



**NORTH DAKOTA  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**Job Service North Dakota  
1601 E Century Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58501**

**AGENDA  
Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>
10:00 am	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and Introductions</li> <li>• Review and approve today's agenda</li> <li>• Review and approve July 30, 2013 minutes</li> </ul>	Dave Farnsworth
10:15 am	Chair's Message & Director's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget &amp; Membership update</li> <li>• Training Provider Performance Level Criteria Policy</li> </ul>	Susan Gunsch
10:30 am	SkillBuildND demonstration grant update TREND grant update	Ruth Lacher Emily McKay
11:00 am	Agency Reports and Workforce Training updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job Service North Dakota</li> <li>• Department of Public Instruction</li> <li>• Career and Technical Education</li> <li>• Vocational Rehabilitation</li> <li>• Depart of Commerce, Workforce Development Division</li> </ul>	Ruth Lacher Valerie Fischer Wayne Kutzer Russ Cusack Beth Zander
Lunch		
12:45 pm	ND's Oil & Gas Economy - JSND Labor Market Information	Michael Ziesch
1:15 pm	Next Steps Memorandum of Understanding	Larry Anderson
1:30 pm	Veterans Administration Vocational Rehabilitation	Shannon Farha
	Job Service ND Veteran Services	Marlys Morgenstern
	Dept of Labor Veteran Employment and Training Service	Gerald Meske
	ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve)	Shirley Olgeirson
	Veterans Affairs	Brenda Bergsrud
	Veteran Education Training & Trio	Jeri Vaudrin Aida Martinez-Freeman
	ND Approving Agency	Rhonda Schauer
Break		
	Next level for WDC	Dave Farnsworth



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October 24, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Farnsworth, Valerie Fischer, Donna Fishbeck, Rosella Grant, Hans Halvorson, Jan Kamphuis, David Kemnitz, Cathy Kruse, Wendlin Piatz, Jane Priebe, Dan Rood, Bruce Walker, Jim Walker

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Leo Cummings, Wayne Kutzer, James Marshall, Joe Rothschilder, Scott Davis

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Susan Gunsch, Lonnie Wangen

**DESIGNEE PRESENT:** Russ Cusack, Ruth Lacher, Debbie Painte, Michelle Olsen, Nancy Gravning, Beth Zander

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Michael Ziesch, Jeri Vaudrin, Shirley Olgeirson, Brenda Vennes, Larry Anderson, Marlys Morgenstern, Aida Martinez-Freeman, Brenda Bergsrud, Rhonda Schauer, Gerald Meske, Wayde Sick, Jescia Sigh

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** (David Farnsworth)

- Welcome and Introductions
- Admin announcements

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Rosella Grant motioned to approve the agenda as presented.  
Beth Zander seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Jane Priebe motioned to approve the July 30, 2013 minutes as presented  
Jan Kamphuis seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed

**CHAIR'S MESSAGE & DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** (David Farnsworth, Susan Gunsch)

- Susan Gunsch reviewed the budget for biennial years 2011-2013 and for 2013 – 2015.
- Susan Gunsch reviewed the Training Provider Performance Level Criteria policy, no changes
  - Dan Rood motioned to approve the Training Provider Performance Level Criteria policy as presented.
  - Bruce Walker seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed

**SKILLBUILDND:** (Ruth Lacher) Performance measures were reviewed. Enrollment goal was 280 participants and to date there are 292 enrolled. 64 are Veterans and 173 are Native Americans with 15 that indicated both Native American and Veteran. The training enrollment goal was 168 and 203 were enrolled.

**TREND:** (Emily McKay) The TREND (Training for Regional Energy in North Dakota) grant is through its first year. The funding is a TAACCCT (Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training) grant through the Department of Labor. TREND focuses on energy related training. TREND is a \$14.6 million, 4 year grant partnership with 5 colleges; Sitting Bull Community College, Williston State College, Turtle Mountain Community College, Bismarck State College and Fort Berthold Community College. The first 3 years are for funding programs with the last year for compiling reports. Year 2 will focus on career mapping. Another grant at Bismarck State College is the Great Plains Energy Corridor grant working with the Empower Commission on an energy curriculum project. The Empower Commission wants to introduce energy related fields to younger students. This grant will create energy curriculum for 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade North Dakota studies. Curriculum will be a two week module inserted into the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade required North Dakota studies and provide web based interactive curriculum with videos, photos and hands on activities. Pilot program will be reviewed Spring 2014 by teachers with a roll out in Fall 2014.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

**JOB SERVICE NORTH DAKOTA** (Ruth Lacher) WIA final report for PY 12, adult and dislocated worker programs met all performance measures. WIA youth program did not meet performance measures in literacy or numeracy gains, missed by one individual. Which means North Dakota will not be able to receive incentive funds for PY 12.

Workforce 20/20 final 2011 – 2013 report. 103 contracts were written with \$878,913.64 expended and \$471,428 unused. Workforce 20/20 current biennium 2013 – 2015, 20 contracts so far with a budget of \$1,350,341.00 with \$141, 073.00 obligated.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:** (Valerie Fisher) Adult Education Annual Fall Conference was held in September with 127 attendees. New 2014 GED testing is ready to go. Taskforce assembled to work on new funding proposal for 2015 legislative session. Lutheran Social Services of Fargo estimates up to 450 new Americans from the Congo to arrive within the next year. Minot and Bismarck will be offering citizenship classes.

