



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

*Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Alaska Workforce Investment Board*

February 22 - 23, 2010

Centennial Hall

Juneau, Alaska

**Minutes**

**February 22, 2010**

**Call to Order (Michelle Zenger, Vice Chair)**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Roll Call (Director Cashen)**

*Board members in attendance*

John Cramer, Lieutenant Governor's Designee

Clark Bishop, Commissioner DOLWD

David Stone, DOLWD Designee

Kathryn Craft, DHSS Designee (telephonic)

Mike Woods, Public Education

Tony Delia, Private Sector (telephonic 20 minutes)

Mae Hank, Native Organization

Michelle Zenger, Business/Industry

Helen Mehrkens, DEED Designee (arrived after roll call - weather)

Christopher Gregg, Organized Labor

Jim Lynch, Business/Industry (telephonic - weather)

Larry Bell, Organized Labor

Doug Ward, Private Sector

Cynthia Erickson, Private Sector

John MacKinnon, Private Sector (telephonic - weather)

Director Cashen took roll call. There was not a quorum at the time of roll call, but members joined telephonically to form a quorum.

*Board members absent*

Commissioner Hogan, DHSS; Commissioner Notti, DCCED; Commissioner LeDoux, DEED; Sharlene Berg, Post Sec Ed/Voc/Ind; Jim Laiti, Organized Labor; Dave Rees, Private Sector; John Cannon, Individuals with Disabilities

*AWIB Staff in attendance:*

Greg Cashen, Executive Director; Louise Dean, Program Coordinator; Jeff Selvey, CTE Coordinator; Gerry Andrews, Pipeline Training Administrator, Apprenticeship Coordinator

### Guests and others in attendance

Beth Leschper, DOLWD/Commissioner's office  
Paula Scavera, DOLWD/Commissioner's office  
Guy Bell, DOLWD/Commissioner's office  
Tom Nelson, DOLWD/ESD  
Brynn Keith, DOLWD/R&A  
Rick Rios, Anchorage School District  
Ruth Schoenleben, Nine Star  
Corrine Geldhof, DOLWD/DBP  
Sheryl Weinberger  
James Harvey, DOLWD/ESD  
Charlotte Brower, North Slope  
Diane Maples, Tech Prep

### **Introductions**

Board members, staff and guest introduced themselves.

### **Opening Remarks - Michelle Zenger**

Michelle Zenger, Vice Chair of the AWIB chaired the meeting for Jim Lynch due to weather.

### **Welcome - Commissioner Bishop**

Commissioner Bishop indicated he challenged the Board four years ago to become the Board the statute indicates. He commended the quality of his staff and board members.

### **AWIB Discussion Items**

#### **Statewide Career and Technical Education Update**

Jeff presented the draft CTE plan he and Helen Mehrkens have been charged to work on by both Commissioner Bishop/DOLWD and Commissioner LeDoux/DEED. Jeff discussed the 4 strategies of AGIA along with the strategies of the Education plan. There was a committee of 15 people including individuals who work with Perkins and economic development. Jeff reviewed the three documents; Executive Summary, Overview, and Timeline.

Jim Lynch indicated Jeff and Helen and the committee did an incredible plan. The health care plan group plans on talking to Jeff about developing a cross walk plan to CTE. Doug Ward indicated there could be more emphasis on Regional Advisory Councils, how employers are brought into the process and how career and technical education is aligned with employment opportunities in the communities

Greg thanked Jeff and the staff from DEED for their work on the CTE plan.

### **RTC/RAC Report**

Jeff reviewed the regional advisory council update which included the expectations of the RACs. Greg talked about the regional advisory councils indicating Anchorage may

have a new regional advisory council which was previously the Education Workforce Advisory Council (EWAC). All RACs need to be approved by the board. Jeff reviewed the document with information on the 12 regional training centers.

### **AWIB Training Plan Template**

Jeff gave an update for the AWIB training plan template. The Exco approved the plan and health care is using it as a guideline. Greg indicated the intent was to incorporate other plans such as construction and AGIA into the recently approved training plan template.

