

**REGIONAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**  
**CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS**  
**Western Iowa Tech Community College – Sioux City, IA**  
*Minutes – November 18, 2010*

RWIB Members Present: Cathie Bishop, Dr. Robert Rasmus, John Hamm, Marcia Rosacker, Janet Hansen, Neal Adler, Jeff Simonsen, Dr. LuAnn Richardson-Haase, Judy Peterson, Dr. Thomas Padgett, James O'Donnell

CEO Members Present: Doug Walish

RWIB Members Absent: Rita Frahm, Bridget Hoefling, Tom Zeman

Staff Present: Dr. Julie Stoik-JTP, Shawn Fick-JTP, LaRae Verros-JTP, Danielle Ritz-External Relations

Guest: Jon Murad-Iowa Workforce Development

Doug Walish gave the Oath of Office to Dr. Tom Padgett and Jim O'Donnell for appointment to the RWIB for a four year term.

**I. RWIB Call to Order & Roll Call — Cathie Bishop**

Cathie Bishop called the meeting to order for the RWIB at 4:07 pm. Introductions of RWIB members were conducted.

**II. Approval of Agenda – RWIB – Cathie Bishop**

Cathie Bishop asked for a motion to approve the RWIB agenda to include a presentation by Jon Murad from Iowa Workforce Development on the National Career Readiness Certificate; Janet Hansen made the motion to approve the amended agenda; Dr. Tom Padgett seconded the motion; **the motion was carried.**

**III. Approval of September 30, 2010 Minutes – RWIB – Cathie Bishop – Attachment “A”**

Dr. Robert Rasmus made the motion to accept the September 30, 2010 joint RWIB/CEO minutes – Attachment A; Marcia Rosacker seconded the motion; **the motion was carried.**

**IV. New Business**

Julie Stoik talked about program funding for this year. She recommended a transfer of \$20,000 from Adult program funds to the dislocated workers program fund. She stated that as they move into the second semester JTP has more needs with dislocated workers than with low income adults. We can transfer up to 50% funds before March 31<sup>st</sup>. Julie asked for a motion to approve the transfer of funds; Dr. Luann Richardson-Haase made the motion; Marcia Rosacker seconded the motion; **the motion was carried.** Julie stated that this transfer of funds will need to go before the CEOs because they must approve it as well. Also, \$71,000 of incentive funds must be used before the end of the year. She said these are in administration as of yet because JTP doesn't know what the needs are in the program areas yet.

- **Presentation on the National Career Readiness Certificate-Jon Murad, IWD**

Jon Murad asked the RWIB members how many of them were familiar with the National Career Readiness Certificate and how many were familiar with the Work Keys Assessment, and then showed a video about the Certificate. The program in Iowa is called the Iowa National Career Readiness. Jon stated that it is truly a nationwide program. NCRC is broken down into three skill categories: Reading for Information, Applied Math, and Locating Information. NCRC is a “Ready for Work” skills currency. Jon said that information on resumes is “fluffy” and the National Career Readiness Certificate gives you a language of what your skills

actually are. There is training available, it is called WIN-Worldwide Interactive Network. Western Iowa Tech has a Career Readiness class available. Jon also addressed that IWD wants to get as many companies on board with this program commitment. About 50 companies support this program already. Jim O'Donnell asked, "What are the skills associated with the certificate? Are they learning practical skills by doing actual work?" Jon answered, "No, it would not be specific to your business. All of the math problems are story problems and there are examples in your packet." Dr. LuAnn Richardson-Haase stated, "This would be good to offer to Juniors and Seniors in High School. Is this a pretty costly program?" Jon answered, "There is no cost to job seekers, no cost to companies, and no cost to employers. It is definitely a way to market yourself. We would love to test the students and we would come right out to the High School. This is something you earn and can take it with you forever. It's a common language for companies." Cathie Bishop asked, "Can you serve Nebraska and South Dakota?" Jon answered, "We like to call ourselves a Tri-State office. We want to test anyone no matter where they are from." Julie Stoik stated, "This is not an easy test. We have been amazed. Please come out to WITCC to the Testing Center and take it. LaRae Verros teaches the Career Readiness class at WITCC."

## **VI. Old Business**

- Update on Co-location of Workforce Partners

Julie Stoik stated that after the last meeting with Lis Buck, the Mayfair site was the first choice for the new location of IWD to co-locate with WIA services. There was an open records request which has slowed the process down. Julie said that they got all the information in last week and when she was in Des Moines she asked about it at Iowa Workforce Development. She said that the negotiations will proceed as soon as possible. The architect is Sherwood Adams. Julie will continue to update as things progress.

## **VII. WIA Director's Report-Dr. Julie Stoik-Attachment "C"**

Julie Stoik stated that she is happy to have Jim and Tom on board. She updated the Board on Performance Measures which are negotiated each year for dislocated workers, adults and youth. Julie stated that she usually brings those numbers to the November meeting from the previous Program Year. However, the state is reviewing these because of some issues with data integrity with the data system which was begun in July. One other item Julie wanted to address the RWIB members on was the use of emails to distribute RWIB materials. The board materials will now be placed on the website [www.jobtrainingpartners.org](http://www.jobtrainingpartners.org) under the RWIB/CEO tab. They will not be emailed out and will not be mailed unless you request it.

## **VIII. IWD Director – Diane Neri – Carry-In**

Jon Murad talked about what the current job openings and rates are right now. He also stated that there are many open positions and more people looking for jobs than last year at this time. Shawn Fick submitted a second report for the John Morrell grant last week and as of September 30<sup>th</sup> there were 470 people being served from John Morrell and as of today there are 499 people being served through JTP. At the transition center, there are 101 John Morrell workers being served. The long-term goal is 800 workers. Shawn stated that the first state monitoring is scheduled to start November 29<sup>th</sup> and it's supposed to take 2 weeks. It is very labor intensive, but the John Morrell workers are so appreciative.

## **IX. RWIB Chair Report – Cathie Bishop**

Cathie Bishop thanked Dr. LuAnn Richardson-Haase for having us at the new Sioux City School District Educational Service Center and for giving us a tour of the facility. LuAnn stated, "There's a lot to show!"

## **X. Report from Individual RWIB/CEO on Local Issues**

John Hamm stated that he hopes we don't lose the two bakeries in town, because that would be 700 employees out of work. Neal Adler stated that LeMars has a new company coming in with approximately 80 pork operations jobs available. Marcia Rosacker stated that Well's is gearing up for temporary seasonal workers. Dr. Tom Padgett stated that there are a few companies looking to locate here. Jeff Simonsen stated that there is a \$250 million energy conversion company looking at locating in Woodbury County. There would be around 400 jobs associated with the company. Doug Walsh stated that he didn't fare well in the election, but has really

enjoyed working with the CEO/RWIB groups over the past 12 years. He said he has taken good pride in everything the RWIB board has done and he would not trade it for anything.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Cathie Bishop asked for a motion to adjourn; Jeff Simonsen made the motion to adjourn; Dr. Tom Padgett seconded the motion; **the motion was carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 pm.

A brief tour of the Administration Center was available after adjournment.

The next RWIB meeting will be on Thursday, January 27, 2010 at 4:00 pm at Western Iowa Tech Community College.

“The Mission of our group is to fully engage the Region 12 community in strengthening the economy through workforce development making it a better place to live, work, and grow.”