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## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

317 W Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

### **Grant Review Committee Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2019**

**Committee Members:** Deni Hoehne, Jay Larsen, ~~Michelle Stennett~~, ~~Justin Touchstone~~, ~~Steve Widmyer~~, Jani Revier, Jeff Greene, ~~Tom Kealey~~, Joe Maloney

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

**Guests:**

**Called to order at 2:01 pm**

**Welcome**

**Roll Call – Quorum met**

**Review Agenda**

Ms. Hoehne reviewed the agenda.

**Review September 24, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion by Mr. Larsen to approve the September 24, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Second by Ms. Revier. Motion carried.**

**WDTF Financial Summary**

Ms. Ames reviewed the WDTF Financial Summary.

**Mountain Home Aviation Academy – Innovation Grant**

Mr. Thomsen reviewed changes to the original grant proposal that Mountain Home Aviation Academy requested during contract negotiations. They were significant enough that staff determined they would need to resubmit the application. The Academy would like to err on the side of being more conservative in their estimate of how many they would train in the first year. They decreased the number from 48 to 8. In the name of transparency, it is important that we document why the Academy would have lower numbers.

The committee asked that the Academy put all intended outcomes in writing to be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Idaho State University – Industry Sector Grant**

This Accelerated Baccalaureate Nursing Program (ABSN) expansion through the ISU CON would address a growing demand in southeast Idaho for nurses graduating with a baccalaureate degree and prepared to take the National Council Licensure Exam [NCEX-RN] and move directly into practice. This

ABSBN program has demonstrated on the ISU Meridian campus that graduates pass the NCLEX examination and are readily employed following graduation, with a return on investment as they obtain positions as a Registered Nurse [RN]. Graduates from the ABSN program are well prepared in one year to provide high quality care for individuals, families and communities. The industry sector grant will engage industry partners as future employers who will participate in clinical placement of students, support retention and recruitment, and provide initial match funding support for the initial three-year program implementation. The Bachelor's degree prepares the nurse for systems leadership, quality care and patient safety, professionalism, evidence-based practice, information management, and application of patient care technology among other skills. This degree prepares the nurse to enter practice as a leader and innovator, as well as the training to advance in positions in the registered nurse role, and/or educational preparation. Applicants for the ABSN program hold a bachelor's degree in another or related discipline, with work and life experience preparing them for a rigorous program and future success in practice as an RN.

As this is an existing program in Meridian, what would the WDC funds would be paying for overall?

- The budget shows a significant amount of funds invested in faculty/staff but it is unclear as to whether the tuition generated would help offset those costs in years two and three.
- Staff will request a budget that includes revenue from tuition and clearly articulates the need for funding beyond the first year.

The committee would like clarification on what the industry partners are committing to as well.

#### **Strategic Plan Objective - Incorporating data into our decision-making process**

Ms. Secrist reviewed the objective that the committee agreed to work on. The scoring matrix for employer grants has been refined by the Policy Committee and staff are now collecting data on whether it is aligning the awards with the WDTF goals. Previous evaluations of the training fund (employer grants only) included:

- Did the training result in a wage increase?
- Did the training result in retention? The last evaluation included retention with the employer who trained the individual – need to discuss whether it is more important to measure whether they are retained in Idaho moving forward. Consensus on retention in Idaho.
- Average cost of training.

The information above is currently reported by major industry-sector in addition to aggregate.

What other information does the committee want for evaluating ROI on employer grants?

- Where the jobs that are being created/retrained are on the “in demand” jobs list.
- What employers are investing – i.e. capital expenditures.
- How many apprenticeships were created.
- Survey for satisfaction – both employer and trainee.
- What the overall economic impact of the investment is.

Industry sector and innovation grants have not been included in the evaluation in the past. Staff have already implemented data gathering requirements to facilitate this. In addition to measuring ROI, it is a good time to reflect on whether the committee wants additional questions added to these applications. Suggestions include:

- Why applicants are requesting/need the funding.
- How the project will change the current landscape of Idaho's talent pipeline/development efforts.

- How the project will accelerate the pathway to a career for individuals being trained.

Suggestions on additional evaluation questions for sector and innovation grants include:

- Over time, did projects get replicated or expanded to other parts of the state.
- Did the individuals getting trained “go-on” for further credentials/degrees.

Ms. Secrist will use this information to guide the Department of Labor in conducting the next evaluation. Results should be available in early 2020. With respect to the any changes that impact the WDTF policy, the Policy Committee would need to initiate, but adding questions to the applications is within the scope of the Grant Review Committee. Staff plan to update the applications at the beginning of January.

#### **November & December Meeting Dates**

Committee discussed rescheduling November and December meeting dates as they are so close to holidays. Council Staff will send out a poll for meeting dates.

**Motion to adjourn** by Mr. Green, Ms. Revier seconds.

Meeting adjourns at 3:08pm