

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR



Deni Hoehne
Chair

B. J. Swanson
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 W Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Grant Review Committee Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2021

Committee Members: Kelly Kolb, Jay Larsen, ~~Michelle Stennett~~, Brian Cox, ~~Jeff Greene~~, ~~Joe Maloney~~, ~~Jake Reynolds~~, Rico Barrera, Jenni Bradford, Sarah Griffin

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Paige Nielebeck, Matthew Thomsen, Caty Solace, Amanda Ames

Guests:

Called to order at 2:01 p.m.

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum met

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

WDTF Financial Summary

WDTF Financial Summary - March 1, 2021	
WDTF Cash Balance 3-1-21	\$15,668,795
Revenue	\$12,658
Interest	\$5,050
Payments	\$203,654
WDTF Cash Balance 3-31-21	\$15,482,848
Obligated Employer Grants	\$1,052,187
Obligated Industry Sector Grants	\$3,076,355
Obligated Innovation Grants	\$123,662
*Obligated Outreach Projects & Allocated Budget	\$946,640
Short Term Financial Assistance Program	\$1,841,479
FY 21 WDTF Admin Costs	\$593,947
WDTF Obligated Balance	\$7,634,270
Unobligated Balance	\$7,848,579
Proposals Under Review	\$2,594,671
Unobligated Balance if all funded	\$5,253,907

*Includes all Outreach funding made available for the Committee to allocate for FY21.

WDTF FY21 Revenue	Transfer In	Interest	Collection Cost
July	\$288,860	\$9,995	
August	\$735,854	\$8,536	
September	\$8,499	\$6,072	
October	\$306,682	\$5,828	
November	\$588,911	\$5,553	\$8,553
December	\$7,267	\$5,528	
January	\$342,942	\$5,389	
February	\$384,864	\$5,132	\$7,392
March	\$12,658	\$5,050	
April			
May			
June			
FY21 Totals	\$2,676,537	\$57,083	\$15,945

House of Design – Employer Grant

The House of Design has seen significant growth since the company was first awarded a WDTF grant in 2017. Since 2017, HOD has grown from around 12 employees to 100 employees. The company provides in-house training for new and existing employees. Their new hires as well as current employees are trained on robotics related courses, as well as communication, leadership, etc. This grant will ensure trainings are done timely, allows HOD to grow their employees and develop their skills which in many cases leads to promotional opportunities within House of Design.

WDTF Request: \$263,261.06

Discussion:

What is the history of the WDC approving grants that has both internal trainings and more general/transferrable trainings?

- Under the employer grant program, both are allowed.
- The Committee previously reviewed an application that was entirely lean training. It was ultimately denied by the Executive Committee due to concerns that the training would not lead to an expansion of the business. The lean training that House of Design is requesting is integrated into a larger scope.
- The HR training is allowable per the WDTF policies. As a company grows, so does the need to train HR Staff.

- The Council has a history of approving applications that contain leadership training.
- There is a lot of technical training being offered.

Looking at the application, House of Design is training individuals who are currently at lower salaries. There are a few positions being trained that are already at high salaries. Is providing training to the higher paid individuals something the WDC has done before?

- Looking at the wages, the higher the wage is above the county average, the higher the application scores on the Quantitative Funding Model. There is nothing in policy that looks unfavorably at applications where certain positions are already receiving a high wage. Individuals of varying levels in a business need training.
- Typically, in employer grant applications, every employee, even the officer positions, receive training.

House of Design works with a few facilities out of state. The individuals being trained benefit the company, but the skills are portable.

House of Design is a newer company but is going through a tremendous amount of growth. In 2017 they had 14 employees.

House of Design is working with the West Ada School District to hire youth apprentices from their engineering programs. They are not only a company with high growth, but also a company that is looking how to grow their own workforce and not just take employees from other companies. House of Design is a very innovative business.

Motion by Mr. Larsen to recommend approval of the House of Design Employer Grant in the full amount of \$263,261.06. Second by Ms. Griffin. Motion carried.

**Motion by Mr. Cox to adjourn. Second by Mr. Larsen. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.**