

## MINUTES

### **ROGUE WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

February 3, 2023

In-Person for 5-6 People & Zoom Conference Call

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Begg, Scott Beveridge, Mike Card, Nick Carpenter, Brett Champion, Lance Corley, Mike Donnelly, Terri Fairbanks, Brent Kell, Joe Myers, Sherri Stratton, Marta Tarantsey, Kim Whitney

#### **QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

#### **OTHERS ATTENDING:**

*Project Youth Plus* – Kurt Hildebrand, Carl Thomas

*Oregon Employment Department* – Guy Tauer

*Southern Oregon University* – Neil Woolf

*Rogue Community College* – Lisa Parks

*WorkSource Rogue Valley*– Tammy Schroeder, Jaymes Tadlock, Joe Miller, Uriah Lamproe, Josh Morell, Tyler Worthley

*Rogue Workforce Partnership*– Heather Stafford, Haylee Ulrey, Stephannie Krunglevich, Matt Fadich, Tami Allison

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The RWP Workforce Board meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Mike Donnelly at 9:04 a.m.

#### **Welcome & Introductions**

RWP Workforce Board Members introduced themselves and the non-members roll was documented through the Zoom meeting participants list.

#### **Consent Agenda**

*The consent agenda groups routine, procedural, informational & self-explanatory items that aren't expected to require discussion. It's approved together in one action. Items may be moved out of the consent agenda for discussion at the request of any member.*

**The motion was made by Mike Card to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the October 28, 2022 Rogue Workforce Partnership Workforce Board meeting, as well as the PY 21 RWP Audited Financial Statements. The motion was seconded by Brent Kell. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RWP Workforce Board Chair & Vice-Chair Transition**

*Jessica Gomez has been our chair and has led this organization through a lot of change. She is ready to resign. To honor both Jessica and Mike Donnelly's requests, Mike will chair the Rogue Workforce Partnership Workforce Board for the next few meetings while we implement a transition plan for both board chair and vice chair.*

Robert Begg has volunteered to be vice-chair and is willing to transition into the Workforce Board Chair. Once that transition takes place, RWP staff will recruit for a vice-chair. This transition process, along with revised governance documents, will be presented at the next Corporate Director's meeting.

The Rogue Workforce Partnership Workforce Board also has five open board positions for private sector business leaders. Heather asked that if anyone has any recommendations, to please send them to her.

The motion was made by Mike Card to approve Mike Donnelly as the new Chair, and Robert Begg as the new Vice-Chair of the Rogue Workforce Partnership Workforce Board. The motion was seconded by Marta Tarantsey. The motion passed unanimously.

## **RWP Policies & Procedures**

The following policies and procedures were approved at the last RWP Corporate Director's meeting and are enhancements to our policies and procedures to keep us aligned with state and federal mandates.

The motion was made by Robert Begg to approve the **Incident Reporting, Individual Training Account, and Audit Policy** revisions as presented. The motion was seconded by Mike Card. The motion passed unanimously.

## **RWP Budget Discussion**

Matt Fadich, new Chief Financial and Administrative Officer introduced himself and shared his philosophy regarding RWP Workforce Investments and Budget.

- Integrating Budget into Operations
  - Planning/budgeting/reviewing/Improving
- Pushed Down
- Transparent
- Road Map for Review / Approval

Matt noted that in developing the budget, the Executive Director as well as all Program Managers were involved in the process. A small group of four Corporate Directors (TBD) will meet with Heather and Matt to review the budget and determine if it meets the needs of the Corporate Directors. Matt encourages directors to dig in as much as they want and reiterated that he will always have more information to share than what he will present – so ask questions if you have them.

The formal budget approval process is as follows:

- The Corporate Directors review and approves the budget to be taken to the Workforce Board
- The Workforce Board reviews and approves the budget
- The budget is taken to the Rogue Valley Workforce Consortium for the final approval

## **Executive Director Updates**

- Future Ready Oregon – Prosperity 10,000  
\$35 million carve out of the \$50 million total formula workforce dollars allocated to all workforce boards. Some board have done competitive grants; however, Rogue Workforce Partnership decided to work with targeted populations to do more outreach and serve more people within the current workforce system. Heather indicated that we are definitely prioritizing the sectors; however, if a person has the aptitude in another area and there is work in that area, we will also fund

Locally, six companies have been awarded through a competitive grant a capacity building grant. The money must be spent out by June 30, 2023, but unfortunately contracts have not yet been received. Heather indicated that we are encouraging local groups to focus their dollars to be as lean as possible by plugging into existing, established workforce services.

- Extended DWG Wildfire Grant
  - This grant has been extended through September 30, 2023 and CAN now be spent on other things besides directly related to wildfire.

