

# Region 2 Workforce Investment Board

## Full Board Meeting

August 31, 2023

12:00 PM

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andy Skidmore. There were no registrants for Public Comment. There was a Quorum, those in attendance in person were: Chairman Andy Skidmore, Todd Motz, Carol Howerton, Tommy Adkins, Teresa Swecker, Tali Gaydosz, Tim Lafon, Reggie Jones, Maureen Persons, Wesley Varney, John Mandt Jr., and R2WIB Staff Melissa Bias, and Adam Warden. Virtual Attendance were: Jason Roberts, Hugh Roberts, Brenda Hunt, Travis Thompson, and Kristy Wood.

There was a Motion for the February Minutes approval by Tommy Adkins and was seconded by Todd Motz.

Tim Lafon shared that the lawyer from the other side has offered to settle the lawsuit and would like to get it possibly resolved.

Brenda Hunt reported that everything is spending according to the plans. The DHHR Excel Grant ended June 30<sup>th</sup> and was not renewed; the grant was fully spent. The SWS Grant ended July 31<sup>st</sup> with HRDF. Carol Howerton motioned to accept the Financial Report and Tommy Adkins seconded the motion.

Executive Director Melissa Bias discussed WIOA Youth funding cuts and that there may be a salary and a half released, as time progresses. Melissa discussed various training programs funded which are increasing with participants; the top three types of training being: Medical, Truck Driving, and Lineman. Ms. Bias presented the WIB Quarterly Chart showing the WIB is exceeding at what was actually negotiated. Melissa spoke of how running ITA in youth at a younger age has actually doubled the average salary for our youth in training. Melissa reported as of July, we have entered in the Adult Program 26 ITA's and only 2 Dislocated Workers; we are not seeing many DW's coming in. Melissa explained the WIB lost the Excel Grant and current staff cleaned out the Excel offices. Melissa informed everyone about a Job Fair being planned

for October 17<sup>th</sup> with possibly 55 to 65 vendors. The local high schools will be bringing their high school students. Information will be sent out by our One-Stop Operator with more details about this Job Fair.

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business: The approval of some contracts were discussed; the way the state wants to see the contract for the attorney was discussed. Melissa Bias asked the state if Region 2 WIB could use unrestricted funding to pay the attorney's bill. We are trying to get our performance policy updated; we must follow the procurement policy in place. The attorney stated the work he has already done must be paid. The approval of the attorney's invoice was motioned by Todd Motz and seconded by John Mandt Jr.

The attorney's contract was discussed. Mr. Lafon's contract states he is to be paid on an hourly basis at the rate of \$375.00 per hour. Brenda Hunt discussed the state procurement policy says that anything you anticipate to be more than \$5,000.00 in a 12 month period requires 3 bids; anything over \$50,000.00 is more formal. The decision was made to table the attorney's contract. The motion to table the attorney's contract for the time being was made by John Mandt Jr. and was seconded by Todd Motz.

There was a motion to approve the Chairman Andy Skidmore and the Commissioner John Mandt Jr. to have authority to discuss and make decisions about the Human Rights Case Settlement. The motion was made by Todd Motz and seconded by ~~Maureen Persons~~ <sup>Carol Howerton - MD</sup>

It was discussed that the Bylaws can be emailed so members can see what needs to be changed. Also discussed were nominations for various Board Positions can be emailed.

Commissioner John Mandt Jr. motioned to adjourn the meeting and Todd Motz seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:13pm.

Respectfully submitted by Malissa Dishman