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

Guests: Kristina Linder (CSI)

Called to order at 2:02 pm

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda

Ms. Hoehne reviewed the agenda.

Approve August 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. Touchstone to approve the August 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Ms. Revier. Motion carried.

WDTF Financial Summary

Ms. Ames reviewed the WDTF Financial Summary.

WDTF Financial Summary - August 31, 2019	
WDTF Cash Balance 8-1-19	\$16,885,379
Revenue	\$587,161
Interest	\$33,013
Payments	\$237,086
WDTF Cash Balance 8-31-19	\$17,268,467
Obligated Employer Grants	\$5,025,353
Obligated Industry Sector Grants	\$2,752,735
Obligated Innovation Grants	\$68,305
*Obligated Outreach Projects	\$1,018,547
FY 19 WDTF Admin Costs	\$669,817
WDTF Obligated Balance	\$9,534,757
Unobligated Balance	\$7,733,709
Proposals Under Review	\$1,983,256
Outreach Proposals Under Review	\$0
Unobligated Balance if all funded	\$5,750,453

*Includes all Outreach funding made available for the Committee to allocate for FY20.

WDTF FY20 Revenue	Transfer In	Interest	Collection Cost
July	\$393,367	\$34,528	
August	\$587,161	\$33,013	
September			
October			
November			
December			
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
FY20 Totals	\$980,528	\$67,542	\$0

St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP)

The SVDPUA BACK2WORK Program was developed as a national model program to provide an alternative learning opportunity blending learning of basic employable skills with paid internships for hands-on learning.

The goal of this program is to leverage community and employer partnerships, classroom learning, and utilizing wrap-around services that our Society is uniquely capable of providing such as: clothing vouchers, food vouchers, transportation, rental assistance, and much more. These combined components reduce the time for program associates to earn and sustain wages. St. Vincent de Paul is seeking help from the Workforce Development Council to help launch this program in Idaho.

WDTF Request: \$24,999.94

Is this funding for one-time activities? What is St. Vincent's plan for funding this in the future?

- The sustainability portion of this grant shows that they are non-profit so they will have to seek funding for this program yearly. They do not have internal money to dedicate to the program and there is not support from the national organization to fund it either.

St. Vincent de Paul did not document employers who commit to hiring the program participants.

- If St. Vincent does not receive the \$25,000 innovation grant, they cannot implement the program. They did not recruit employers to participate until they receive the funding. St. Vincent feels that they will have support from employers if they are able to put on the program.

What trades are being targeted?

- Plumbing
- HVAC

Has St. Vincent de Paul considered that trades people are required to have some of their own tools?

- This may be a barrier to some people. Mr. Thomsen did not talk with St. Vincent about this.

Do they already have the cash match?

- All they need to implement this is the \$25,000. Everything else in in place.

Motion by Mr. Touchstone to send the application back to Saint Vincent de Paul asking them to provide additional details on who their industry partners would be and their sustainability plan. Second by Ms. Revier. Motion carried.

College of Southern Idaho

Recognizing its core mission to provide quality educational, economic, and workforce development opportunities that meet the needs of the community it serves, the College of Southern Idaho (CSI) was the first to initiate an innovative, competency-based pathway to teacher certification in response to the critical teacher shortage in Region 4. Funding for this proposed project not only ensures more flexible and robust training and support for emergency hires throughout Idaho school districts but will also allow us to work toward fulfilling our vision of partnering with districts to proactively create and fill local teacher pipelines.

CSI has demonstrated remarkable success deploying a pilot version of the Competency-Based Alternative Certification Program. CSI is now seeking \$1,114,424.70 in grant funding to accelerate the deployment of this program by partnering with two education industry giants-- Charlotte Danielson, the author of the Framework for Teaching (the foundation of Idaho's teacher evaluation and professional growth) and TeachForward--to further develop the program to make it available to every school district in Idaho.

WDTF Request: \$1,114,424.70

What grade levels and subjects is this addressing?

- K-12 and all subjects.

Does CSI have a sustainability plan?

The tuition from participants in the program will be able to sustain the program. The State Board of Education has indicated that they believe that this is a sustainable program.

What will the grant money be spent on?

- The grant funding will pay to develop the tools and technology platform for the program. The funds will also translate all 5 modules into online modules in order to take this program completely online, benefitting remote learners.

Ms. Secrist shared feedback from the State Board & State Department of Education.

The State Board of Education asked how the college would be able to update the software and program as standards changed and would they be able to afford the cost of upkeep. This question has not been posed yet to CSI, but their sustainability plan appears to show they will have funding to take care of ongoing maintenance costs.

The program will provide a pathway for an alternative route to certify teachers. There is a high need in Idaho for these alternative pathways to teacher certification. This model is designed to be able to scale to the needs of the state. Right now, CSI and LCSC are the only two institutions that are authorized by the State Board of Education to provide these alternative teaching certification pathways. The State Board of Education sees the Competency-Based Alternative Certification Program as a pathway for paraprofessionals and others who are already working in the schools to become fully certified teachers. It could help create a larger pool of teachers in Idaho.

