Washtenaw County

# Workforce Development

General Session

Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** January 28, 2008 **Meeting Time:** 10:00 AM

**Meeting Location:** Ypsilanti Eagle Crest Marriott Golf Clubhouse, 1275 Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, Second Floor Banquet Room

**Members Present:** Anne Williams, Cindy Harrison, Clifford L. Smith Jr., Diana McKnight –Morton, Michael Schippani, Donn Wolf, Eric Mahler, Gene Graber, Gregg Weaver, James Bunton, Fiona Greenland, Keith Peters, Mark Ouimet, Mary Kerr, Nicholas Fortson, Steven Gulick, Suzanne Bade, Timothy Robinson, Mike Martin, Wesley Prater, Jeff Irwin

**Members Absent:** Bill Miller, Jesse Bernstein, Gregory Gurka, Cynthia Maritato, Reid McCarthy

**Staff Present:** Trenda Rusher, Jenny Bivens, Rana Al-Igoe, Tiffany Lucas, Justin Al-Igoe

**Guests Present:** Martha Welsh, Marti Campbell, Bill Fredericks

## I. Call to Order

- Peters called the meeting to order at 10:16 AM.

## II. Swearing in of New and Re-Appointed Board Members

- Board Members, Suzanne Bade, Fiona Greenland, Mary Kerr, Eric Mahler, Donn Wolf and Timothy Robinson were sworn in by Notary Public Rana Al-Igoe. Al-Igoe and Chair Peters congratulated the members, and welcomed them to the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board. Formal public swearing in will occur at the Annual Meeting this evening.

## III. Approval of the Agenda

- **Wolf moved to approve the meeting agenda. Gulick supported. The meeting agenda was approved**.

## IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the 11/07/07 Meeting Minutes

- Wolf pointed out that he was listed as absent in the meeting minutes, but was present at the meeting.

**Harrison moved to approve the minutes as amended. Wolf supported. The meeting minutes were approved.**

B. Resolutions (approved by the Executive Committee on January 10, 2008)

1. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the Employment Services Program for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of $490,216.
2. ETCS Requests the approval of the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board on the Michigan Works! Service Center Operations funds application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of $147, 405.
3. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the Program Year 2007 Statewide Activities Funding for High Concentrations of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Eligible Youth Plan in the amount of $21,442 for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.
4. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Worker Program for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of $194,212.
5. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Plan for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 in the amount of $1, 631,619.
6. ETCS is requesting the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Food Assistance Employment and Training Program Plan in the amount of $71, 645 for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008
7. ETCS is requesting the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) Dislocated Worker Program for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of $51, 415.
8. ETCS is requesting the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) Wagner-Peyser Employment Services Funding for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of $78, 096.

There was brief discussion of the resolutions.

**Wolf moved to approve the resolutions. Bunton supported. The resolutions were approved.**

## V. Report of the Chair

A. Announcements and Updates

- Peters reported that there is a lot of new construction going on in the County and Ann Arbor SPARK has a lot of new companies coming to the County as well.

## VI. Report of the Board of Commissioners' Chief Elected Official

- Irwin noted that the Board Members may have read in the newspaper, which reported that the County is facing a budget deficit of 8-10 million dollars. Irwin acknowledged the article and stated that he would be happy to answer any questions the Board Members may have about the budget issues.
  Irwin noted that the County has been making an effort to engage its' employees, hear their feelings on the budget issues, and what ideas the have that could save the County money.
  Irwin stated that approximately 75% of the 200 million dollars the County spends each year goes to salaries and fringes so the labor contract will determine the future of the County. Housing values have been decreasing tremendously, which is also affecting the budget. The 5% growth the County used to count on in the past has diminished to zero. The County is trying to deal with that loss and make sure that we make whatever cuts possible, while keeping the integrity of our public services.
- Rusher noted that ETCS will be working with the County on the budget issues, and County Administrator Bob Guenzel has asked her to sit on a Strategic Committee to help figure out how the County will get through the budget deficit.
- Rusher also noted that ETCS is almost 100% federally funded, an will feel some impact by the 4% of its budget through the County General Fund.

## VII. Report of the Executive Director

A. Announcement and Updates

- The State has decided that Michigan will implement the Work Readiness Certificate. There will be more information in the future regarding the Certificate.
- Rusher thanked M3 Strategies for helping ETCS to save money this year by combining the Annual Report and the Strategic Plan, and urged the Board Members to take a look at the copies included in their meeting packets.

B. Resolutions

1. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Michigan Works! System Plan (MWSP) for the period of January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

2. ETCS requests the approval of the Workforce Development Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for the No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Statewide Activities Funding for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30 2008 in the amount of $59,047.
3. ETCS is requesting approval of the Workforce Development Board on the Program Year (PY) 2007 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Work Training (IWT) funding recommendations.

There was brief discussion of the resolutions.

**Harrison moved to approve the resolutions. Weaver supported. The resolutions were approved.**

## VIII. Report of the Committees

A. Education Advisory Group (EAG)
- Rusher noted that the EAG Chair Bill Miller had an emergency and was unable to attend the meeting. There was no report at this time. Miller has agreed that the EAG would work on local policy for the Work Readiness Certificate.

B. Strategic Planning Committee
- The committee will give a presentation during the Board retreat today.

C. Employers Committee
- Harrison reported that the work of the Employers Committee is largely work with MEGA-P therefore there is no new information to report at this time. Harrison also noted that the Committee will meet to discuss developing "No Employer Left Behind".

## IX. Other Business

- Peters noted that the July 3rd meeting date noted on the Agenda, will likely need to be moved, due to the close proximity to the 4th of July holiday.

## X. Adjournment

- Peters adjourned the meeting at 10:51 PM.