### **Proposed STEP Regulations Public Comment 11:03 a.m. - 12:03 p.m.**

Greg asked if anyone online had comments on the proposed STEP regulations. He asked if anyone in the audience would like to make comments. The STEP Regulations have been noticed and will close at 5:00 p.m. today. He has passed out a copy of the proposed regulations the AWIB will be reviewing the regulations tomorrow and will have a resolution. Erin Pohland will review the regulation process with the board in executive session tomorrow. The line remained open from 11:03a.m. - 12:03 p.m. The only comment was from Doug Ward and he would like to add the word "qualified" on page 5.

### **Reports to the AWIB**

#### Workforce Development Budget Update - Guy Bell

Guy gave an update on the schedule for moving the budget through the senate. He will be presenting to the legislature tomorrow from noon - 1:00. Total budget request is 196mil. He will come back tomorrow and update the AWIB after the meeting with legislature. There is an increase for the AWIB for Jeff Selvey supported by general fund, apprenticeship Gerry Andrews and admin asst. Fred Villa asked about funding for RACs. Greg indicated they allocated two visits to rural regions to meet with RAC and RTC and K-12 for a board meeting. Traveling to the regions is part of the outreach plan for RACs and RTCs.

Doug Ward indicated it is important for board members in the region to participate and stimulate conversation in the region. It is something the board should be doing.

#### Legislative Update - Paula Scavera

Greg passed out the talking points for the legislative meetings this afternoon. Paula reviewed the talking points. She indicated she added House Joint Resolution No.46 in support of the reauthorization of the Denali Commission.

The Senate Finance and House Resources are tied up in tax credit bills. This is the first year in many years the AWIB hasn't had a big bill to champion. Paula doesn't have a bill for the members to go to the hill and talk but encouraged board members to tell legislators about improvements to the STEP.

#### Employment Security Division - Tom Nelson

Tom reviewed the One Stop Operator Report for the Alaska Job Center Network. The report included current projects, information on the Labor Exchange Program

Participants, Career Support & Training Services Participants, Workforce Investment Act, STEP and Pipeline Training.

#### Division of Business Partnerships –Corine Geldhof

Corine discussed the activities for the Division of Business Partnerships. Jim Lynch asked for a breakdown of investments in the workforce system. The fifth bullet down with AGIA is the core funding streams. Within the funding streams there are additional funding streams. She wanted to paint a picture of complete year of investments FY09 which ended on June 30, 2009.

Corine also discussed the new system which will replace the MIS system. The FY 2009 cost of services by AWIB priority industry was reviewed. The commissioner suggested for board members to go to a local job center and meet with the staff that implements the Individual Training Accounts (ITAs). They are serving a lot of people that we never hear about.

Corine reviewed the performance measures on the OMB site which measure customer satisfaction for WIA programs. They have reached above target on entered employment rate and have exceeded return on investment. This demonstrates they are held accountable to these investments.

#### Gasline Training Strategic Plan Update – Gerry Andrews

Gerry gave an update that he is working with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and they are using apprenticeship as a workforce development model.

The goal is to train Alaskan workers; it is not acceptable for jobs to go to non Alaskans. He is making the connection with rural Alaska to jobs through apprenticeship. The state was inventoried and needs developed. The challenges are the ebb and flow of workers, awareness of opportunity, job barriers such as drug free, driver's license, and transferrable employability skills, and journey level certifications. Local employers need to identify they can be part of the solutions to hiring the individuals

The training system at a glance is; postsecondary, secondary, federal funding, state, tuition, employment services and grantees. To identify the Gasline skills gap DOLWD is working with industry partners. The four AGIA strategies have increased awareness of and access to careers in natural resource development. He also indicated developing a comprehensive career and technical education system will increase registered apprenticeship

#### Registered Apprenticeship Update – Gerry Andrews

Gerry talked about apprenticeship and what it really is. They have developed fliers for the various occupations on the back side have the actual apprenticeship program. In order to get the message to young people the civil rights office at DOT did a lot of work for apprenticeship.

