



GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

500 E. Third Street, Room 200

Carson City, Nevada 89713

Telephone (775) 684-3911 \* Fax (775) 684-3908

MEETING MINUTES

**Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB)**

**Mining and Materials Sector Council**

**Wednesday, November 6, 2013**

**9:00 a.m.**

*Some members of the Council may have attended the meeting and other persons may have observed the meeting and provided testimony through a simultaneous videoconference and teleconference conducted at the following locations or by calling the number and access code listed below:*

**Place of Meeting:**

**Great Basin College**

Elko Campus

1500 College Parkway

High Tech Center (HTC) Building, Room 137

Elko, NV

**Nevada Job Connect**

Reno Town Mall

4001 South Virginia Street

Reno, NV

**Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation**

2800 East St. Louis Avenue, Conference Room C

Las Vegas, NV

**1-877-810-9415**

**Council Members Present:** Dana Pray, Nancy Gray, Mark Doty, Sharon Horn, Cindy Wild, Bret Murphy, Russ Fields, Pam Borda, Councilwoman Gerry Schroder, Todd Valline, Ray Bacon, Wanda Taylor, Richard Martin, Eldon Buckley.

**Council Members Absent:** Joe Riney, Carrie Stringham (excused), Denise Carver, Sharon Anderson, Marilyn Blades, Rob Jorden, Commissioner Vida Keller, Jeff Zander, Mike Page, Jonathan Begley, Stan Hall, Dr. Karoly Kocsisk, William Kirby.

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Jeremy Hayes, Ken Pierson.

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Lou Lombardo, Gary Skalsky, Lynda Crawford, Byron Goynes.

**DETR WSU Staff Present:** De Salazar, Earl McDowell, Ansara Martino, Odalys Carmona.

**Others Present:** Judy Turgiss (CSN/DETR Partnership), Sue Poland (NV Dept of Education), Ben Daseler (Nevada JobConnect).

*\*Please note that all attendees may not be listed above.*

## **AGENDA**

- I. Welcome, Introductions and New Members.....Dana Pray, Chair  
Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, Mining and Materials Sector Council

The Chair of the Council, Dana Pray, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed new members Stan Hall, Eldon Buckley, Richard Martin and Dr. Karoly Kocsisk. Ms. Pray then asked for Ansara Martino to call roll and verify whether a quorum was present.

- II. Roll call and Establishment of a Quorum ..... Derita Hopkins, Administrative Assistant  
Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), Workforce Solutions Unit

Ansara Martino, who was standing in for Derita Hopkins at today’s meeting, called roll and informed the Chair that at that time a quorum was not present. Ms. Pray then turned to agenda item III.

- III. Verification of Posting .....Derita Hopkins

Ms. Pray asked Ansara Martino to verify that the agenda for this meeting was posted according to NRS 241.020. Ms. Martino verified that it was.

- IV. **First Public Comment Session** .....Dana Pray  
Members of the public will be invited to speak; however, no action may be taken on a matter during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson.

Ms. Pray announced the First Public Comment Session; however, no comments were made. Hearing none, Ms. Pray turned to agenda item V.

- V. **For Possible Action** – Approval of September 4, 2013 Minutes.....Dana Pray

Ms. Pray tabled this item due to a lack of a quorum.

- VI. **For Possible Action** – Updates on the GWIB Mining and Materials Sector Council  
Subcommittees Chair Report .....Dana Pray

- Strategic Plan Subcommittee .....Pam Borda, Chair
- Grants and Resources Subcommittee..... Todd Valline, Chair
- Best Practices Subcommittee ..... Joe Riney, Chair
- CTE, Education and Training Subcommittee .....Bret Murphy, Chair
- K-12, Education and Training Subcommittee.....Pam Borda, Chair
- Industry Employer Subcommittee.....Cindy Wild, Chair

Ms. Pray explained that she needed to leave the meeting at this juncture and she turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Nancy Gray.

Council member Eldon Buckley joined the meeting.

The Subcommittee Chairs gave the following reports:

Strategic Plan Subcommittee – Chair: Pam Borda

Ms. Borda stated that the initial draft of this Council's 2013-2014 Strategic Plan is completed; however, she is waiting for each of the Subcommittees to complete their portion of the plan and then she will finalize the layout for submission to the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) by the due date, which is December 16, 2013.