This proposal involves work-based learning and mentoring, which are priorities for the Council. The participants are already on the job and connecting them with a high-quality mentor is a key part of this program. By including work based learning and remote access to curriculum, CSI is incorporating some of the methodologies that the Council considers valuable for creating a viable workforce.

One of Idaho's education problems is that 10 years ago only 7% of our high schools were offering computer science courses. Today, only 10% are offering computer science courses. Will this program support new teachers in STEM areas?

- The program supports teachers in any specialty area.

Ms. Secrist reviewed additional questions that were sent to CSI prior to the meeting. Specifically, CSI was asked whether they will need to follow a procurement process for this system. CSI responded, through a letter from their CFO, that they will be able to use a sole source authorization since Ms. Danielson stipulates that TeachForward be used when working with her.

Are Danielson and TeachForward reputable partners and have they successfully completed an implementation of this size?

- The Danielson framework for teacher evaluations was adopted by the State Board of Education. CSI was asked if they felt this was the best way to meet the needs of rural Idaho and they said yes. With respect to implementations, CSI provided information that TeachForward has worked on similar projects with Ohio and other states.

Could CSI target specific program areas that have a high teacher deficiency (e.g. computer science)?

- Idaho has so many areas of deficiencies that the critical need right now is to increase the number of all teachers in Region 4 and the state. As the program expands it would be easier to then focus on the areas that have high deficiencies (such as computer science).

Motion by Mr. Larsen to approve the College of Southern Idaho grant in the amount of \$1,114,424.70 including a provision that they provide data within their reporting requirements regarding how they are addressing teacher content shortages. Second by Mr. Touchstone.

Ms. Secrist shared that the match provided comes in the form of in-kind contributed by TeachForward. There will be additional match contributed by CSI and the partner school districts, but CSI chose to not document it for the grant proposal. TeachForward will retain the rights to sell this platform to other states; however, they are providing an exclusive right to CSI to use in Idaho. CSI has confirmed that they will share the platform with any other Idaho public institution in the manner described by the Council's intellectual property clause in the standard terms and conditions used in contracts. This means that the

courses and technology that Danielson and TeachForward develop under CSI's contract could be sold to another state.

What if CSI does not partner with another institution?

- Another institution would not be able to go directly to Danielson or TeachForward to use the program. They must work through CSI. CSI is developing a plan to address requests.

Motion carried.

Boise State University

This workforce development sector grant will provide a high quality, innovative online cyber-physical systems security certificate, designed to be accessible to anyone interested in earning the credential. The resulting program will leverage emerging cyber-security programs at the College of Eastern Idaho and other community colleges and Career and Technical Education programs throughout the State of Idaho. Boise State University will develop a new cyber-physical security systems certificate that will incorporate industry-level certification directly into an academic certificate program. This method will allow students and businesses to combine the best of industry certification with academic credentials resulting in a superior outcome. The 12-credit certificate will be available for incorporation directly into Boise State's existing and highly successful online Bachelor of Applied Science program and available to other programs and students in need of a high demand skill applicable to any industry operating in the cyber age.

WDTF Request: \$833,958.00

If the student goes to CWI for the program can they transfer directly into the BSU program?

- If they graduate with the AAS then they can move into the BAS program. BSU is trying to open as many pathways as possible to allow students to earn more credentials. BSU is beginning to work with the other colleges to build these partnerships. BSU is close to having a pathway with CEI.

What is the sustainability plan for this?

- It is a tuition-based model. Once it is built, the program will be sustainable from participant tuition.

Is this going to provide dual-credit through the Dennis Tech Center?

- BSU has not included that in their proposal. The WDC staff met with BSU and the Dennis-Tech Center to consider opportunities for partnering. BSU is very interested in helping support the Tech Center programs.

A large percentage of the grant money would be spent on faculty members.

- Pete Risse is the Associate Dean of Extended Studies and is the coordinator of this project. Sin Ming is academic faculty from the College of Engineering. In addition, instructional designers and other positions will support the development of the curriculum.

What will the grant funding be used for?

- The grant funds will pay for the development of the program. This includes creating the curriculum, buying equipment for the server environment, etc. These are program startup costs. The individuals named in the proposal will develop the curriculum.

Is there a program schedule showing project milestones?

- That is not required in the application. BSU provided a training plan that shows the schedule for the students.
 - In the first year of the program, BSU will offer only 2 modules out of the 6 planned. BSU will develop the other modules over the next 2 years, always in time for the first cohort of students to be able to progress through to the last module.

How will BSU keep the program up to date with changing technology?

- It is built into their plan to continually update and modify the curriculum to meet the needs of industry.

Motion by Mr. Touchstone to approve the BSU grant in the amount of \$833,958 with the request that they provide a development schedule in their contract. Second by Mr. Larsen. Motion carried.

Program Development Schedule

- The Committee would like to make a change to the application to require a schedule of the program development from applicants.

The Committee also requested that the industry sector and innovation grant scoring rubrics be added to the grant portal, to make them readily available for use by the committee members.

**Motion by Ms. Revier to adjourn. Second by Mr. Touchstone.
Adjourned at 3:34 pm**