

**Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties  
Board of Directors Meeting \* May 4, 2011 8:30 a.m.  
415 Racetrack Rd. (City Plaza) – Ft. Walton Beach, FL**

**Call to Order:** Chair David Miller called the Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa & Walton Counties (WDB) meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. and welcomed the group to the new facility. Mary Lou Reed thanked the Board for approving the addition of the facility. She also specifically acknowledged Art Lee-Drewes and Larry Edwards as well as the entire staff for their contributions to preparing the room.

Mary Lou also announced that the June Board meeting will be June 15<sup>th</sup> and election of officers and approval of the 2011-2012 budget are important budget items.

The conference room is available for community and partner events and may be scheduled through the Shalimar office.

Board members in **Bold** were present:

Carlene Anderson	<b>Jack Azzaretto</b>	<b>Dianne Barlar</b>
<b>Felix Beukenkamp</b>	Larry Boldin	Don Brown
Mike Brown	Sam Burkett	<b>Earnestine Carswell</b>
Dale Cope	Marj Cummins	<b>Bill Dillman</b>
John Eckert	<b>Cindy Frakes</b>	<b>Ron Garriga</b>
Leigh Grantham	Ty Handy	<b>Dwight Howard</b>
Scott Jackson	Cathy Magnuson	<b>David Miller</b>
<b>Martha Miller</b>	Scarlett Phaneuf	<b>Lane Rees</b>
Bill Robinson	Larry Sassano	Greg Sheffield
<b>Shayne Stewart</b>	<b>Pam Tedesco</b>	Janice Thomas
Alexis Tibbetts	<b>Al Ward</b>	David Whalen
<b>Kitty Whitney</b>		

<b>Jerry Miller</b> , Board Counsel	Don Amunds, Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners	Kenneth Pridgen, Walton County Board of County Commissioners
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**Guests present:**

<b>Mike Davis</b> , Walton County School District	<b>Dr. David Goetsch</b> Northwest FL State College	<b>Elaine Courtney</b> Okaloosa Saves
<b>Jim Breitenfeld</b> , Breitenfeld Consulting	<b>Randy Fleming</b> , DCF	<b>Mona Couey</b> , NCBA - SCSEP
<b>Toni Beck</b> NCBA - SCSEP	<b>Jim Phillips</b> NCBA - SCSEP	<b>Steve Phillips</b> NCBA - SCSEP
<b>Eula Banks</b> NCBA - SCSEP		

**WDB/JobPlus staff members present:**

<b>Mary Lou Reed</b>	<b>Linda Sumblin</b>	<b>Art Lee-Drewes</b>
<b>Will Miles</b>	<b>Sue Berntsen</b>	<b>DeDe Haynes</b>

<b>Angie Olberding</b>	<b>Rebecca Pazik</b>	<b>Rita Smith</b>
<b>Trisha King</b>	<b>Larry Tipton</b>	<b>Kate Doheny</b>
<b>Larry Edwards</b>		

**Approval of Minutes:** Dr. Miller asked if there were any corrections or comments from the March 2, 2011 Board minutes as distributed.

*Motion by Al Ward, seconded by Jack Azzaretto to approve the Board meeting minutes for March 2, 2011 as distributed. All Ayes.*

**Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct statements** are available and need to be signed each year.

**Welcome New Board Members:**

Kitty Whitney          Scott Jackson          Cathy Magnuson          Scarlett Phaneuf

**Special Recognition:** This month is Senior Community Service Employment Month. ; Mary Lou Reed and Linda Sumblin, assisted by Rebecca Pazik and Rita Smith, recognized the Senior Employment partners who work in our One-Stops. We currently have nine senior workers in the three One-Stops, five were present.

Mona Couey          Eula Banks          James Phillips  
 Steven Phillips          Toni Beck

The others will be awarded their certificates at their respective Centers.

**Request for Approval of Related Party Contracts:** Mary Lou Reed reviewed and presented several contracts for approval by the Board.

- Goodwill Easter Seals (Bill Dillman)

Request approval to procure hours of service (employment) from one Goodwill Easter Seals staff member who is a partner in the One-Stop. Hours would be invoiced monthly.

