

**WORKFORCE CONNECTION  
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**NOTES ONLY**

DATE: June 10, 2010  
PLACE: Enterprise Center, Ocala, FL  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Paula Anspach, Consultant  
Jack Reynolds, Brannen Bank  
Jaye Baillie, Marion Co Chamber of Comm

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Brad Nimmo, Habitat for Humanity Marion Co  
Robert Goldberg, Spherion  
Mayra Carrion, WWDA  
Sean Mullins, Levy Sheriff's Office  
Barbara Burrows, CF  
David Werner, Community Bank of Marion  
Deborah Kamlot, Citrus Publishing  
Diana Brumm, Taylor College  
Joan Stark, CTAE  
Mike Melfi, Champs Software  
Sharon Battles, ABCDS  
Steve Nelson, CITA

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Margaret Spontak, Workforce  
Val Hinson, Workforce  
Stacy Bell, Workforce  
Gail Buzard, WWDA

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Paula Anspach, Chair

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Val Hinson and there was no quorum.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**No quorum.**

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**COMMITTEE WORK**

**Elevate America:**

Stacy Bell briefed members on Elevate America. We have applied for a Digital Access Grant from Workforce Florida, Inc. Our application was for \$250,000. After discussions with WFI it appears that the approved amount will be around \$165,000.

This grant will allow us to provide necessary services to individuals wishing to train and gain certifications with Microsoft to enhance the free vouchers received from Elevate America. Workforce will receive 964 vouchers in Citrus, Levy and Marion Counties, including 427 E-Learning vouchers, 427 Business Certification exam vouchers and 110 Information Technology Professional vouchers.

Each training voucher is redeemable for one E-Learning course or Certification exam, E-Learning courses, available online, are self-paced and offer beginning and intermediate training on Microsoft Windows or on one of the programs in the Microsoft Office Suite.

Also offered are IT Professional vouchers for courses tailored to the needs of individuals on technical professional career tracks in areas such as web development or database management. Certification exams must be taken at Certiport Testing Centers, some of which may charge a small fee for exam proctoring. CFCC, CTAE, LCSB and WTI are all working with us to provide access to their Certiport Centers. We will contract with CFCC and CTAE for this and pay the proctor's directly in LCSB and WTI.

This will also provide equipment to open 2 labs in our 14<sup>th</sup> St. center and our Bronson center for individuals to access the instructional portion. We have also included funds for two staff (older youth) to staff the labs for one year.

**Economic Partner Update (Three Counties):**

Margaret Spontak gave an Economic Partner Update. **See attached for details.**

**Deep Water Horizon:**

Margaret updated members on the oil spill. A business briefing targeting business partners in Citrus County will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am at the Sheriff's Com Station to update on what the County has prepared and what will be put in place (currently waiting on an agenda). There is also a briefing sponsored by the Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce on June 24, noon at Frog's Landing.

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There was discussion on what is happening in BP and the Panhandle and recruitment efforts. Margaret also briefed on BP training opportunities and where the training will be held (possibly at school sites). She also mentioned a special legislative order request to move scalloping up. Margaret briefed on a power point prepared by Alex Sink's office that can be accessed online which explains how to file claims.

### **Career Launch 2010:**

Margaret briefed members on Career Launch 2010. The project goal is to develop a comprehensive employability strategy to equip Workforce ITA recipients, dislocated workers and other graduates with the cutting edge career skills and tools to improve their marketability in the current job market.

Instead of general job fairs, Workforce is scheduling four talent marketplace events over the next six months focusing on specific industry sectors. The events will be preceded by no cost employability skills training and resume clinics in collaboration with Monster and CF.

### **Know Your Industry Web Content:**

Margaret advised in order to better assist job candidates in their job search, Workforce is going to expand the Job Candidate section of the website to include a "Know Your Industry" section. Some of the recommended items include: Fastest Growing Industries; Top Companies; Wage Information; Educational Requirements. This information was pulled from EMSI, the county EDCs, and other frequently used sources.

### **OJT/Work Experience Opportunities:**

Stacy Bell briefed members on On-the-Job (OJT)/Work Experience opportunities and initiative to train dislocated workers or low income adults. She recently attended a Work Experience/Internship training at Workforce Central Florida in Orlando. Workforce is in the process of designing an internship program.

## **STATUS REPORTS/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

Members were briefed or given information on items listed below:

- 1) Employment Trends – see attached for details.
- 2) Board Member Contracts
- 3) Workforce Intelligence Report (April 2010)
- 4) Training Report by Targeted Occupation (April 2010)

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**MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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