



THE VOICE OF WISCONSIN'S LOCAL  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

Date: October 7, 2009  
Place: GEF 1 Building  
201 E. Washington Ave.  
Madison, WI  
Room F105

### **WAJTE MEETING MINUTES**

**WAJTE Directors Present:** John Milisauskas, Mark Kessenich, Francisco Sanchez, Al Hesse (for Cheryl Welch), Jim Golembeski (arrived 9:36a), Sally Cutler, Steve Terry, Dick Best (arrived 10:00a, Jerry Hanoski, Pat Schramm (arrived 9:38a), and Bob Borremans.

**Others Present:** Gary Denis (Department of Workforce Development), Mari Kay-Nabozny (WAJTE/WWDA Staff), Angela Cummings (WAJTE/WWDA Coordinator)

*Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.*

#### **1. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion to approve minutes as is made by Cutler; second by Borremans.** No discussion.

**Motion carried**

#### **2. Chair's Report**

Sanchez provided a summary of the October 1<sup>st</sup> monthly meeting with Secretary Gasman.

**ARRA & WIA Performance:** Youth program was done well! Statewide we will fall a little short of goals in dislocated worker #s and adult #s. DWD will contact specific WDAs to discuss.

**Readiness for ARRA 1512 Reporting:** Discussion occurred among directors. Most met the October 4<sup>th</sup> deadline for ARRA 1512 reporting.

#### **Update on Competitive Grants:**

LMI proposal - was submitted and included WI, Iowa, and Minnesota.

State Energy Sector Partnership - A team is working on the proposal, due October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Kessenich is the WAJTE representative. Kessenich provided a summary of the second draft of SCEP. The proposal is apprenticeship focused. If funded, the money will be given to GROW regions; GROW regions will need to submit a 5 page plan before receiving funds.

Health Care - Sally Cutler has been working on this. Boards were already aware. Sally gave brief summary of health care proposal. Proposal was submitted on time.

### **Dislocated worker funding for retraining**

DOL requires the state to show we have spent 95% of the existing funds before requesting more money. State is working with DOL to see if there is room to bend. Danowski requested WIBs provide data to show the “real situation” to DOL and stressed the importance of accurate financial reporting and obligations so the state can draw a compelling picture for DOL to possible bend on the 95%.

Cummings e-mailed WAJTE Directors requesting the # of people at risk of dropping out of January 2010 classes due to lack of dislocated worker funding. Cummings will compile data and send to Danowski on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion occurred about state and Federal financial aid. Joana will make a request at a statewide level that technical colleges hold workshops on financial aid processes.

### **3. Coordinator’s Report**

#### **a. Fiscal Report**

Cummings referred to the updated WAJTE/WWDA budget provided by Jim Limbo. Nabozny questioned if WAJTE/WWDA is a NWA member. Nabozny will look into this. It was mentioned that some boards have not paid.

#### **b. ASSET User Group Report**

Cummings relayed the following AUG highlights:

*“Annual Performance Report to be distributed October 1<sup>st</sup> or later”*. Hesse mentioned that the QTSR report is out today so Boards are able to see if they passed a particular measure. The final report was distributed to the AUG. There is no incentive award connected with this report.

Hesse reported that DWD does not know where the data for the ITA report came from and that there is concern about the accuracy/source of information. Additional issues were raised. Denis replied that a number of the issues discussed are not accurate. Some of the fields in ASSET were not mandatory to fill out and so data is not reliable/accurate. The ITA data base (report on #s trained) is maintained by a vendor. The vendor inputs the information; it is not coming from DWD systems. DWD would not know if the numbers were accurate unless the data was really bazaar. Cutler suggested the report not be shared with others due to issues discussed.

*“Administrative Memo 09-04 and tracking of ARRA SY 22-24 years of age”* was also highlighted with no discussion.

Cummings provided an updated AUG membership list

#### **c. State Business Services Group**

Cummings provided WAJTE Directors with a draft statement of purpose from the Statewide Business Service Group. Directors provided the following input/ideas:

- Broaden the vision

- Add “align industry sector initiatives “with WAJTE/WWDA strategies/strategic plans” and “across the state”
- Be very clear on purpose
- Align fee based services (could also be services offered by others)
- Enhance services offered
- Alignment around additional elements of business services
- Collaborative efforts, expanding resources, etc.
- Broaden SOP to strategic align business services and industry sectors across WDAs in state
- Aligning resources and finding opportunities to write statewide grants and business relationships that give additional neutral power (e.g. expanding resource base)

Cummings provided the agenda for the Statewide Business Service Group meeting on Monday, October 12, 2009.

#### **4. Legislative Staff report**

##### **a. Congressman Petri Meeting**

Nabozny provided a summary of the meeting. Petri had questions regarding a seamless delivery system and would like to see this improve among partners (WDAS). WWDA offered to continue to be a resource for workforce development issues and provided Petri with a copy of the WWDA WIA reauthorization document to use in the future. Best asked if there was any discussion about changes in the legislation to close gap in policy for strategy alignment. Directors agreed that this is a point to follow up on. Sanchez mentioned that this is a good time to invite state and Federal representatives to the job centers and make them aware of workforce development activities.