*Motion by Dianne Barlar, seconded by Dwight Howard to approve. Bill Dillman abstained. All Ayes.*

- University of West Florida (Jack Azzaretto, Dianne Barlar)

Request approval for a web design program to be conducted by UWF for approximately \$16K for up to 20 students who would receive certifications.

*Motion by Shane Stewart, seconded by Lane Rees to approve the contract with the University of West Florida. Jack Azzaretto and Dianne Barlar abstained. All Ayes.*

Those abstaining from the votes will be provided Florida Form 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS to complete and file.

Mary Lou updated the Board regarding the arrest of an Okaloosa Dept. of Juvenile Justice employee who is accused of stealing two checks and a number of incentive cards which were in safekeeping for incarcerated youth. The employee has confessed and 100% restitution has been requested. The funding which paid for the incentives expired 12/31/10. Mary Lou requested use of about \$1,000.00 in discretionary funds to replace the checks and incentive cards for the youth. Any restitution received will be placed back in discretionary funds. It was asked if this is an appropriate use of discretionary funds, and explained that the funds are completely at the discretion of the Board and have no restrictions. After discussion, the amount was amended to \$1100.00.

*Motion by Pam Tedesco, seconded by Dianne Barlar to approve the use of discretionary funds to replace the checks and incentives.*

*All Ayes.*

### **Economic Development Updates:**

Kitty Whitney from the Walton Chamber indicated the Chamber continues to grow and extending programs. They have engaged with Florida Ready to Work to be a catalyst between the program and their members.

Mary Lou Reed related that Larry Sassano of Okaloosa EDC was at the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners meeting which she attended. Larry was obtaining approval for the Enterprise Zone Committee (for Crestview and surrounding areas) members, which Mary Lou agreed to chair. The area covered by the zone has recently been expanded and the Board will support the Zone in any way possible.

Jim Breitenfeld discussed how the recruitment of a drug manufacturer for the Crestview area may have been jeopardized by publication of the news in the paper. Confidentiality may have been breached. The EDC continues to support and work for the project.

### **Education Updates:**

Mike Davis of Walton Career Development Center stated that everyone is watching the status and progress of legislation now.

There was no Okaloosa County representative present.

Dr. David Goetsch announced the NWFSC graduation is Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the new arena.

Dr. Jack Azzaretto announced UWF graduation is Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ron Garriga said Embry-Riddle continues to grow in the area. They are currently negotiation renewal of the aviation academy contract with Okaloosa County Schools. A new civilian location in Crestview will open in August. Emerald Coast Aviation and EDC

partnership for simulation opportunities. Graduation is May 21<sup>st</sup>, with about 172 local graduates.

**Dept. of Children & Families:** Randy Fleming, representing Janice Thomas indicated DCF is also closely watching legislation.

**Strategic Planning Next Steps:** Dr. David Goetsch reported that staff cleanup of the plan is in progress. Feedback has been obtained from the Board and staff. The plan will be presented to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

## **COUNCIL UPDATES**

**Business Competitiveness Council:** Dr. Jack Azzaretto recounted the last meeting where Peggy Milz of L-3 Communications spoke about the press conference for the \$50K grant received for incumbent worker OJT opportunities. Caralee Gibson of GSC gave a testimonial for how the OJT program worked for her company. Getting word of the program out to other eligible businesses was discussed. Linda reported on the Reemployment Training Initiative of JobsPlus.

Pam Tedesco reported on STEM. The two year project has a statewide strategic plan, more than 70 representatives from across the state contributed. Three major goals of student proficiency, quality and quantity of educators and sustained infrastructures were framed into the plan. A press release and link to the strategic plan will be public soon.

**BRAC**...is here. Jim Breitenfeld reported that the personnel are moving in greater numbers and spreading throughout the community. Our work to serve those affected will be submitted for national recognition.

The F-35 joint strike fighter will happen at Eglin, but is not expected to be operational until 2016.

