

## MINUTES OF THE C-WIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 22, 2012

Chairman Jim Dickerson called the Executive Committee to order at 11:11 a.m.

Executive Committee members present were Jim Dickerson, Bill Debo, Sarah Gallagher, Harold Haldiman, Earl Horsefield, Mary Hughes, Joyce Jones, Janet Kinnett, Susan Streit, and Russ Unger.

Also in attendance was C-WIB member Shauna Qualls.

Other attendees included Joyce Davis and Deanne Stubblefield of Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA), Trish Rogers of Central Ozarks Private Industry Council (COPIC), Paula Curtman of Lake of the Ozarks Employment Services (LOES), Shari Wooldridge, Experience Works Program, Doug Piant, Presiding Commissioners Dave Dudenhoeffer, Eddie Brickner, Daniel Atwill, Marvin Wright, and Danny Rhoades.

C-WIB staff in attendance included Alex Blackwell, Linda Gray, and Jacque Moreland.

### **Next Generation Career Center**

Discussion was held on the Next Generation Career Center (NGCC). Traffic seems to be down a little for the month of January.

The Camdenton Career Center reported the NGCC is going well. The Modine Manufacturing plant will be laying off a total of about 300 people. The Camdenton Career Center is doing a lot of Trade Act claims as well as unemployment claims. Trade Act claims take a little longer but it seems to be going smoothly. By federal law, the Trade Act services are only to be offered by State Merit system employees.

Mary Hughes would like to see more advertising to make more people aware of what services the Career Centers offer.

Mr. Dickerson stated one of the problems we have in the state is losing some staff positions. Lebanon has lost one DWD staff person. The Columbia Career Center is down two DWD staff positions. We will be shifting some staff positions around in Columbia as they have about 4,000 customers coming through their doors each month. The State is having major problems in keeping their staff numbers, and we are told they do not have it solved yet.

We are dealing with another unemployment insurance (UI) extension in the ability to apply for some of the federal unemployment extensions. Right now people can draw UI benefits for 99 weeks. The House recently passed a bill that cuts it by 26 weeks, which brings it down to 73 weeks of drawing UI benefits. A high percentage of people have been coming in with unemployment questions and we are to ask them to call the unemployment call center.

Shauna Qualls reported she recently was on a two hour conference call with the Department of Labor (DOL) regarding the UI extension. Congress has passed it, but the DOL is still emphasizing that the President has not yet signed it. Once it is signed they will have 30 days to get everything up and running, which is a very short time to handle the new provisions.

### **Annual Career Center Traffic Report**

Mr. Dickerson reported we have created an annual Career Center traffic report. It shows the total traffic for each Career Center. It will also compare the total traffic to the staffing levels that we have at each Career Center. That way we can see any variation or changes. We will be presenting this report at the full board meeting next month.

### **NEG Disaster Grant**

The NEG disaster grants are still in operation. Paula Curtman gave an update on Miller County. There are two crews working on cleaning up debris on the roads. The workers are doing a good job. The State will be here the first week of March for monitoring.

Trish Rogers gave an update on Washington County. There are currently two crews working. The main concentration are the county roads. We will be adding additional people to the crews. The budget has been extended for next year, which starts July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

### **DOL Gold Standard Evaluation Update**

The (DOL) WIA Gold Standard Evaluation Study started on February 1, 2012. This is a five-year study. Thus far we have a total of nine people who have been enrolled into the study. The Central Region WIB is one of 28 randomly selected LWIA's in the nation (selected by DOL) to participate in the "Gold Standard Evaluation" (GSE) of WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

The U.S. Department of Labor's study of the nation's employment and training programs funded through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) provides funding for Core, Core and Intensive, and training services available at your local one-stop Career Center. This national study will help us to learn how well these services are working and how they can be improved.

Customers visiting Central Region Career Centers (or satellite offices) will be randomly assigned to one of these three research groups; Core, Core and Intensive and Full WIA. Once a client is randomly assigned to a group they remain in that group for 15 months and may only receive services allowed for that group assignment. Example: A client who is randomly assigned to Core may only receive WIA Core services for 15 months. Of the nine people we have put in the study so far, eight have been given full funding, one has been given Core and Intensive, and none so far have been given Core.

So far it has been running smoothly. By the time it has ended we will be enrolling 47 customers in Core and Intensive services; 47 customers in Core services, and we anticipate by those margins about 250 people will be enrolled in the full WIA services. Customers who will be exempted from the study are Veteran's, METP, UI Profilers, referred by an employer for OJT, MWA, TAA, and DRJP.

## **Monthly Reports**

Mr. Dickerson asked if there were any questions regarding the monthly reports other than what we previously discussed. There were no questions or concerns.

Sarah Gallagher asked how early do we make any kind of outreach when a company has announced it is going to close. Mr. Dickerson reported it varies. If a company has less than 50 employees the local Rapid Response coordinator, Alan Galindo, facilitates the process. When a company has 50 or more employees being laid off, then the state Rapid Response coordinator, Jackie Johnson, is involved and works in conjunction with the local Rapid Response coordinator in providing services to those people who are either laid off or soon to be laid off employees.

Deanne Stubblefield gave a presentation on how to navigate the toolbox2 screens. A job order number is attached to every job that comes into the system. Job seekers are able to come into the Career Center and navigate through the screens to see what jobs are available. The system will tell them what specific qualifications are needed for that particular job and if there is a match for the seeker to a particular job. If the system matches the job seeker to a job, the system will print a referral letter for the participant to take to the employer to apply for that job.

If a customer does not do a good job entering in all of their qualifications, it becomes the Career Center staffs obligation to show that customer how to go back into the system and edit/correct their information.

Deanne explained there are workshops that help the participants understand what their skills are so the computer system can accurately match the participants to the jobs. When a customer shows up now we are asking them to verify their address and information. We have to work as much as possible to ensure these records are kept updated and accurate.

The Board thanked Deanne for a good presentation.

Janet Kinnett made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and there were no objections; the Executive Committee adjourned at 12:07 p.m.