

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Trent Clark
Chair

B. J. Swanson
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2019

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Conducted By: Trent Clark, Chairman

Council Committee Members: Trent Clark, ~~B. J. Swanson~~, Jeff McCray, John Young, Deni Hoehne, Joe Maloney

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

Call to Order at 8:02 am

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda

Mr. Clark briefly reviewed the agenda.

Grant Review Committee – Request for Feedback

Ms. Hoehne shared that during the last Grant Review Committee meeting there were a number of questions raised about the type of training proposed in an employer grant. She agreed to seek guidance from the Executive Committee to ensure that the decisions of the Grant Review Committee not inadvertently set precedence or policy. Specifically, the committee struggled with “white collar” training proposed by the employer and whether it would be the most “portable and stackable” for employees. The proposed training includes sales and leadership training. Following the meeting, Mr. Thomsen researched previously awarded grants and found that sales and leadership training has indeed been funded. Ms. Hoehne plans to share that information with the Grant Review Committee.

Discussion on the broader topic of employer grants ensued. Previously, employer grants were used to support economic development projects and there appears to be a shift among Council members in moving towards more sector-based approaches. Ms. Secrist shared that between the inception of the sector grant program in 2014 and the end of 2017, 14% of the grants awarded were sector grants. For 2018, 30% of the grants awarded were sector grants and the trend continues upward.

The vision of the Council is to improve the workforce in Idaho, employee development, and the economy itself. Mr. Clark added that the Council must get the “biggest bang for their buck” which means that not every grant application will get funded as we continue to refine our policies. The Policy Committee is tasked with evaluating

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the return on investment for all WDTF programs and the Council will need to continue to monitor and adjust the policy to ensure that we are meeting the expectations of the Governor, Council and Idaho's employers.

Committee member participation was discussed. Some committees are struggling with consistent participation among members. Mr. Maloney share that members may not realize the importance of their participation. It may be good to reiterate expectations to committee members. It would also be good to reevaluate and possibly reassign committee responsibilities to others have the time and willingness to participate.

Mr. Young asked about staggering term limits. Ms. Secrist shared that she is working with the Governor's office to find the best path forward as 20 or so Council members are expected to have their terms expire at the same time.

Adjourned at 8:44 am