



Wyoming Workforce Development Council

Monthly Council Call

December 5, 2017

Conference Call

Committee Members Present

Jim Engel, Chairman
Keith Zabka
John Cox

Michael Von Flatern
Leonard Scoleri, Vice Chairman
Rocky Anderson

Council Members Absent

Shawn Reese
John Walsh
Kevin Kershisnik
Jim Rose
Ron Van Voast
Scott Norris
Cathy Connolly

Sid Gressette
Jillian Balow
Gary New
Stacy Strasser
Felix Carrizales
Ray Fleming Dinneen
Shannon Buller

Mark Madsen
Tom Forslund
Katie Legerski
Randal Six
Delbert McOmie
Fabian Lobera

Council Members Designees Present

Noelle Reed

Others Present

Laurie Knowlton
Hayley McKee
Mike Griffin

Chairman Engel called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. Mr. Engel suggested the agenda be approved as written and turned the meeting over to Ms. Knowlton for her updates.

AG Edits to Interagency – The Attorney General’s Office has provided some edits to the Interagency Agreement or the MOU, as it is also called. As a reminder, the Council procured the services of the Title I and the One-Stop Operator. The final edited version can be posted to the Council’s website after this meeting. The Executive Committee will be voting whether to forward the agreement to the full Council for final vote on Friday.

Infrastructure Funding – The Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA) under the WIOA law was not written for a minimally funded Single-Area State, as Wyoming is. The Agency is using creative ways to ensure that Wyoming meets the law and ensures each of the mandated partners provides their proportionate share toward the one-stop operations; these can be in-kind monetary value for referrals.

A monetary value will be assigned to referrals, which presently is calculated to be about \$12.30 per referral. Mr. Engel confirmed that we are continuing to work with the DOL on the IFA to make sure that Wyoming is following the Federal guidelines.

Revised Certification Policy – Because of time restraints, it was not feasible or possible to obtain certification for all 19 of the Affiliates in the timeframe mandated. There will be one comprehensive certification done at the Casper Workforce Center and then the WIOA Compliance & Finance Committee will certify the remaining centers based on the documents provided to each Center manager, with onsite visits in the years after.

The following two items were approved at the October WWDC meeting in Gillette; but it was determined that that decision was made contrary to WWDC Policy and it was reverted back to the Compliance and Finance Committee:

- **WAG \$250,000** – The Committee recommended providing the money in \$50,000 increments, with a report provided to the Council after each dispersal.
- **Summit \$10,000** – The Committee voted to recommend providing \$10,000 for the 2018 Safety & Workforce Summit.

2018 Safety & Workforce Summit – This will be held on June 20, 2018. Suggestions for Council recommendations for break-out session subject content should be forwarded to Ms. Knowlton. Ms. McKee confirmed that the dates have been moved to June 20-21, 2018. Awards and presentations will be given out at noon on the 20th, which will be a full day, and the 21st will be a half day of sessions on Workplace Safety.

Workforce Advisory Groups – Chairman Engel shared that after the October Council meeting, there was another meeting between Center Managers and other interested parties, who provided considerable feedback from Center Managers about uncertainty concerning their ability to provide the time that the Council needs them to commit to the WAGs in addition to all of their normal duties. The WAGs have been pulled back a bit and reorganized to take these concerns into consideration. Director Cox provided some additional information about their concerns, as he was at that meeting. He summarized that stepping back has allowed everyone to determine priorities and goals for the WAGs and the roles of the Center Managers in that process. It was determined that it would be preferable for government employees not be in the forefront of the WAG development and focus, but to allow business partners and private citizens be more in charge and drive those groups. The Center Managers should be more support service resources rather than organizing and managing the local WAGs.

Ms. McKee shared information how they are developing a proposal that will be drawn up in collaboration with Colorado, who is a recognized leader in the country in regards to Sector Strategies, on the WAG model and how we will be re-setting the priorities and goals for the WAGs going forward. Proposals will be presented to the Compliance & Finance Committee in mid December. Also, there will be a re-branding of the name of the groups that works better in the media. They will be working to name a Convener, or a reputable third party that can assist in getting the needed private sector partners to the table. They will be re-launching the WAG Academy to include these new expectations and goals in the near future. Ms. Reed added that they will probably start with some pilot regions to start with before rolling out the plan for the entire state.

Open Discussion and Public Comment –

Adjourn – Mr. Scoleri moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55.

This meeting is open to the public.

The Executive Committee will be meeting on December 8, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. That meeting is open to the public.

The next Council meeting will be in Cheyenne on February 14 – 15, 2018