



# Spokane Area WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MINUTES  
SPOKANE AREA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
Wednesday, July 9, 2008, 7:30 a.m.  
WorkSource Spokane

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## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Frankie Arteaga	Ben Cabildo	Polly Crowley	Robert Duron	Rich Hadley
Kevin Managhan	Julie Meyer	Mike Senske	John Serben	Hugh Severs
Dixie Simmons	Lisa White	Diana Wilhite		

## **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jeff Benesch	Peter Casimir	Steve Dahlstrom	Ron Dalla	Donna Dalzell
Craig Dias	Tom Fritz	Steve Jurich	Paul Milliken	Nancy Nelson
Beth Thew				

## **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Janet Bloom-WS	Cami Hanson-WS	George Iranon-CPS	Eric Loewe-SNEDA	Trina Miller- CCS
Mollie Patshkowski-WS	Judy Cash-WS	Joe Tortorelli-WEDA	Doug Tweedy-ESD	

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 am. Introductions were made.

## **TAB #1 – REVIEW MAY 14, 2008 MEETING MINUTES:**

Due to lack of a quorum the June 11, 2008 WDC Meeting Minutes will be approved at the next WDC meeting.

**“PARTNERSHIPS WILL CREATE PROGRESS”**

Joe Tortorelli, Chair of the Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) presented to the Council. WEDA is an organization that advocates on behalf of economic development issues for its stakeholders and much of its work is focused on effecting legislative and policy changes in the state. The association has 250 members that include EDCs, Associate Development Organizations (ADOs), cities, counties, ports, and consultants, and is funded by private sector capital.

WEDA has three areas upon which it is focusing its activities at this time:

1. Rejuvenating the very successful TEAM Washington concept, where ADOs in each county help with business location.
  - a. Goal is to increase appropriation to \$5M per biennium, with more share going to urban areas.
2. Incentives – building capacity of available infrastructure funding – both the base and that which fosters creation of jobs.
  - a. Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) – currently dollars come out of Public Works Trust Fund
    - i. Goal is to secure permanent funding of \$50M per biennium or more.
3. Workforce Development Funding – strong advocates for customer workforce training and the “Shinn Bill” that created the Customized Training Program (CTP)
  - a. Would like for WDC to take lead on this issue and utilize WEDA input as to what works for business and needs to move forward as component of legislative package.
    - i. Goal is to increase funding that supports incumbent worker training – JSP, CTP, WIA 10% - and increase flexibility of use.

The WDC and WEDA will work together to determine where linkages between our strategic plans exist and how we can work more effectively together in support of common goals.

**ITEM #2 – DEMAND/DECLINE LIST**

The Demand/Decline list is up for annual review and amendment. The Demand/Decline list is used by staff and customers in the workforce development system to guide decisions as to appropriate training and career paths in our area. The WDC has local control of the Demand/Decline list and Council members are asked to provide input based upon their areas of expertise and submit via email by the end of August. When looking over the list we also need to be cognizant of the higher paying jobs in this area and make sure our list supports training for these occupations. We also seek to provide guidance to individuals that supports new industries we are trying to grow as a region. The clusters we are targeting at this time are Business & Professional Services, Healthcare, Construction, Wholesale Trade (including Transportation & Logistics), and Manufacturing.

One of the challenges to developing the list is that of predicting the future trends within an occupation and an industry. As an example, although current shortages do not exist for a given occupation, those close to the industry may know that many individuals are slated for retirement within the next few years. If we wait until the shortage presents itself, we are already behind the curve for training a replacement workforce. This demonstrates why the anecdotal information from Council members can play a critical role in delivering workforce education at the right times to benefit our business community.

The WDC will continue to provide economic analyses that aid in policy and investment strategy development. Doug Tweedy, Regional Labor Economist, is actively engaged in number of groups that examine data and project where our economy is heading. The Mayor's Council on Economic Policy and Forecasting and GSI's analyses also help to provide information used in our models.

### **ITEM #3 – ANALYSIS OF CONSTRUCTION CLUSTERS**

Doug Tweedy reported on the state of the Construction cluster in our regional economy. Construction was the driver out of the recession earlier in the decade, but has taken a slight dip recently (more of a plateau) which is not as severe as in other areas of the U.S. because Spokane has not experienced the level of mortgage problems. Two of the three sub sectors that make up this cluster, Heavy Engineering and Specialty Trades, have actually added jobs over the last five months. The third, Building, Developing, and General, has lost jobs. Current projections point to growth of over 20% over the next 10 years in this cluster, with a strong demand for workers in the skilled trades.

### WDC TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Deferred in the interest of time.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – Rich reports that the Council now has four openings for business members. He asks that referrals be made to him so that the committee can follow up and complete the recruiting process.

YOUTH COUNCIL – no meetings over the summer, no report.

#### BUSINESS SOLUTIONS TEAM

Deferred in the interest of time.

### **TAB #4 – OTHER BUSINESS:**

Peg Waldron reported on the performance of the WIA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs for PY07.

### **ADJOURN:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next WDC Meeting will be Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at the WorkSource Spokane, 130 S Arthur Street.