

EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 21, 2010

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

George Kovtun
Jennie Tunnell
John Bozymowski

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Austin
Mike Moran
Gary Polulak

OTHERS PRESENT

John Bierbusse
Linda McLatcher
Beth Diehl
Debbie Szatkiewski
Patty Madigan

Mr. Kovtun called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 19, 2009 EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES

JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2009 AS PRESENTED; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

a. Recommendation to Modify National Emergency Grant Plan

Mr. Bierbusse reiterated that the State of Michigan applied for and received National Emergency Grant funds through a competitive nationwide bid. The request was for \$32 million; the State received \$18.5. The local allocation is \$1,039,181 with additional requests allowed upon expenditure of initial funds. Mr. Bierbusse requested an additional \$2 million. The City of Detroit will not utilize their allotment allowing for additional funds for distribution. With this request approved, the State may now apply for the remaining allocation. Staff anticipates requesting another \$2 million as soon as possible.

The modified plan allows for \$2,887,221 to be dedicated to program services and \$151,960 for administration. A southeast Michigan eligible dislocation list of plant closings year was reviewed.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO MODIFY THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY GRANT PLAN AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b. Plant Closure Report

One closure was reported. Big Boy Restaurants International in Warren closed December 8, 2009 affecting 88 employees. Employees have registered on the Talent Bank in order to receive their unemployment benefits. The company temporarily suspended their operations in October due to a shutdown ordered by the USDA. Issues were not resolved resulting with the closing.

Trade certification was received by Mold Rite Tool in Fraser; Manter Technologies in Marine City; and Mollertech, LLC in Shelby Township. Trade orientations have or will be scheduled for affected employees.

IV. Recommendation to Approve FY'10 Road Construction Apprenticeship Readiness Program (RCAR) Plan

The RCAR program is a unique opportunity offered through the Michigan Department of Transportation. This is the third year of operation and this year they are focusing on the Port Huron area.

A pre-apprenticeship training program was developed for nine weeks to train 15 eligible participants, who upon successful completion, can apply for apprenticeship positions with MDOT this spring where there are plans to

renovate the customs/port of entry plaza at the Blue Water Bridge. Enrollees will earn \$10 per hour plus any necessary support services during training. Eligibility is targeted to economically disadvantaged young people 18 years or older, women and minorities.

The grant is for \$178,897. A request for proposal was released in mid December by this board with only one response. Therefore, St. Clair County Community College will administer the pre-apprenticeship training, which started January 18th and will be completed by March 19th.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY'10 ROAD CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP READINESS PROGRAM PLAN AS SUBMITTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. Recommendation to Approve TAA Case Management Plan

Recovery act dollars through the Wagner-Peyser re-employment services allocation have been distributed to assist MWAs with case management costs. This board has received the most funds – \$176,023 – since it has the highest enrollment in the trade program. Additional dollars are available upon expenditure. Future submissions will be approved on a competitive basis.

After review and discussion, **JENNIE TUNNELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE TAA CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JOHN BOZYMOWSKI. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. JOBS, EDUCATION & TRAINING (JET)

a. Report on Work Participation

Ms Szatkiewski reported on work participation requirements for the JET program. Federal funding through TANF requires a minimum of 50% of work eligible cash welfare recipients to participate in either 20 or 30 hours per week relative to the age of their children. Those with children ages six and under are required to participate for 20 hours weekly; the remainder are required to participate for 30 hours weekly.

Core and non-core activities were reviewed. Discussion included the challenges to meeting work participation requirements as there are no adjustments for states with high unemployment rates. The federal policy does not recognize any state approved deferrals or noncompliant customers. If goals are not met, the federal government can levy fines against a failing state. Michigan has failed to reach goals and has united with other states to petition the federal government for waivers.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bierbusse presented correspondence where the board requested additional \$2,071,497 of WIA adult program funds. The adult program ceased enrolling at the end of September.

Correspondence requesting an additional \$2 million for Recovery Act National Emergency Grant funds was reviewed, along with a request to the State for an additional \$4.2 million of WIA dislocated worker program funds as current funds are obligated.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO ADJOURN; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carne
Recording Secretary