



# Spokane Area WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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## MINUTES SPOKANE AREA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL Wednesday, June 13, 2007, 7:30 a.m. Spokane Skills Center

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### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ben Cabildo	Liz Collier	Steve Dahlstrom	Donna Dalzell	Craig Dias
Tom Fritz	Steve Hanson	Dennis Holt	Don Howell	Steve Jurich
Kevin Managhan	Julie Meyer	Nancy Nelson	Beth Thew	

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Frankie Arteaga	Jeff Benesch	Christine Burgess	Kim Do	Robert Duron
Rich Hadley	Bill Kalivas	Craig Lee	Mike Senske	Hugh Severs
Diana Wilhite				

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Judy Cash- CPS	Talana Mielke- Riverside School District	Mike Nepean- Spokane Public Schools	Scott Oakshott- Freeman School District	Angelique Signorelli- ESD101
Anne Tucker- CCS	JR Sloan-JR Sloan Enterprises	Danny McDaniel		

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Mark Mattke- Workforce Strategy & Planning Director	Gordon Gutterud- Accountant	Dawn Karber- Youth Involvement Coordinator	Anne Lockwood- Secretary	Lori Meakin- Workforce Development Program Specialist
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### **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 am.

### **ITEM #1 – REVIEW MAY 9, 2007 MEETING MINUTES:**

On a motion and a second to approve the May 9, 2007 SAWDC Meeting minutes.  
Approved. None opposed.

## **ITEM #2 – OFFICERS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2007:**

Officers: There was a motion and a second to approve Craig Dias as Chair and Hugh Severs as Vice Chair for Program Year 2007. Motion approved. None opposed

## **ITEM #3 –NEW MEMBER NOMINATION:**

New Members: There was a motion and a second to bring Pete Casimir – replacing Audrey Adams as public assistance agency representative, and John Serben – replacing Rich Hadley who moved from business representative to the economic development representative, to the Mayor and Chair of the County Commissioners for formal appointment on the WDC. Motion approved. None opposed.

## **ITEM #4 – WDC CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR PY07:**

The 2007-2008 Calendar has been set up with meetings occurring every other month and two consecutive months (May and June) at the conclusion of the program year. This totals 6 full Council meetings. There will be a discussion later concerning the need for a retreat to conduct planning during the course of the year. This retreat would be used to determine priorities, strategies, and a course of action for the year.

## **Item #5 –Pizza, Pop, and Power Tools**

Pizza, Pop and Power tools was developed to introduce young women, in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, to career opportunities in the construction trades, and help shape their decision making as they think about high school classes and post secondary education.

Two years ago was the event's first year, and 27 local students participated. This increased in the second year to 80, and this year expanded to serve over 400 students statewide. This event has been a tremendous success, feedback from participating students has been overwhelmingly positive, and the event has been nominated as a best practice to the state Workforce Board. The intent is to more fully develop a tracking system for the girls involved, and provide them with information relating to careers in the trades as they progress through their secondary education. This model may also be expanded to serve other industries, e.g., manufacturing and healthcare.

On behalf of the event coordinating team, Lisa White (Spokane Schools CTE) and Kevin Managhan thank the SAWDC for the \$3,000 they donated to help with Pizza, Pop, and Power Tools costs. A significant amount of the costs were also covered by the contractors by donating their time and equipment.

## **Item #6 – WASL Discussion**

Mike Nepean, Career and Technical Education Coordinator from the Spokane School District, presented information about the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) and led a council discussion.

The class of 2008 High School graduates will be required to pass the Reading and Writing portions of the WASL, and either pass the Math portion or earn a math credit as identified by the school. This requirement goes up with the class of 2009-2012 to passing the Reading, Writing and Math WASL, or earning two math credits. It was noted that private schools are not required to utilize the WASL test as a requirement for graduation. Federal funding in Washington State public schools is tied to student performance rates on the WASL.

Some educators are concerned that high stakes standards assessments focus student learning upon the test preparation. This may influence students who alter their choices of classes to focus more upon the three assessed subject areas, restricting their elective class choices in career development subjects, e.g., career and technical education.

Some data suggest that high school drop out rates may be correlated to WASL failure rates as students who cannot successfully pass the WASL in 10<sup>th</sup> grade may lose hope of graduating and not see a benefit for remaining in high school.

A key element that can play a positive role in student learning and WASL performance is the application of subject matter in a contextualized environment. Embedding Reading/Writing/Math into CTE programs is an effective way to teach these subjects and deliver professional/technical curricula.

The council asked Mike to return and provide updates and additional information in the future.

#### **ITEM #7 – BUDGET-FINAL ALLOCATIONS FOR PY07:**

The final budget allocation of WIA formula funds for PY07 is down from PY06 by a little over \$1M. The new service delivery model has streamlined overhead and reduced some of the program costs, which helps to offset some of the losses in funding. The SAWDC anticipates that new systems being developed will continue to improve efficiencies and our ability to serve our customers, even in an environment of reduced funding. We are also seeking opportunities to leverage other resources wherever possible.

#### **ITEM #8 – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM SESSION-WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS:**

This year's legislative session garnered a large number of general fund appropriations in support of workforce development efforts. Recipients of these funds will include OSPI, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, and the Higher Education Coordinating Board. These dollars will flow via several mechanisms, e.g., RFP and formula. None of the funds are directly allocated to WDCs, but we will be able to support our partners and assist with their applications for competitive awards, as well as recruiting and case managing individuals who will benefit from the use of funds for workforce training. The final budget allocation of WIA formula funds for PY07 is down from pY06 by about \$1M. The new service delivery model has streamlined overhead and reduced some of the program costs, which helps to offset some of the loss in funding.

#### **Item #9 – One-Stop Service Delivery System Transition**

Peg Waldron, Assistant Director for Workforce Operations at the SAWDC, report that planning for the partners' move into the One-Stop delivery system is proceeding well. The major pieces are fitting together and we are on budget at this time.

For personnel matters, a buddy system has been created at the WorkSource Center to help new incoming partners quickly adapt to the new workspace. Also, a WorkSource Orientation has been planned for all the partners on June 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a pot luck in July and a formal open house at the WorkSource Center is planned for August 15<sup>th</sup>. A consultant will be delivering Lean Management Training for all providers during the week of June 18<sup>th</sup>. This will give our system staff state-of-the-art tools to help in their service delivery model planning and implementation.

IT issues are being worked out to ensure a seamless transition as different partners and systems come together in one center. The Next Generation Zone for Youth services will be piloting a wireless system for use by the staff. Don Howell offered to show Peg how the wireless system works at the Skills Center.

#### **Item #10 – One-Stop Infrastructure and Flex Fund Disbursement**

These funds have been targeted this year to assist with the associated costs of the move into the One-Stop and for staff training. These dollars have been awarded each of the past four years, but with declining federal allocations we cannot depend upon them indefinitely. As the council looks to the future and a move to a new location within the next 3 years, we will need to determine the dollars necessary to fund that move and which resources we can utilize.

#### **Item #11 – Other Business**

1. On October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> the Construction Career Day will be held at the Fairgrounds for area high school juniors and seniors. This event gives students the opportunity to work hands-on with heavy equipment and to attend workshops discussing these careers.
2. Peg will report to the SAWDC on the progress and functioning of the Business Solutions Team later in the fall.

#### **ADJOURN:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 am.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next WDC Meeting will be Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at the Skills Center 4141 N Regal.