- We want these funds to get out into the community. **Let Heather know if you know of community groups doing work in economic recovery.**
- Six-month internships can be done - There has been an 80% success rate on previous interns moving into full employment.
- **RWP will create a one-page sheet of information that can be used as outreach material.**
- Want to increase services to dislocated workers in Josephine County
- Tyler, Stephannie and Haylee are contacts for these funds and [click on this link for more information.](#)
- Senate Bill 623
  - State-level continuous improvement committee
  - Accountability of Oregon's workforce system
  - Findings will be reviewed to look at efficiencies that can be made to determine pursuit of a legislative bill
  - An effort is underway that is legislatively and Governor approved to improve Oregon's Workforce System

The current legislative session has over 4,000 house bills to review and has many new legislators. Some bills such as behavioral health, child care support, and semi-conductor are being looked at closely. **Heather will share updates as relevant information is received.**

## **REGIONAL ECONOMIC & LABOR MARKET REPORT**

Guy See Quality Info website for additional data <https://www.qualityinfo.org/rogue-valley>

- Labor market continues to be strong
- Sizeable increase in GDP
- Increase in output has helped per capita personal income rise in both counties reaching a record in Jackson County as well as a rise in the labor force in Josephine County.
- Number of businesses continues to rise in both Jackson and Josephine counties
- Still not back to pre-pandemic total payroll employment numbers
- Remote work complicates the data as some payroll goes out of the state
- There is no comparable measure of inflation at the local level

## **RWP STRATEGIC ROAD MAP - UPDATES & COORDINATION**

### **Filling the Talent Pipeline**

- Sector Strategies
  - Updates from Sector Chairs

This agenda item will be used for ongoing discussion and updates from the sector groups.

### **Transportation & Logistics**

- Good Jobs Grant available for tuition, admin, and marketing
- Hoping to purchase a truck driving simulator for the area
- Last sector meeting held in December 2022
- Looking to OJTs and expanding apprenticeships
- Local truck driving schools are at their max capacity

### **Healthcare**

- Continues to be a high vacancy rate at Asante
- Largest gaps are the highest skilled positions
- Working on medium to long-term strategies with local schools

- Over 200 contract nurses working for Asante – very expensive and not a sustainable model
- Continues to be a challenge getting providers to the area
- This sector is very large and broad when looking at it from a workforce standpoint

#### Natural Resources

- Agencies turning down large amounts of federal funding from the infrastructure bill due to lack of capacity to administer and plan the work
- Competing with California for approximately 300 GS-9 positions
- Local forests cannot find temporary workforce due to housing issues
- Federal hiring processes are challenging as it can take up to one year to get one position filled
- Private businesses and logging are using as many workers as they can get
- Need to get “scrappy” about how we can incentivize workers in this field

#### Manufacturing

- Mike Donnelly’s replacement will focus on the connection with the education system to “grow our own”
- Strong connections being build with high schools and community colleges
- RAMP took a hiatus in 2022 but plan to come back strong in 2023
- A lot of renewed passion and interest
- Determine how we can support the skill sets for manufacturing
- BOLI has a lot of focus on semi-conductor and chip – locally we only have 2-3 companies

#### Construction

- Heather has someone who is interested in chairing this sector group
- Currently talking about available trainings and career pathways in this industry before bringing the group together

#### Technology

- Rebuilding this group to look at the needs
- Challenging to find a regional group to come together as there is a definite divide between hardware and software/design/marketing/graphic/design/coding, etc.
- Working with SOREDI to pull a group together as well as determining what we can provide

- Reimagining K-20 Education

- WSRV/RCC Co-Enrollments

Neither college presidents are in attendance today.

- Neil Woolf from SOU talked briefly about the guaranteed pathway to college degree attainment that is being build in partnership with RCC.
- There is a new academic program planning group that ties in labor market data and demands.
- Students are able to get federal financial aid for both institutions
- Lisa Parks, Dean of Workforce Development at RCC will be evaluating programs that get people from beyond entry level positions
- Reimagining WSRV
  - Success Story shows a clear indication of what blending, braiding, and stacking really means
- Impact Update
  - Hundreds of success stories are posted on Rogue Careers website – every story is inspiring
  - Continuing to see a large number of people coming through the WorkSource centers
  - Large investments are being made in traded-sector in our region
  - WSRV working on prioritizing funding as well as reaching out to priority populations
  - WSRV eager to support other sector strategies that RWP will be building out
  - Goal is to make the funding pie bigger in overall total dollars and equal out the pie to create more training in all areas

- Good Jobs Challenge
  - Making a real difference in the community
  - Have served 30 individuals to date and are on track to serve the remaining 70 in the allotted grant time frame
- Learning Communities / Longitudinal Data Analytics
  - There continues to be a big lift and a lot of work to do
  - Lots going on with “big data” at the state level
  - Have re-signed a state data sharing agreement with OED that will provide and give us access to wage and employment data – excited to pilot this project
- Communications & Engagement
  - Rogue Careers, as well as social media is being used for a place where job seekers can go to access workforce services
  - Engagement is being tracked
- Equity & Holistic Focus
  - Empower & Trainings
    - Prioritizing under-served populations
  - Oregon Employment and Training Association (OETA)
    - We are the only workforce board in the state using its Local Leadership Team as our One Stop Operator – will invest training dollars for staff for local and regional trainings

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

## ADJOURN

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tami Allison  
Senior Project Manager  
/tk

APPROVED:

  
Chair

04-28-23  
Date

