

**Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties
Board Meeting * April 7, 2010 8:30 a.m.
Ft. Walton Beach JobsPlus One-Stop**

Call to Order: Chair David Miller called the Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa & Walton Counties (WDB) meeting to order at 8:31a.m.

Board members in **Bold** were present:

Don Amunds	Carlene Anderson	Jack Azzaretto
Dianne Barlar	Felix Beukenkamp	Larry Boldin
Don Brown	Mike Brown	Sam Burkett
Earnestine Carswell	Dale Cope	Marj Cummins
Bill Dillman	John Eckert	Cindy Frakes
Ron Garriga	David Goetsch	Leigh Grantham
Barbara Griffin	Sylvia Hanks	Dwight Howard
David Miller	Martha Miller	John Mirra
Dawn Moliterno	Kenneth Pridgen	Bobby Rains
Lane Rees	Judy Byrne Riley	Bill Robinson
Larry Sassano	Greg Smith	Shayne Stewart
Pam Tedesco	Janice Thomas	Alexis Tibbetts
Al Ward	David Whalen	Lynn Yort
Bill Zell		

Jerry Miller, Board Counsel

Guests present: Col. Arthur Tomassetti, Jim Breitenfeld, Mary Beth Jackson, Randy Fleming, Paul Sherwood, Elaine Courtney, Jeff Fanto, Diane Thomas, Greg Sheffield.

WDB/JobsPlus staff members present:

Mary Lou Reed	Linda Sumblin	Art Lee-Drewes
Will Miles	DeDe Haynes	Sue Berntsen
Rebecca Pazik	Rita Smith	Valerie McLaughlin
Jerry McDaniel	Larry Tipton	Mike WrightReynolds
Trish King	Gail Jernigan	

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Miller asked if there were any corrections or comments from the February 3, 2010 Board minutes as distributed.

Motion by Lane Rees, seconded by Al Ward to approve the Board meeting minutes for February 3, 2010 as distributed. All Ayes.

Welcome New Board Member Sam Burkett, of Jacobs Engineering

Special Guest: Mary Lou Reed introduced Col. Art Tomasetti, USMC, Vice Commander of the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin AFB who gave a presentation on the current status of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. The Air Force, Navy and Marines will have squadrons of the planes assigned to Eglin and facilities are currently under construction. Right now, the first airplane is expected in November, 2010. When fully operational, there will be about 1,600

new military, civil service and contractor jobs associated, and about 100 pilots and 1,800 maintainers will be trained each year.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Business Competitiveness Council: Dr. Jack Azzaretto announced the next Council meeting on April 8th at 7:30 am and invited all interested parties to attend.

Joint JobsPlus and Youth Councils Report: Earnestine Carswell reported that the Councils continue to meet jointly to work on common targets and interests as partners, and support Workforce in a new way. Current projects include Florida Back to Work, Summer Youth, and the 2010 Census. JobsPlus and Silver Sands Outlet Mall will jointly receive an Florida Public Relations Association Image award. The ceremony will be April 23rd. The traffic count for the Centers is in the packet, and the next meeting will be April 22nd.

Finance Committee Report: Lane Rees reviewed Budget Mod #4, which is in the packet.

*Motion by Dianne Barlar, seconded by Al Ward to approve Budget Modification #4.
All Ayes.*

A plan to spend Florida Back to Work funds received is included in the packet. Funds will be formally included in Budget Mod #5, but authorization to begin spending is needed.

*Motion by Dr. David Goetsch, seconded by Dr. Dianne Barlar to approve the Florida Back to Work funds as presented.
All Ayes.*

Information on changes approved by the Executive Committee are also included in the packet. The next Finance Committee meeting will be in late May, after the May 13th WFI Board meeting. At that time, funding for program year 2010 – 2011 will be available and a preliminary budget will be established and presented at the June 2 Board meeting.

Dept. of Children and Families: Randy Fleming, representing Janice Thomas reported that DCF’s participation in the Back to Work program is currently on hold pending resolution of several issues with budget. Their applications are currently out of backlog, they receive about 12,000 applications per month and currently have about 1,400 pending. The Strengthening Families initiative is a child abuse prevention program, and April is Child Abuse Prevention month.

Education Updates: Mary Beth Jackson, on behalf of Dr. Tibbetts, reported that the budgets will be released today. They are working hard on new programs which will be implemented next school year. New agreements with UWF are moving along.

Walton County Schools had no representative present, but Dr. Goetsch, on behalf of NWFSC described the partnership between Sacred Heart, Walton Schools and NWFSC to establish a medical sciences academy. The kickoff will be April 13 at South Walton High School. He also announced that Dr. Ty Handy has been selected as the new president of

NWFSC and will be meeting with community leaders as soon as he arrives in the area permanently.

Dr. Jack Azzaretto for UWF stated they are also engaged with Okaloosa and Walton School Districts for partnership programs and that UWF is also partnering with TeCMEN, Okaloosa EDC, and the Workforce Development Board in a special training initiative funded by a Florida's Great Northwest grant.

Economic Development: Don Brown announced Scarlett Phaneuf has been named Interim Director of Walton Economic Development Association. A deal is very close to bring 60 new jobs to the Freeport Industrial Park.