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION:** (Wayne Kutzer) no report

**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION:** (Russ Cusack) South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Arizona, Utah and Colorado received a \$32 million PROMISE (Promoting the Readiness Of Minors in Supplemental Security Income) grant to work with youth 14 to 16 years old that receive social security due to a disability. Many of the youth are from impoverished families. The grant allows Vocational Rehabilitation to work with the families to help break the cycle of poverty and offer employment services and parental classes/information. Minot State University will be a partner to work with 50 youths. Each state was required to have a letter of support

from the Governor of their state. Vocational Rehabilitation has 300 people on the wait list and the projected end of the Order of Selection is March 2014.

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:** (Beth Zander) Round 1 is completed of the 2013-15 Tribal College Grants, 4 tribal colleges applied and are receiving funds, Cankdeska Cikana Community College (CCCC), Sitting Bull College (SBC), Turtle Mountain Community College (TMCC) and United Tribes Technical College (UTTC). Additional grant rounds have been set for November 1, 2013 and May 1, 2014, provided funds remain available.

**JSND LABOR MARKET INFORMATION:** (Michael Ziesch) ND's Oil & Gas Economy report is a new monthly publication and can be found on the Job Service website with a link to <https://www.ndworkforceintelligence.com/gsipub/index.asp?docid=578> 17 counties in ND are oil producing counties with 4 major counties producing 75% of ND oil production. Covered information included in the publication including unemployment, jobs, wages, taxable sales and purchases, and economy in the oil producing counties.

**NEXT STEPS MOU:** (Larry Anderson) Larry Anderson reviewed the Year 4 Next Steps MOU between Cankdeska Cikana Community College and the WDC. The MOU addresses coordination and collaboration in the provision of services for Native Americans (particularly those who are Temporary Assistance to Needy Families recipients) that are interested in entering the healthcare workforce as outlined in the Next Steps Project grant.

- Bruce Walker motioned to approve the Next Steps MOU as presented.
- Rosella Grant seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

The afternoon session consisted of presentations from professionals in the Veterans Administration/Services fields. Several areas of Veterans Administration/Services were represented and representatives spoke to the workforce council about challenges being faced and initiatives that are being implemented to meet this industry's workforce needs. The WDC members were provided with copies of research studies and data pertaining to workforce issues.

Veterans Administration Vocational Rehabilitation: (Shannon Farha) Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation is a federal program that works with Veterans that are having a hard time obtaining a job. Vocational rehabilitation will assist with schooling, OJT and has a return to work program. Once the Veteran graduates, staff will assist with the employment process and continue monitor for first sixty days. If employment isn't feasible for the Veteran, staff will work to improve a Veteran's independent living needs.

Job Service ND Veterans Services: (Marlys Morgenstern) Veterans Services is a team of 6 working out of Bismarck, Minot, Fargo and Grand Forks Job Service offices. Veterans Services provides a variety of employment services to economically and educationally disadvantaged Veterans. These services include translating military skills to civilian skills, case management, assistance with finding jobs, and assistance with labor market research, career and education guidance, interview skills 101, reemployment workshops, job fairs, and referral services. Eligible Veterans and spouses receive priority of service for all Job Service services. There are currently 2,500 Veterans actively looking for jobs on jobsnd.com. In the last year, there have been 3,000 registered with 60% from out of state Veterans looking for oil field related jobs.

Dept of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service: (Gerald Meske) Reviewed USERRA, a Guide to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Right Act. Gerald Meske investigates reemployment claims and if merited will refer the case to Department of Labor or US Attorney's office. Addressed action/education of employers and employees when complaints are filed for an individual needing time away from work to serve.

ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve): (Shirley Olgeirson) ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR has 2 fulltime employees with 70 volunteers statewide that work to promote and enhance employer support for military service in the Guard and Reserve. There is not much unemployment within the ND National Guard & Reserve.

Veterans Affairs (VA): (Brenda Bergsrud) Veterans Affairs works with Veterans to obtain benefits and assistance with programs that are available. VA is working with many out of state Veterans. The VA assists with state benefits such as state educational benefits for dependent of MIA/POWs, tax exemptions for the disabled, job reinstatement and veterans' preference in public employment. The VA administers a Veterans Aid Loan Program, a Grant Program, and a Transportation Program. The goal is to preserve the dignity and self-determination of veterans through awareness and procurement of available benefits that may improve their living conditions and opportunities; we also serve as a focal point for coordination among agencies, both public and private, in all programs and projects affecting veterans and their dependents. Impediments to finding employment: Showing up in ND with no notice or appointment, bringing family with them with no notice, high cost of housing. 15% of veterans in ND are homeless; ND is 2<sup>nd</sup> per capita vet vs. non-vet ratio and highest participation in Guard and Reserve.

Veterans Education Training & Trio: (Jeri Vaudrin, Aida Martinez-Freeman) Assist Veterans with college needs to enroll into a college institution, or a training program. The federal program (Upward Bound) has reduced from 200 locations nationwide to 43. The program serves students who are preparing to enroll in any North Dakota University System institution. The program's services include assessment, GED testing and computer instruction, individual instruction, college application assistance. Online curriculum is available. Collaborations are in place with Minot State University and with University of Mary. Efforts are underway for services to be available at Lake Region and NDSCS.

North Dakota Approving Agency: (Rhonda Schauer) ND Approving Agency approves education and training programs for Veterans. For a Veteran to receive benefits from the GI Bill the program must first be approved by the agency. There are 118 facilities approved throughout the state. OJT is available for 6 months and up to 2 years as well as apprenticeships.

**Next Level for WDC:** (Dave Farnsworth) Dave Farnsworth proposed the question to the members of what is next for the WDC? Where do we go from here? How do we become more effective? What can the WDC do? What topics should the WDC cover?

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM