

**WIB, Inc. Workforce Development Meeting  
Thursday, November 16, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.  
CEP, Inc. Administrative Office**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Bob Martin Sr.  
Otto Rusch  
Katherine Speare  
Carol Ahles-via webex  
Jack Wichita  
Mitch Bormann-via webex

**Not present:**

Jerry Hembd – ex.  
Don Richards – ex.  
Clare Hintz – ex.  
LeRoy Forslund – ex.

**Others Present:**

Mari Kay-Nabozny  
Steve Terry  
Jennifer Baron

Katherine Speare, Committee Chairperson called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Members present constitute a quorum. The public meeting notice was published in two Class A newspapers and aired on area radio stations in the WDA.

**Approval of 9/19/06 Meeting Minutes**

Jack Wichita made a motion to accept the 9/19/06 meeting minutes. Seconded by Otto Rusch. Vote taken, carried unanimously.

**Discuss Committee’s Role in the GROW Grant II**

Steve Terry announced that the WIB submitted for phase II of the GROW grant and received a \$50,000 grant from the state to further the GROW initiative. Steve discussed the grant budget expenditures and cash match, which is up to \$11,500 from regional GROW partners.

Discussion took place on strategies to gain more regional participation. Mari noted that the southern counties need more leadership strength on the GROW team. There was discussion about strengthening coordination with the southern counties to get more input in their market for the GROW and Northland Works projects.

**Discuss High Wage Training Opportunities**

Bob Martin, Sr. discussed the NTC’s graduate data from their programs. Bob discussed the number of individuals in the program, the salary range for those positions, and occupations that provide career ladder opportunities. Bob discussed the certificate programs, and their salary

ranges. It was suggested to focus on three occupational areas in looking at high wage occupations. The data will be measured and tracked to meet the goals of the strategic plan as defined by the state.

Bambi Patterman noted that WITC is working with Northland College in creating supervisory opportunities for such courses as the nursing program. Bambi distributed a brochure on Critical Core Manufacturing Skills from WITC, which she discussed.

**Discuss Strategic Goal Development**

The strategic goal is to assist people in improving their skills to earn a better living in order to retain the area's workforce. A recommendation was made to provide information on the career ladder opportunities available in various occupations. Mari indicated that the WIA plan is a three year plan, and the data can be reworked as needed.

The next step needs to be to look at a narrow silo of occupational measures to focus on for creating high wage opportunities. It was recommended to view what a sample of health, transportation and manufacturing career ladders might look like.

The next meeting will include dialogue on various occupations in sub-groups to provide an overview of how career ladders work, and continued dialogue on the Critical Core Manufacturing Skills.

**Next Meeting Date and Location**

The Workforce Development Committee will meet tentatively on Tuesday, December 19, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. in Ashland at the CEP Office or at the call of the Chairperson.

**Adjournment**

Otto Rusch made a motion to adjourn at 12:00 p.m. Seconded by Bob Martin, Sr. Vote taken, carried unanimously.