### Research and Analysis Update – Brynn Keith

Brynn gave e an overview of the Alaska labor market and how Alaska compares to the lower 48. March issue of trends will be on health care and the focus will be on registered nurses, unemployment insurance claimants.

### Legislative Visits

MOTION by Larry Bell to adjourn for legislature visits

Seconded by Fred Villa

MOTION carries

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

### Reception – Goldbelt Hotel 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

There was a reception at the Goldbelt Hotel from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The reception was sponsored by Green’s Creek/Hecla Mining, Coeur Alaska – Kensington Gold Mine and Juneau Building Trades Council. The Legislature was invited to the reception and some of the House and Senate members attended.

### **February 23, 2010 – Business Meeting**

#### **Call to Order (Chair Lynch)**

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

#### **Roll Call (Director Cashen)**

##### Members in attendance

John Cramer, Lieutenant Governor’s Designee

David Stone, DOLWD designee

Helen Mehrkens, DEED designee

Kathryn Craft, DHSS designee (telephonic)

Mike Woods, public education

Dave Rees, private sector (telephonic)

Mae Hank, native organization

Michelle Zenger, Business/Industry

Fred Villa University of Alaska Designee

Linda Hulbert, Private Sector

Jim Lynch, Business/Industry

Doug Ward, Private Sector

Chris Gregg, Organized Labor

Cynthia Erickson, Private Sector

Larry Bell, Organized Labor

John Cannon, Individuals with Disabilities

Tony Delia (attended in afternoon)

Director Cashen called roll a quorum was present.

**Board members absent:**

Commissioner Hogan, DHSS; Commissioner Notti, DCCED; Commissioner LeDoux, DEED; President Mark Hamilton, Joe Austerman, DCCED Designee; Neal Foster, Business/Industry; Bonnie Jo Savland, Native Representative; Tony Delia (in a.m.), Martin Anderson, Jim Laiti

**AWIB Staff in attendance:**

Greg Cashen, Executive Director; Bejean Page, Administrative Assistant; Barbara Duval, Program Coordinator; Louise Dean, Program Coordinator; Jeff Selvey, CTE Coordinator; Gerry Andrews, Pipeline Training Administrator, Apprenticeship Coordinator.

**Guests and others in attendance:**

Mike Shiffer, DOLWD/DBP  
Tom Nelson, DOLWD/ESD  
Eldon Davidson, SAVEC (telephonic for public testimony)  
Jeff Warner, UAF, FFA (public testimony)  
Isaac Cohen, FFA, State Reporter (public testimony)  
Corine Ogle, FFA, State President (public testimony)  
Erin Pohland, DOLWD/LAW  
Karen Martinsen, Sitka Education Career Consortium  
Ruth Schoenleben, Nine Star  
Diane Maples, Alaska Tech Prep (public testimony)  
Rick Rios, ASD (public testimony)  
Patrick Rinehart, Governor's Council on Disabilities (public testimony)

**Agenda Approval**

MOTION to approve agenda by John Cramer

SECONDED by Doug Ward

Linda asked to add 10 minutes to be added on the agenda for feedback from visiting the legislature yesterday. Chair Lynch added to the 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. session

Vote taken

MOTION carries

**Next Meeting Date**

Meeting dates will be May 3-4 in Anchorage at the King Career Center

Discussion while waiting for public testimony time. Director Cashen thanked the sponsors of the reception last night.

Chair Lynch discussed the importance of public testimony. He asked individuals giving public testimony to limit their discussion to three minutes.

## **Public Testimony opened floor at 8:57**

Diane Maples from Alaska Tech Prep gave an update to the AWIB. She has distributed more than 8000 Tech Prep folders in the past three weeks. Diane distributed the folders and the Alaska Tech Prep quarterly newsletter to board members.

Jeff Warner, Alaska Future Farmers of America – Jeff handed out information they have supporting career and technical education. In addition to Jeff, Isaac Corson the State Reporter and Corine Ogle the State President gave public testimony. Isaac and Corine reported there are 120 members and 8 chapters in Alaska. There is no state funding for this program and communication is an obstacle.

