

**WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2004 MEETING**

A meeting of the Workforce Investment Board was called to order by Chairman Donald Hooper at 6:20 PM, Wednesday, May 19, 2004, at Angelo's Restaurant, Massena NY.

Members Present: Jack Backus, Lynn Blevins, Donald Brining, Sue Caswell, Bruce Green, Donald Hooper, Linda Manchester, Ron McDougall, Mike Noble, Walt Paul, Mike St. Thomas, John Tubbs

Members Absent: Genevieve Baxter, Doug Beachard, Rich Daddario, Ken Garwood, Joseph Kennedy, Steve Novacich, Joanne Novak, Linda Randi, Ryan Schermerhorn, Tim Weaver

Others Present: Raymond H. Fountain, Jr., Natalie Haggart, David Williams, Patrick Kelly, and Ed Short of the Office of Economic Development; Todd Doherty of the NYSDOL; and Tom Plastino, Citec.

MINUTES

Moved by Mr. St. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Brining, the minutes of the March 24, 2004 meeting were approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Hooper reported that the WIB is in the process of discussing with Jefferson County's WIB the building projects at Fort Drum and how we can establish avenues for our workforce to be hired.

Mr. Brining added that he is currently a member of the main committee and noted that this project has come about due to the upcoming stress on the housing market as the 3rd Brigade moves to Fort Drum. He reported that military housing would become privatized, and a partnership with the military and the contractors would result in a \$350 million new housing and renovated housing project. Word needs to get out to St. Lawrence County laborers and contractors of this upcoming building boon. Approximately 1,800 contractors are expected to work on this project. Mr. Fountain noted that Jim Picunas of the NYSDOL is working on a veterans' initiative, for which he (Mr. Fountain) had written a letter of support on behalf of the WIB. This project is expected to affect short-term housing from Massena to Syracuse. Volunteers for the St. Lawrence County portion of the committee included: Mr. Brining, Mr. Paul, Mr. McDougall, Ms. Manchester, Mr. Backus and Mr. Hooper.

Mr. Hooper provided a brief update on the Strategic Plan Initiative and upcoming Workforce Summit, deferring the details to Mr. Plastino's report to be given at the end of this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marketing and Quality Assurance: No report.

Youth Committee: No report.

Services Committee: No report.

Executive Committee: Mr. Hooper noted that the Executive Committee met on May 10th and reviewed the items submitted for WIB action this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution Authorizing Certification of Eligible Training Providers (Policy 16-E): Moved by Mr. Blevins, and seconded by Mr. Noble the resolution passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Modifying the Workforce Investment Act Budget for St. Lawrence County Office of Economic Development Employment & Training Unit: This resolution modifies the Program Year 2001 budget to include recently received Dislocated Worker funds. Moved by Mr. St. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Brining, the resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution Appointing a New Local Area Complaint Resolution Officer: Moved by Mr. Brining and seconded by Mr. St. Thomas, the resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution Extending Contracts for Year Round Youth Service Providers: Mr. Faucher explained that this resolution extended most of the present providers of services to youth. It also authorized a modification to the Occupational and Transferable Skills Training Program. This modification expands youth eligibility and programs availability. Moved by Mr. Noble and seconded by Ms. Caswell, the resolution passed with 11 “Aye” votes, 0 “Nay” votes and 1 “Abstention” (Mr. Paul).

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Establishing the Workforce Investment Act Budget for St. Lawrence County Office of Economic Development Employment & Training Unit: Mr. Fountain explained that this resolution establishes a budget for Program Year 2004. The TANF Summer Program is a projection based on last year’s allocation. This funding is tied to the Governor’s budget, which has not yet passed. Moved by Mr. McDougall and seconded by Mr. Blevins, the resolution passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Hooper noted that anyone having questions on the reports included in the agenda should contact Ray Fountain.

Mr. Fountain reported that the NYSDOL recently issued a Technical Advisory on One-Stop Recertification.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Mr. Hooper introduced Tom Plastino, Executive Director of CITEC, who provided an update on the status of the June 10th Summit. He reviewed the agenda/schedule and provided a breakdown of the breakout group categories. The majority of the remaining discussion centered on maximizing attendance, keeping the participants for the whole Summit, the challenge to balance the groups and

the need to increase participation from the Agriculture/Agri-Business and Healthcare sectors. Attendees were provided an updated attendance list and some attendees were given lists of contacts within their zip code. Mr. Backus and Brian Lee (SLC Economic Developer) will try to outreach the agriculture sector. Other suggestions for agriculture invitees included Madeline Pennington's Board, Dave Patterson, Dawn Howard of Soil & Water, and the St. Lawrence County Dairy Princess. WIB members were provided a list of those from the health care sector and were encouraged to contact those names they recognized for possible participation. Mr. Paul will forward information to his Health Advisory Committee. Mr. Brining also recommended contacting Joanne Sevick of the St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau for accessing youth from local high schools to participate. Mr. Fountain will contact Ms. Sevick.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Blevins and seconded by Mr. Green, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Novak, Esq.