There is nothing currently in D.C. for another BRAC, if there is another after the 2012 election it will probably not be called BRAC. The military is currently 18% over the needed capacity. The reduction will be done differently, probably leaving the communities out, with a less formal and budget based process.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Emerald Coast Convention Center. Details are on the WDB/JobsPlus website.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> several members toured the Joint Strike Fighter facilities. The \$400M project is technology based and very impressive.

**JobsPLUS/Youth Development Council:** Earnestine Carswell thanked the Board and combined Councils for their continued support. Focus is on issues and disseminating information back to the Community, especially labor market information. The Centers, including the Mobile, continue to serve increasing numbers of customers, averaging 7000 per month since June 2009.

A two day Lockheed Martin job fair was conducted on short notice and 550 job seekers applied and 91 were hired. There were other positions in other locations as well. The new conference room will be used for orientation and they will begin work in May.

Larry Tipton presented Labor Market information, focusing on local information. The presentation will be posted on the WDB/JobsPlus website under the JobsPLUS Council information section.

**Executive Committee/Finance** Lane Rees announced that the next Finance Committee meeting is June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 at the Shalimar office. All are welcome to participate.

**Executive Director's Report:** Mary Lou reiterated that BRAC is here, but the funds are ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. The funding was for planning and just when we need funds for training and employment assistance, the funds are not available. The Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners sent their appreciation for our efforts. A request was submitted to Workforce Florida for \$725K to continue training especially of new spouses moving to the area.

Some special projects funds will end June 30. NEG for Oil Spill and OJT run beyond June 30. REA requirements were complete, it will be refunded beginning July 1.

As others, we are closely watching the legislation. Most is Federal and allocated to the states and regions. The pie is smaller, but Florida's slice is larger. Our region is among the lowest unemployment in Florida and will receive a smaller share.

Mary Lou reiterated information about the Lockheed Martin job fair which hired 91 for the joint strike fighter and the MilSpouse Appreciation on May 18<sup>th</sup>. A Youth job fair will be June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Northwest Florida Defense Coalition travels to Washington D.C. May 12-14. Mary Lou is a member of this group.

The next WFI Board meeting is May 24 - 26 in Marianna. Governor Scott may attend.

The next WDB Board meeting will be moved to June 15<sup>th</sup>, and election of officers and approval of the budget for 2011-2012 are on the agenda. The Board has been incorporated for 15 years, since May 1996, and we will celebrate that anniversary later this year.

Issues pending at the state level are the future of AWI and whether it will be transferred into the planned Dept. of Economic Opportunity. The Early Learning Coalitions will be transferred to the Dept. of Education. Proviso language regarding purchase of food and beverages by the Boards and additional language restricting funds for promotional items and requiring prior approval are also being reviewed. The climate in Tallahassee has changed.

### **Comments/Announcements:**

- Shayne Stewart announced 15 students will graduate from the fire academy, but no jobs are currently open in the local area. Pension changes will affect many current employees' choices on staying in their jobs or retiring, etc.
- Felix Beukenkamp commented that the building industry continues to struggle with fuel surcharges, increased tolls on local bridges and insurance rates climbing. Statewide growth management plans are being purged making counties and local governments responsible and the regulations vary widely.
- Dwight Howard announced that J&P Khramken Industries was nominated by Lockheed Martin and selected as the Region 4 sub-contractor of the year and will accept the award May 18<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. They will also receive the Defense Logistics Agency 2011 Vendor Excellence award.
- Kitty Whitney will also be part of the DSI trip to Washington D.C.
- The Nominations Committee will be chaired by Al Ward and will submit a slate of nominees at the next Board meeting.
- The next Board Chairs' meeting will be in conjunction with the WFI Board meeting May 25<sup>th</sup> in Marianna.
- Okaloosa Saves Teaching Children to Save program runs through July 31. They need sponsors for savings bonds for the youth.
- Bill Robinson is sending invitations to the Regional Financial Prosperity Partnership meeting in Crestview on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 pm.
- JobsPlus Crestview Center Manager Rita Smith shared that another 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces spouse has opened a daycare business in Crestview.

**Old/ New Business:** None

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