

Northeast Minnesota  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING  
Iron Range Resources – Eveleth MN  
Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Regularly scheduled meeting called to order by Chair Stone at 10:07 a.m.

**WIB members present:**

Bud Stone, Jill Anderson, Paul Carlson, Barb Hilde, Allen Rasmussen, Mike Valentine, Sue Collins, Dave Hart, Jeff Lee, Terri Nystrom, Craig Pagel, Roland Root, Kelly Zink, David Ulrich

**Excused:** John Grahek, Betsy Harmon, Tom Jamar, Al Rudeck

**Guests:** Rita Olness, Teri Dudley, Roy Smith

**Motion was made by Rasmussen, supported by Root to approve the May 28, 2014 minutes as written; motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Valentine, supported by Nystrom to appoint Bud Stone, Chairperson; Sue Collins, Vice-Chair; and Allen Rasmussen, Secretary as elected officials on the Workforce Investment Board for 2014-2015; motion carried unanimously.**

Chair Stone began meeting by introducing new WIB member Dave Ulrich, Vice President of Twin Metals Minnesota. Dave is also a member of Governor's Workforce Development Council and plans to give a presentation at the September meeting.

**Generations in the Workplace**

Rita Olness and Teri Dudley, NE MN Office of Job Training

Olness and Dudley gave a presentation on Generations in the Workplace. They discussed current workplace culture including key aspects and how workplace culture is developed, the five different generations within the workforce, influences and characteristics of each generation and how those elements manifest themselves in work today, an in-depth review of the work dynamics of the two newest generations, and how we can maximize the strengths of each generation as we move forward into the future.

The five different generations include the Traditionalist, Baby Boomer, Gen X, Gen Y, and Gen Z. Olness outlined the work philosophy of each generation with board members participating in the discussion of each one. An understanding of the factors affecting each generation can impact hiring and recruitment, training and development, communications and daily operations, leadership, retention, employee satisfaction, and productivity.

This presentation is available for other employer groups. Interested WIB members should contact Michelle to arrange speakers as needed.

## **Legislation Appropriation**

Michelle Ufford

The Office of Job Training has received \$250,000 legislative appropriation from the workforce development fund with no explicit instructions on how it is to be spent. The money is available over the next fiscal year. Due to steady decreases in youth funding, a recommendation was made to use \$100,000 for additional youth work experience slots for the summer youth and year round programs. Funds will also be used to enhance the Career EdVenture Program. Ten percent of funds are for administrative costs, of which DEED retains 5%.

Chair Stone recommended the WIB take a look at becoming more involved with the Future Workers Program through the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce. This program is offered to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Itasca county area.

## **New Federal Law - WIOA**

Michelle Ufford

Each board member received a handout detailing the comparison of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) and the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) as of 5/27/14. After ten years, the Senate and House have reached an agreement in reauthorization of a new law. There are very few changes and none should drastically affect the way we do business. Youth services will see an adjustment in placing a greater priority on out-of school youth (75% of funding at State and Local level) and work-based learning activities. There will also be more flexibility locally to meet the needs of Adults and Dislocated Workers, including On-the-Job Training, incumbent worker training, and customized training. There is also an indication of interest in the expansion of career pathways, industry or sector partnership, and an increased focus on the attainment of industry-recognized certificates and credentials linked to in-demand occupations.

## **Miscellaneous**

Members were given a handout outlining the new FastTRAC Program A.I.D.E. (Assist, Inspire, Dream, Education). The program will help individuals earn 16 college credits toward a certificate in Paraprofessional at Mesabi Range College. The Northeast Office of Job Training will assist with training expenses, transportation, childcare, and other needs during the program.

Anderson provided WIB members with a copy of the Q3/2014 Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

Carlson informed members the AEOA Ranger Open golf tournament will take place at the Virginia Golf Course on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. All proceeds will support the AEOA Foundation Fund.

The next WIB meeting will be Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.