

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Executive Committee Meeting
August 22, 2002

The Workforce Development Board Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Thom Brennan at 7:31 a.m. at the W. E. Upjohn Institute/Michigan Works! Office, 536 West Lovell Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Committee Members Present: Thom Brennan (PS), Susan Einspahr (PS), Lisa Godfrey (PS), Jerry Love (PS), Mary Oudsema (PS), Pat Pangburn (PS),
Membership - 9, Attendance - 6 (67%), PS (100%)

Staff Present: Craig Schreuder, Jan Smith, Bridget Timmeney, Laura Waite

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the Workforce Development Board Executive Committee meeting minutes of May 2 and
Lisa Godfrey July 11, 2002
Support: Pat Pangburn. Motion carried.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Next Executive Committee Meeting

MOTION: To change the September 5 Executive Committee meeting to Tuesday September 17 at
Lisa Godfrey 7:30 a.m., immediately preceding the full Workforce Board meeting.
Support: Pat Pangburn. Motion carried.

2. **Work First RFP** - Craig Schreuder reported there has been a significant amount of activity regarding Work First funding. Much of the Work First funding has been rescinded and replaced with a number of other funding sources, each with its limitations. Because of these changes and the lack of policy guidance, the Work First RFP was not issued. WF funding for fiscal year 2003 is at the same level as FY2002 however it will be from two sources. Staff recommend that existing Work First contracts be extended for one fiscal year from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003. The activities of the contracts would not change.

MOTION: To approve the continuation of current Work First contracts for the fiscal year beginning
Susan Einspahr October 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2003
Support: Mary Oudsema. Motion carried.

3. **Youth Initiative Project** – Craig Schreuder reported the goal of the Youth Initiative Project is to solicit innovative service strategies from community agencies that address the education and employment needs of youth who have not attained their high school diplomas or GED and who are not attending school and who have one or more other barriers. The Youth Initiatives Project, funded through the Workforce Investment Act, is intended to provide a comprehensive services strategy that is not currently available to this target group. Three proposals were submitted by four agencies: Kalamazoo County Juvenile Home, MRC Industries and Kalamazoo Regional Education Service Agency and YWCA.

Following discussion of each proposal, the members asked staff whether two projects could be supported; the staff clarified that this option was a viable consideration. While the total amount of funds dedicated to the Youth Initiatives Project was \$200,000, the combining of the ten month budget from MRC Industries (\$163,518) and the annualized amount for the Juvenile Home (\$33,500) would fall into the range (\$197,018)

MOTION: To recommend acceptance of the proposal submitted by MRC Industries at the ten month funding level; and to conditionally recommend the Kalamazoo County Juvenile Home proposal for further consideration; and to not recommend the joint proposal submitted by Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency and YWCA for funding.
Lisa Godfrey Support: Jerry Love. Motion carried.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation Committee – No Report

C. Marketing Committee -Mary Oudsema reported the Michigan Works! Job Fair is the most visible marketing activity and for the third year in a row this was a very successful event with over 500 job seekers attending. Mary noted that the Job Fair was well organized and she was aware of at least one person that was hired on the spot. The first draft of the annual report is completed and anyone who would like to review it should contact Mary.

III. STAFF REPORTS

A. Program Status Report – Craig Schreuder reported there will be staffing adjustments at FIA and UA due to the early retirements of many staff with expertise. Discussion continues regarding the Unemployment Agency changing to remote centers. Locally, David Parkhill replaced Stephanie Mason at the Service Center. The National Emergency Grant is at full enrollment and this program was recently monitored. Craig reported activity levels in all programs are good and there does not appear to be any significant concerns in any area. Bridget Timmeney reported a group in the community has been meeting to address poverty reduction. The group does not want to create more programs, rather it is looking to identify gaps and develop a way to address the findings. The group is attempting at generating more free tax credit assistance and a meeting is scheduled for early September to join partners for this effort. They are seeking funds for a part-time staff position and Michigan Works! will be heavily involved in this effort.

Lisa inquired whether we had examples of how the relocation of the Employment Services from M-TEC to the Chamber of Commerce has improved the ES visibility. In addition, the committee wondered how many of the Work First participants reported as served were duplicates. Craig indicated that staff could produce these reports for a future meeting.

B. Legislative Report – No report.

IV. MEMBERS TIME Members discussed political candidates and their feelings about Michigan Works!. Both Lt. Governor Posthumus and Attorney General Granholm have not made definitive statements regarding Michigan Works!

V. CITIZENS TIME - No citizen comments.

VI. NEXT MEETING –The next Executive Committee was changed from September 5 to September 17 at 7:30 a.m., immediately preceding the full board meeting. The Monitoring & Evaluation Committee will meet on September 26, 2002, 7:30 a.m. at the PAL Program location in Three Rivers.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to discuss, Thom Brennan adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Craig Schreuder Date

Thom Brennan Date