

**Minutes of the Workforce Network of Kansas**  
**October 10, 2007 • 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
Topeka Shawnee County Library • Marvin Auditorium  
1515 S.W. 10th • Topeka, KS 66604

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Gerald Cook called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. **Candy Shively motioned to approve the July 2007 minutes. Criss Mayfield seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

**II. Report from State Plan Task Force Policy Review/Approval**

Doug Kinsinger reviewed the directive given to the task force and reported the policy was reviewed in July and posted for public comment. Only two comments were received, which were both operational. No changes were made to the policies based on the two received comments. **Kinsinger motioned for approval of the proposed policies. Doc Conder seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

The second item requiring Board action was final approval of the WIA state plan, including the new policies just approved as well as the addendum created at the Bi-State Board meeting held during the Workforce Innovations Conference. **Kinsinger motioned for approval of the WIA State Plan. Rae Anne Davis seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

Kinsinger detailed the direction the Task Force is looking at moving next and asked board members for input. The board agreed with future direction of the Task Force, which is to:

- a. Monitor impact on Local Areas and establish benchmarks for implementing the Minimum Training Expenditure policy
- b. Begin research and initial development of State Board Policies regarding certification of Comprehensive One-Stop Centers
- c. Provide guidance in the development of Local Area Planning Instructions
- d. Develop continual, periodic updates to the State WIA plan

**III. Workforce Study Update**

Nina Babich from Corporation for a Skilled Workforce presented the Workforce Study that had been completed at the request of the Board. The report is large but can be e-mailed or mailed upon request. The data solidified the Board's thoughts of the workforce areas that need to be addressed. Lengthy discussion took place on the suggestion of limiting training dollars to the demand occupation list.

A Workforce Study Task Force will meet before the next meeting in January and bring recommendations to the board. Those recommendations will include policy direction for the KANSASWORKS State Board. The task force is comprised of Ed Berger, Karin Brownlee, Jim Garner, Larissa Long and Tim Cotter. Keith Myers and Christine Bohannon were assigned as staff to the task force.

**IV. Raising the Bar for Serving Veterans**

Wayne Meyers spoke to the Board about the newly created Career Development Technician Registered Apprenticeship program. The program was developed in cooperation with the Registered Apprenticeship program, the Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs and Johnson County Community College. This program will develop veteran's staff with higher skills that upgrade as they complete training. Current staff has completed half of the certification process.

Cook recognized Aeron Kelvington who introduced himself as the U.S. Department of Labor, Kansas Director for Veteran's Employment and Training Services. Kelvington told the group his experience was primarily in Washington DC and he was very excited to be in Kansas.

## **V. WIA Recapture Policy**

Rae Anne Davis explained the Department of Commerce would be utilizing the policy passed last year to recapture unspent funds for redistribution. The purpose of the policy is to improve the spending levels in Kansas. Not spending federal dollars as we should puts the state at risk of losing funding. The state could recapture 4.8 million dollars; however, the policy is flexible and enables Commerce to recapture only half of what could be recaptured. The funds cannot be spent at the state level. They will be redistributed to the Local Areas by formula with Local Area II receiving the bulk of the money as they were the only area that obligated all of their funding.

SDA II will be working with around one thousand employees that will become unemployed next spring due to the closing of three companies. The Area can handle the one time influx of money.

This policy is intended to be a negotiation process with no plans of leaving local areas in a bind if they obligateded money after June. If any Local Area has cause for concern they need to send notification by October 12, 2007. The deadline is firm.

## **VI. Status of Grandfathered Boards and WIA Reauthorization**

The current Board structure is grandfathered into WIA from JTPA. This structure was intended to be temporary and eventually the structure would comply with WIA regulations. The Board is not in violation of federal requirements and it appears WIA will not be reauthorized until after the Presidential election.

If the State Board chooses to comply with WIA it will become a much larger board. Also, the Local Boards which are grandfathered would be forced to become WIA compliant. More business representation would probably be needed and membership from Corrections and Education should be added. The Board needs members that will participate.