Rick Rios from the Anchorage School District thanked the AWIB for the opportunity to address the board. He supports CTE efforts and he will help on the hill for additional support.

Charlotte Brower, North Slope Borough want to acknowledge distinguished member Mae Hank. She indicated she is tasked by the mayor to make sure she has staff development and training development. She will be going to villages to see what the training needs are.

Eldon Davidson SAVEC reported developed an online drivers Ed course with AVTEC. The cost is \$35.00. He has also partnered with CH2MHill and has 50 graduates on the North Slope. There is a class of 20 that will graduate on March 6, 2010.

Patrick Rinehart Governor's Council on Disabilities thanked the AWIB for assistance with a conference for employers in November, 2009. The will focus on work force development issues related to direct service careers

### Distinguished Guests - Lt. Governor Craig Campbell

Lt. Governor Campbell thanked the board for helping Governor Parnell and him with workforce development in the state. He indicated it is critical to tie the education and training of our youth to jobs in our state. We need to be helpful and creative in developing opportunities in rural Alaska. It is good to have one voice when visiting the legislature.

Jim Lynch wanted to know about his personal perspective on CTE plan and what can we be doing to help further government lead. Lt. Governor Campbell indicated following the commissioner's plan is important in trying to tie training to education needs.

### Healthcare Workforce Development Plan Update – Dennis Murray, Karen Purdue and Janet Carr

Dennis, Karen and Janet presented the draft of the Alaska Health Workforce Development Plan. This was modeled after the AGIA plan. Chair Lynch asked for written feedback on the Alaska Health Workforce Development Plan draft by the end of March.

Linda Hulbert talked about summer youth programs as a way for exposure and career exploration opportunities to health care fields. Dave Rees indicated it is a great plan focused on priority occupations.

Chair Lynch Jim thanked the board for the unusual mechanism for allowing the chair to be so involved in the presentation.

## **Committee Reports and Discussion Items**

### Policy Planning

Fred Villa indicated report was in the packet. The group talked about the commissioner and centers of excellence, programs of excellence concept and the Canadian model. The occupations need to be identified to have a model like this work. There was a recommendation to walk through the process with a high profile occupation in the state and to see if the intent of the commissioner was going to happen in a plan. There needs to be a process to identify priority occupations.

### Legislative

Board members reported on their visits with legislators.

Mike Woods indicated the comment he heard about the CTE plan is that the legislators are waiting for the commissioners to set the plan.

Fred Villa reported the overall perception is legislators think work force development and CTE is a feel good thing. There is broad range support and satisfaction with the direction the board is going.

Linda Hulbert thinks it is important to be informed on STEP. She thanked Paula Scavera for writing talking points.

### Assessment and Evaluation

Dave Rees reported the committee will be working with the data from Research and Analysis and Business Partnerships as well as to design a process for the committee to utilize. The target is to provide an evaluation to the AWIB by the May meeting. The committee will also look at the youth programs under WIA and the 2009-10 STEP program as well as helping with the WIA Strategic Plan to be completed in June 2009.

### Workforce Readiness Employment Placement

Doug Ward reported that the committee had a strategy session to discuss priority projects for this year. The priorities they will be working on are; the draft health plan, review CTE plan, Regional Advisory councils, HB 317 Categorical Fund, Minors in the Work Place and catalog training and resource etc. for youth.

## Youth Council

Chris Gregg reported the Youth Council is working on establishing their goals, mission and strategies for 2010 and in the process of compiling a list of priorities they'd like to work on this calendar year.

## **AWIB Review of Proposed STEP Regulations**

Motion by John Cannon to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing Proposed STEP Regulations

Seconded by Tony Delia

MOTION carries

The board went into executive session at 2:04 p.m.

The board was back on record 2:34 p.m.

Chair Lynch indicated the board is back on the record. There was brief public comment yesterday during the meeting. There was one public comment yesterday. Chair Lynch was not in the room yesterday for the audio. Doug Ward retracted his verbal public comment and submitted written comment to the Department of Labor.

Erin reviewed the written comment by Mr. Ward. Her concern is the word qualified is vague and suggests adding that at a later date because it is very broad and would need to be defined.