Larry Sassano noted that Okaloosa ECD is taking a regional view and cooperating with Walton County to expand training, employment and economic opportunity. TeCMEN training in Project Management and Supervisory Skills for Technical Teams will be conducted in April and May. Eglin's 75th Anniversary Air Show is April 10th & 11th. The Business Incubator is at 80% capacity. The support of the local colleges and universities and opportunity work with graduate students is cited by those participating.

BRAC Report: Jim Breitenfeld commented on the great opportunity the TeCMEN training program provides. Created by the legislature, The Florida Council on Military Bases and Mission Support gives strong statewide support to all military issues. A nine member board with eight of the seats filled and four members from Northwest Florida gives us the opportunity to accomplish much to bring before the next legislative session. The state budget is the current major issue in Tallahassee, with all funding in jeopardy.

Lockheed will have 300-400 contractors in the area for the Joint Strike Fighter (F-35.) They can receive support during their "on-boarding" similar to the Military Spouse and Family support already provided for active military.

The annual Defense Support Initiative trip to Washington DC is May 12 & 13. New Board member Sam Burkett is Chair of the group.

The State is not expected to take action on offshore oil drilling this session. The federal decision on the new areas has included a commitment that military missions will have a major influence on where drilling is permitted.

BRAC Families: DeDe Haynes reported that the group is working with not only 7thSFG(A), the Joint Strike Fighter and Lockheed, but Pensacola NAS. A trip to Fayetteville, NC is planned for May 11 & 12, where town hall meetings and seminars will be conducted for the families. The WelcomeToNorthwestFlorida.com website is being updated with interactive maps. The site is a great tool for companies considering relocation to the area as well.

Operations Report: Ms. Sumblin shared that the services of the JobsPlus One-Stop Centers, to include the Mobile, continue to be used at record-breaking paces. JobsPlus staff are responding to new challenges and record demand for services. The additional funding for training and subsidized employment have offered new opportunities for getting people back to work.

Executive Director's Report: Mary Lou Reed stated that 17 public, private and non-profit organizations are participating in Florida Back to Work and need to enter into contracts with the Board. Representatives from some of them are members of our Board. A list is provided in the packet, including Okaloosa & Walton Schools, the Dept of Children & Families, and Goodwill Easter Seals.

Motion by Dr. Goetsch, seconded by Dr. Barlar to approve entering into said contracts.

All Ayes with Bill Dillman, Goodwill Easter Seals abstaining due to Conflict of Interest.

Representatives from Okaloosa School District, Walton County School District, and Department of Children and Families voting representatives were not present at the meeting.

Ms Reed welcomed Sam Burkett and warned him that he would be in great demand with invitations to serve on the councils if he is willing to do so.

Ms Reed called attention to the fact that the WelcomeToNorthwestFlorida.com website has been three years in the making and is continually being refined. Input from the five workgroups and any interested party is welcome. There will also be a Faith Based Organization workgroup established soon.

The Workforce Florida Board meeting in May conflicts with the Fayetteville Expo and the Defense Support Initiative trip to Washington D.C. Representatives of the Board will be at all events. The WFI Board will be approving funding for the local Boards. Recently planning allocations were sent anticipating a 53% increase in WIA funds and a 35% increase overall. Stimulus funding was not renewed. Funding looks stable, and adequate resources to carry on our mission should be available. Military Spouse CAA funds were extended until Sept. 2011, although local funds are expected to be exhausted before then. Military Spouse funding is in the proposed WFI budget that will be considered for approval at the May 13 WFI board meeting.

The Interlocal Agreement between Okaloosa and Walton Counties expires June 30, 2010. This agreement establishes Board size, representation mix and ensures compliance with both federal and state legislative requirements. Meetings to review and revise the agreement are planned.

Florida Back to Work Phase II will be submitted by April 15th. Funding is uncertain, information will be provided as it is received.

Region 2 is one of the highest performing Regions in the state, and has earned an additional \$120K in incentive awards, for a total of \$260K.

A staff Marketing Workgroup has been established to identify priorities and needs, which will be brought to the Marketing Committee.

The Executive Committee meeting scheduled for May 5th has been changed to a full Board meeting for election of officers. At the June 2nd meeting the annual budget will be presented for discussion and approval.

Old/ New Business: None

Comments: Lane Rees announced that the Walton HR Roundtable group is becoming a satellite of the Emerald Coast SHRM group.

Mary Lou Reed will keep the Board informed of changes in State policy affecting food & beverage purchases and sponsorships.

Dr. Barlar reminded everyone to consider that small local businesses create most of the jobs in the country, and please keep this in mind when spending your hard earned dollars.

Summer Youth program funding is still pending in the legislature.

NAWB Report: Dave Miller, Jack Azzaretto, Earnestine Carswell, Bill Dillman, Al Ward, Mary Lou Reed and Linda Sumblin attended NAWB Forum 2010 March 6-9 in Washington D.C. All commented that the conference was energetic, stimulating and informative. Many of the best practices are already incorporated in Region 2. Thanks to all who participated.

Announcements: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.