Staff will research the make up of the current Board, what it would look like if it were a WIA compliant and how many representatives we need from different areas. Overall opinion was to wait for WIA reauthorization and then address the board's structure as there was no need to make a change now and possibly another change when reauthorization happens.

## **VII. KANSASWORKS Brand Update**

The *KANSASWORKS Minimum Standards and Marketing Toolkit* has been distributed for Local Area input. The Policy Task Force will look at both the brand information and the responses. Policy will be written on how the funding will be divided. The art work for the **KANSASWORKS** mobile unit was shared with the Board. The new Web site is expected to be operational by the end of the year. The Board approved a new working name of **KANSASWORKS** State Board.

## **VIII. Commerce's Plan for Set-Aside Spending**

Set aside funding is comprised of unspent administration money that is utilized for incentive awards, technical assistance and individual projects submitted by local boards. In the coming year the State would like to add a prisoner re-entry project and an older worker project. Feedback was requested on how the Board would like that funding reported. Suggestions varied from "at a glance" reporting to the same reporting expected of local areas.

Partners requested a listing of programs, goals and timeframes. Keith Lawing requested the continuation of One Stop enhancement spending to be utilized in upgrading facilities and equipment not covered by WIA funding.

### **IX. National Emergency Grant Update**

Dennis Cooper reported that about 130 restoration positions had been filled through the two National Emergency grants. The Senate passed a Homeland Security Bill that included changes to the NEG, which would make spending more flexible. The bill is now in conference committee. There is discussion about a summer program in Southeast Kansas that made be duplicated in Greensburg.

### **X. Older Worker Awards Ceremony**

Susan told the board the eleventh Older Worker Awards Ceremony was held October 23, 2007. Everything went well. Local Area III won the Outstanding LWIB this year. Dillon's won the outstanding employer award. The oldest female worker was 99 and the oldest male was 100 and did not attend the ceremony as he had to work.

### **XI. Local Area Updates**

Kris Kitchen reported they had served 1,362 individuals. Over half were enrolled in nursing or truck driving training with starting wages of \$14.08 to \$19.96. Congratulations goes to the Topeka Workforce Center who served Alorica so well they hired 1,079 individuals when the original number expected was 500 to 600. They would like to have 1,200 on board by Thanksgiving.

Keith Lawing recognized Representative Brunk for his wonderful representation of the business community. Local Area IV continues to work with Local Area I on the Workforce Innovations for Regional Economic Development Grant. Kansas Quick Careers has developed a new Patient Care Technician training program with Wichita Via Christi and Wesley hospital. Gail Jordon reported on the new prisoner re-entry program that is so successful prisoners are asking to be transferred to Winfield to take advantage of the training.

Renea Caveness reported Local Area V is looking at matching training programs to employers needs. There is a severe need for construction workers in the area. A re-entry program is being initiated to fulfill the need. Doug Ewing reported five worksites had been established with the NEG funding with more on the way. There are 75 registered participants.

Scott Anglemyer spoke about the manifestations of change, in service strategy, culture and approaches. The new Wyandotte county facility has a significant increase in traffic and the same is expected in Johnson County when the new facility opens. Employers are beginning to use the centers for hiring and there is significant interest in using the new mobile unit for hiring and training.

Bob Dalke reported on the projects involving engineers, ethanol productions, machinists and construction workers. They are also working with SRS deciding what is needed to build career ladders for welfare clients to be able to make a living wage. On-the-job training programs have been established in the industrial maintenance and welding areas.

### **XIII. Chairs Update**

Gerald Cook thanked all of the Executive Directors for their comprehensive information and their hard work. He announced the State Board would be sponsoring a training session directly following the conclusion of the Workforce Summit. He asked the Executive Directors to encourage their Board members to attend.

#### **XIV. State's Update**

Rae Anne announced the splash page is up and the new **KANSASWORKS.com** site is coming soon. Work is being completed on making Kansas JobLink more user-friendly. February will mark the big push on marketing for the **KANSASWORKS** brand, but that depends on the completion of the Web site.