Doug will withdraw his written testimony and move ahead with the regulations. Michelle Zenger wanted to know what the meaning of (e) sentence two. Mike Shiffer indicated they are referencing one of three types of training. Corine Geldhof indicated these particular types of training have been identified in the statute itself.

MOTION from Doug to direct staff to make minor technical corrections

Seconded by Larry Bell

VOTE taken

MOTION carries

Considering action on the regulations

MOTION by Linda Hulbert move to approved proposed regulations including minor technical changes department staff will make as follows. 8AAC 87.010, 015, 020, 030, 040, 045, 050, 060, 070,080,085,090,110,120,135,136,150,160,170, 180, 190,200,210,220,990 as drafted January 11, 2010.

Seconded by John Cannon

Discussion Doug Ward indicated Linda was instrumental in first step grant; Fred Villa commended the deputy commissioner and staff for the work on this project.

VOTE taken

MOTION carries unanimously

## Resolutions

10-01 in support of changes to the STEP Regulations not needed

Change 10-02 to 10-01 in support of strengthening career and technical education in Alaskan schools. This was provided to the Exco and was reworded. This language is from a concept that emerged from the WREP committee. Doug Ward has a task force of one Joey Merrick; he came up with the draft, put to committee made amendments and sent to Exco. As we have heard at the meeting the need for career and technical education and the interest of the legislators this is a good time to roll this resolution out.

MOTION by Larry Bell to adopt Resolution 10-01 in Support of Strengthening Career and Technical Education in Alaskan Schools.

Seconded by Chris Gregg.

Discussion from Fred Villa given the comments today and work will we need another resolution for CTE plan once it is finalized. John Cannon thinks that will be appropriate. Doug suggested writing a resolution at the next committee meeting to put with the CTE plan.

VOTE taken

MOTION carries

Mae Hank asked about adopting board meeting minutes from last board meeting. Director Cashen explained the minutes are approved at the Exco meeting the month after the board meetings.

Linda Hulbert congratulated the department staff on working on the energy grant as there will be \$ 3.6 million to train people in energy efficient jobs.

The next Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership (ASESP) meeting is March 18th in Anchorage.

## Vocational Instructor/Administrator of the Year Awards

Greg gave an overview of the award and recognized nominees. Melissa Reese from Valdez High School was the recipient of the 2009 Secondary Vocational Instructor of the Year Award. Tom Minder from Kornfeind Training Center in Fairbanks was the recipient of the 2009 Vocational Administrator of the Year Award.

Commissioner Bishop presented the award to Melissa Reese. Larry Bell will take the award to Tom Minder in Fairbanks.

## Comments from Board Members

Tony Delia indicated Tanana Chiefs Conference is holding its annual convention March 11-15.

Michelle thanked everyone for their support on Monday when she chaired the meeting.

Greg will be traveling to Washington D.C. with Doug and Michelle to attend the NAWB Conference March 7-10.

Mae Hank would like to see the October meeting in Barrow.

Jim Lynch indicated there is a lot happening and thinks the work Jeff and Helen did on the CTE plan is truly outstanding. Thinks it brings and understanding for career and vocational education.

### Wrap-up and Adjourn

MOTION by Larry Bell to adjourn  
Seconded by Chris Gregg  
VOTE taken  
MOTION carries

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**Next meeting** - May 3 - 4, 2010 in Anchorage

## **February 22 - 23, 2010 AWIB Meeting**

### **ACTION TRACKER**

<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>DUE BY</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Staff	AWIB Board Meeting Minutes	3/9/10	done
Executive Committee	Develop and approve agenda for May, 2010 board meeting.	4/13/10	In process
Policy Planning	Begin working on next Two Year State Plan. Include in fall committee meeting agenda.	In process	

### **Handouts**

AWIB Newsletter  
Alaska Economic Trends February 2010  
UA @ Work, Winter 2009  
Juneau Empire's Guide to The Alaska State Legislature 2010  
Alaska Tech Prep Newsletter, January 2010  
Alaska Tech Prep Folder  
Career and Technical Education Plan Draft