for approval of the September 12, 2006, agenda. Larry Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Scott Holdman asked for a motion to approve the April 18, 2006, minutes.

**Motion: Larry Anderson moved to approve the April 18, 2006, minutes. Harley Engelman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **Chairs Report**

### Medora Retreat Update:

Jim Hirsch explained that the Retreat outcome was well received by Legislators and members and it was determined that the role of the system is to prepare the workforce. Several goals were outlined as well as Talent Initiative Strategies. The model is geared to attract, retain, and expand talent in North Dakota, with Workforce Intelligence as the overarching goal.

The Council provided 10 areas of continuous improvement at the Retreat which expand on the coordination, collaboration, and partnerships already in place. The next step is to identify the targeted populations and identify their needs through a data mapping process. Another area identified is the need for better career information and being more aggressive with career promotion.

Harley Engelman requested that the disability unemployment issue needs to be further addressed.

Jim Hirsch explained that over the next 7-8 months, a program will be developed to identify specific programs to fill the gaps identified by the partner agencies. A meeting to be held on September 20, 2006, will also help address some of these issues and objectives.

## **Emerging Technologies Overview/Demonstrations**

Don Fischer from Career & Technical Information explained that funding was acquired in the 1990s to provide students with equipment which can be rotated around the states 6 consortiums for additional education in emerging technology fields. The funding was used to provide new cutting edge equipment (\$900,000 for the Biennium). A statewide management team was used to decide how to use the funds in the best way possible for the 4 current modules in place. The 4 modules are: Automated Manufacturing, Science Technologies, Engineering, and Information/Communication Technology.

The equipment is used primarily in grades 7-12, but exposure has even gone down into the elementary level as well as adult education classes which has had great success.

Jayne Renner explained that each school or consortium chooses which modules to use. Equipment is available for 65 schools. Existing schools receive \$6,000 per year to be used for purchasing new equipment, development of curriculum, and professional development of teachers. New schools received \$8,000 to start a new consortium or join an existing one. Equipment is rotated every 6 weeks among the schools. Equipment is based on use of laser optics and electronics. All of the kits are transported with a curriculum checklist, instruction manuals, and cds for use by the teachers throughout their usage time.

Jayne Renner demonstrated each of the modules and members were able to view the modules hands-on.

### **At-Risk Youth Initiative Update**

James Burgum reported that an inventory list was developed by the Office of the Governor and as well as data mapping of the services. A replacement for James Burgum will be assigned shortly to resume the project (define youth and why they are considered at-risk). A possible survey could be sent out to all agencies to help identify at-risk youth. The Council will need to further identify the scope of work of this project to move the initiative forward and this topic will be discussed later today during the Youth Council Planning agenda item.

### **State Commission Updates**

#### AmeriCorps:

Jerry Houn introduced the new Corporation Program Officer attending from Washington, D.C.: Kira Weiss. Currently, the 2005-2006 AmeriCorps program has 6 projects obligating \$471,214 and 127 members. For the 2006-2007 grant year, there will again be 6 projects obligating \$500,000 and 122 members with the Fargo-Moorhead Family YMCA being the most aggressive project.

#### Learn & Serve:

Dale Patrick explained that Youthworks had a service learning grant for one year through the Grand Forks Public School System which provides mentoring and community services. \$41,738 was allocated to the Valley City Public Schools for a three year grant. The Valley City grant involves 690 students and 70 volunteers geared toward mentoring services.

### **Rough Rider Industries**

Mark Wagner introduced members to some of the services provided to inmates through their program. Training includes soft and hard skills for job preparation. Rough Rider Industries operates three facilities: Bismarck, Carson, & Jamestown.

Scott Davy showed a PowerPoint showcasing the history of Rough Rider Industries. Rough Rider Industries began operations in 1975. They provide high quality products at reasonable prices while creating jobs for ND inmates. Inmates produce exercise equipment, office furniture, upholstery, and baby furniture. There are currently 29 full-time employees and 150 inmates participating in the program at Rough Rider Industries. Security precautions and monitoring of inmates takes place two times per day. No tax money is received to run the operation or to provide their products. The prison system is saved thousands of dollars by Rough Rider Industries employing inmates in this capacity. Rough Rider Industries partners with the Missouri River Correctional Center. They also partner with Sturdy Manufacturing of Carson to produce agricultural equipment.

The wages provided to the inmates help them pay for child support, restitution, sundry items, and other necessary debt payments. Rough Rider Industries help inmates develop hope, responsibility, discipline, fairness, economical status, quality workmanship, success, and self-respect.

Several interviews were then shown to members of employees identifying positive work experience at Rough Rider Industries.

## **Job Service Reports**

### WIA Financial Report:

Larry Anderson from Job Service North Dakota reviewed the WIA Financial Report which reflects that 42% of funds have been allocated as of June 30, 2006. The local area allocation as of June 30, 2006, has been 85% expended. The statewide allocation is 44% expended.

### WIA Report on Performance & Participation:

Larry Anderson reported that as of June 30, 2006, 838 adults, 321 dislocated workers, and 821 youth were served by Job Service North Dakota.

## **Northeast Regional Youth Council Review Committee**

Harley Engelman led a workgroup that worked with the Northeast Regional Youth Council over the past several months. The workgroup requested a refined budget and proposal by starting to build a database and determining an administering entity. A revised proposal will be sent to Jim Hirsch for distribution to all Youth Development Council members for their review. The proposal would include a request for the use of Governor's Set-Aside funds.

After member discussion, members decide that Scott Holdman should call the Grand Forks Regional Youth Council and let them know that they should fulfill their aims and objectives and research the numbers; however, the Youth Development Council is unable to fund the proposal.

**Motion: Harley Engelman moved to have Scott Holdman write a letter to the Grand Forks Regional Youth Council to explain the non-approval of funding for their proposal. Anita Kostek seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **Youth Council Planning and Public Input**

### At-Risk Youth Initiative Update:

The spreadsheet for the At-Risk Youth Initiative will be asked to be revised (based on the Phoenix model) by the person filling James Burgum's capacity. Jim Hirsch will talk with Bill Goetz regarding this issue. A workgroup will be defined to move the initiative forward and put a frame around the objective for discussion at the January 9, 2007, meeting.

**Motion:** Larry Anderson moved to develop a workgroup to move the information forward and put a frame around the objective for discussion at the January 9, 2007, Youth Development Council meeting. Kent Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The workgroup members will be recommended by Larry Anderson. Larry Anderson will host an initial meeting at Job Service North Dakota and will bring back an objective for approval at the January 9, 2007, Youth Development Council meeting.

### **January 9, 2007, Agenda Items**

Scott Holdman outlined two items for presentation at the January 9, 2007, meeting:

- ◆ Report on September 20, 2006, meeting (Partner Systems Forum)
- ◆ At-Risk Youth Initiative Update

**Adjournment:** Scott Holdman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Harley Engelman moved to adjourn the meeting. Anita Kostek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

### **Action Plans:**

- ✚ **Scott Holdman will call and write a letter to the Grand Forks Regional Youth Council to explain the non-approval of funding for their proposal.**
- ✚ **Larry Anderson will host an initial meeting regarding the At-Risk Youth Initiative and will bring back an objective for approval at the January 9, 2007, Youth Development Council meeting.**
- ✚ **Jim Hirsch to provide an update on the Partner Systems Forum at the January 9, 2007, meeting.**