Sanchez suggested the WIA legislative agenda be reduced to one page. Nabozny will attempt to reduce the document. Nabozny sent a thank you letter to Petri on behalf of WWDA.

##### **b. Upcoming Legislative Events**

Day at the Capitol: Potential date of February 11th. The WEDA conference is Feb 10-12 with the welcome session on Feb 10<sup>th</sup> in the evening. Nabozny will check into further and make arrangements. Directors agreed to hold February 11<sup>th</sup> as a tentative date.

During the November WWDA meeting the group will discuss items bring to the Day at the Capitol.

Nabozny distributed e-mail statistics and the letter WRTP sent to legislators regarding the GET WI Working proposal. ARRA newsletter issue eight (8) will not have enough new information to publish due to Summer Youth Programs ending.

Directors discussed updating the WWDA annual report and including information about the ARRA Summer Youth Program. Directors would like to see a one page summary of the

various occupations kids held, the number of people served, amount of funds spent, and number of work readiness certificates earned. Additional suggestion to identify (a) what we did, (b) here is what we're capable of, and (c) here is what we need to do even better. Nabozny will create a draft for Directors to review.

Discussion occurred regarding Legislative Day in D.C. (in conjunction with the NAWB conference) on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The WWDA reception will be on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Statewide WWDA Application(s) Update**

Energy Training Partnership – WRTP submitted proposal on time and is waiting for funding decision.

Health Care- discussed in agenda item 2, Chair's Report.

MSSC – Direction from MSSC was to develop a regional proposal instead of a statewide proposal. Denis mentioned that Secretary Gasman sent a letter of support for proposal.

**6. CWI Dislocated Worker Sub-committee**

Discussed in agenda item 2, Chair's Report.

**7. Disability Navigator Funding**

Denis explained that \$500,000 was given to WI. DWD requested that regions submit a short application identifying one navigator in each GROW region. DWD should be sending notes to directors today to most of the regions with contracts to follow. DWD had a few instances where additional details need to be worked out. GROW regions with no issues will receive a note saying the \$50,000 dollars use approved. Denis stated the regions can use the state wide navigator to assist with activities (e.g. If an area has navigator duties in two different counties on same day and time, regional navigator can call the state to assist/cover one of the meetings.).

Denis does not know where the state person will be located at this time.

**8. State Technical Assistance Request**

Sanchez mentioned the state TA application will be for \$30,000 instead of \$15,000 applied for last year.

**9. Tax Exempt Project Update**

Cummings provided Best and Jim Limbo with a "letter to proceed" pursuing tax exempt status for WWDA. Best will attempt to negotiate a "good deal" with Wipfli given the number of boards using there services. Best will pursue and have an update at the next meeting.

**10. Representative Mike Sheridan Meeting – October 19<sup>th</sup>**

Borremans reported that Sheridan is closely watching the Board's response to dislocated workers. Sheridan has called a meeting with workforce system, the technical college system (Blackhawk), Joana Richard (DWD), and possibly others to discuss the costs associated with technical college training. Specifically, that technical college training is too costly due to the

cohorts required and cost of “full cost recovery”. Sheridan et al will discuss the funding of activities as it relates to services throughout the workforce development system.

Directors discussed the full cost recovery law (which has been in place for years) and the RFP process being one method of obtaining affordable training for unemployed workers. Best mentioned that the technical colleges have latitude at the local board level to create a local policy. Directors agreed that there needs to be a middle ground between training cost and ‘full cost recovery’. Nabozny will e-mail section 38 of law that discusses full cost recovery.

Borremans and Nabozny will attend on behalf of WAJTE. Borremans opened the invitation to Directors. Borremans will provide an update during the next meeting.

### **11. WAJTE/WWDA Meeting Locations**

Directors chose meeting locations for the remaining WAJTE/WWDA meetings in 2009/2010, with the exception of the February meetings which will align with the Day at the Capitol activities. Denis stated that the CWI meeting schedule was solidified yesterday. Cummings will update the WAJTE/WWDA meeting calendar and send to Directors.

### **12. Reports:**

#### **a. Partnership Updates (GLETA, WCA, Other)**

Best mentioned the WEDA leadership event in Chicago on October 22/23, and Youth Leadership conference on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

GLETA is reviewing position papers from various groups to find common themes and identify common topics where groups can align and work together on efforts more uniformly.

TWA sent an apology. Best will copy Directors on the email/letter he sent to TWA in response to TWA’s article. Nabozny will forward TWA’s apology.

#### **b. WEDA Conference**

### **13. Other Business**

Legislative articles are due to Mari October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Noon Lunch & Director Updates**

Directors provided a summary of area activities. Future agenda item request: what transitional job programs are WIBs running or involved in?

Respectfully submitted by Angela Cummings, WAJTE Coordinator