#### **XV. Announcements**

Eddie Estes discussed the Workforce Summit being held at the Capital Plaza January 23 and 24th. The Department of Commerce will complete registration; however, members must make their own hotel reservations. The Summit will go a step further than last year and face some tough issues. Hopefully, with everyone's input it will have an even greater impact this year.

Tim Cotter requested Local Area reports be moved up on the agenda as Executive Directors seem to be pressured to rush through their presentations. Gerald agreed and would see that they were moved up in the agenda.

#### **XII. Adjournment**

Gerald asked for any other business from the floor. With none he thanked everybody for attending and for their hard work and good discussion. The meeting adjourned.

**ATTENDANCE**  
**10/10/07**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>Gerald Cook</b> , Chair	X
<b>Eddie Estes</b> , Vice Chair	X
<b>Senator Jim Barone</b>	
<b>Dr. Ed Berger</b> , President, Hutchinson Community College	
<b>Rod Blackburn</b> , Co-Owner, WB Construction LLC	
<b>Senator Karin Brownlee</b>	X
<b>Representative Steve Brunk</b>	X
<b>Secretary David Kerr</b> (represented by <b>Deputy Secretary Rae Anne Davis</b> )	X
<b>C.B. Doc Conder</b> , Teamsters Local #41	X
<b>Tim Cotter</b> , Director HR, Envision	X
<b>Val DeFever</b> , Owner, Musical Overtures	
<b>Mike Fleming</b> , Attorney	
<b>Secretary Jim Garner</b> , Kansas Department of Labor	X
<b>Secretary Katy Greenlee</b> , Kansas Department on Aging	X
<b>Vern Jarboe</b> , Attorney, Partner Sloan, Eisenbarth, Glassman, McEntire & Jarboe	
<b>James Keele</b> , Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers	
<b>Doug Kinsinger</b> , President, Topeka Chamber of Commerce	X
<b>Patricia Kirkman</b> , Teamsters Local #696	X
<b>Lloyd Lavin</b> , Business Manager, IBEW Local #226	
<b>Larissa Long</b> , Kansas Community Relations Director, Aquila	X
<b>Criss Mayfield</b> , Abbott Workholding Products	X
<b>Tim McNally</b> , Product Manager, HIX Corporation	
<b>Lynn Peterson</b> , Memorial Art Co. Inc.	X
<b>Representative Louis Ruiz</b>	
<b>Alicia Salisbury</b> , VP, Salisbury Supply Company	
<b>Candace Shively</b> , Deputy Secretary, Kansas Dept of S&RS	X
<b>Colonel George Webb</b> , Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs	X

<b>GUESTS</b>
Nina Babich, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce
Inayat Noormohmad, Kansas Department of Labor
Robert Sherborne, local citizen
Bob Dalke, <b>KANSASWORKS</b> , Local Area I
Kris Kitchen, Heartland Works, Local Area II
Scott Anglemeyer, Workforce Partnership, Local Area III
Keith Lawing, Workforce Alliance, Local Area IV
Doug Ewing, <b>KANSASWORKS</b> , Local Area V
Renea Caveness, <b>KANSASWORKS</b> , Local Area V
Jim Snyder, Silver Haired Legislature
Delores Engle, State Director, US Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship
Jacquelyn Koehler, Kansas, Inc.
Gail Jordon, Director of Integrated Services, Workforce Alliance
Areon Kelvington, USDOL, Director of Kansas Veterans Employment and Training
Oscar Terevono, SER Corporation
Richard Lopez, SER Corporation
<b>COMMERCE STAFF</b>
David Brennan
Bonnie Duden
Loretta Shelley
Susan Weideneback
Wayne Meyers
Linda Weaver
Armand Corpolongo
Dennis Cooper
Kathy Hund
Letty Perez
Ann Duffy
<b>BOARD STAFF</b>
Cindy Nau