Grants and Resources Subcommittee – Chair: Todd Valline

Mr. Valline thanked Ansara Martino, Grants and Policy Analyst with DETR's Workforce Solutions Unit, for doing a marvelous job in researching private foundations for potential grants that this Council can pursue for industry workforce development initiatives. A chart of the funding opportunities was compiled and sent to the members of this Council for their review. Mr. Valline pointed out nine opportunities that he and Ms. Martino identified from the list that the Council may qualify for and Mr. Valline stated that the particular ones that are pursued will depend on the pilot project that the Council will request. He also encouraged the creation of pilot projects for STEM initiatives for K-12 and post-secondary education, as well as pilot projects that offer quick training programs. Mr. Valline said that he feels that the funders identified on the grant list would be good matches for this Council and those particular funders have a history of supporting government agency initiatives and groups. Mr. Valline emphasized that the funding would be best for short-term training initiatives, not long term, and he pointed out that the funders have several submission dates. Also, award notification is given rather quickly, usually within 60 to 90 days. If the funding opportunities are applied for soon, this Council could potentially have answers by March 2014.

The Council thanked Mr. Valline and Ms. Martino for their work. Ms. Gray asked if the application process will be something that the Council would have to do on their own or if DETR would assist them with the process. Mr. Valline responded that the Council would put the specifics together for the training they want and DETR would compile the grant paperwork for final submission to the funder. Earl McDowell, the Deputy Administrator of DETR's Workforce Solutions Unit, confirmed that Mr. Valline's response was correct. Mr. McDowell also confirmed Mr. Valline's comments on the pilot projects. Mr. McDowell informed the Council that the pilot project proposals are intended for the Council to identify occupations that have an immediate need in their industry to be filled. Training should be short term and result in a recognized industry certificate or credential. For example, if their industry needs 30 welders or 25 diesel mechanics based on current employer needs, the Council can request this training through the pilot project. As with most pilot projects, it is intended to be small in scale, but could possibly lead to larger implementation in the future. Mr. McDowell reminded the Council that the funding for the pilot projects is separate from any grant funding they may decide to pursue.

Best Practices Subcommittee – Chair: Joe Riney

Standing in for Joe Riney, member Nancy Gray informed the Council that the Best Practices Subcommittee will be merging all the career pathways descriptions because they found that three pathways documents were being used by the Nevada Department of Education, the Nevada System of Higher Education and the mining and materials industry. Ms. Gray stated that Mr. Riney will need support to do what is going to take a little work in merging, and Ms. Gray stated that the Subcommittee wants to ensure that the final pathway information is correct and representative of the mining and materials industry career pipeline and that the information results in real jobs. One of the Subcommittee members has gathered the pathways from the Department of Education and the Nevada System of Higher Education, and the Subcommittee plans to narrow their focus to five or six occupations to initially concentrate on. The five or six occupations will be chosen from the list this Council compiled of industry employers' immediate, mid- and long term occupational needs, such as mechanics, diesel mechanics, welders, electricians, surveyors, lab and environmental technicians. Ms. Gray said that the Council needs to identify which five or six to focus on and then this Subcommittee will identify the career pathways information from what is available from the school districts, higher education and other training programs.

Ms. Gray, announced that the five or six occupations cannot be identified in today's meeting due to a lack of a quorum, but it will be an item on the next meeting agenda. She wants the Council to identify two training tracks, one for the short-term pilot program and the other for long-term training initiatives.

K-12 and CTE Education and Training Subcommittees – Chairs: Pam Borda and Bret Murphy

Mr. Murphy explained that he has handouts that he will have sent to the Council and he informed the Council that the Subcommittees have several items underway:

- An inventory of community college training programs related to mining and materials industry occupations, and which of those training programs relate to the list this Council compiled of industry employers' immediate, mid- and long term occupational needs.
- Identifying training program gaps and what recommendations for additional training programs could be made.
- Recommendations to expand the industry training capacity of Great Basin College (GBC) for (1) Instrumentation Technicians and (2) Welding. Mr. Murphy discussed the estimated costs of expanding GBC's current welding facility, which he stated would cost \$3.8 million over 15 years and would include: (a) 32 more students per year over the next 15 years at an average cost of \$8,000 per student; (b) two additional instructors @ \$850,000 over 3 years; and (c) that job placement after graduation is currently 94%. Mr. Murphy stated that in addition to welders, industry also needs welder technicians that can do other things, such as diesel mechanics and millwright work. In addition to the welding program, GBC wishes to expand those programs and to do so would need \$4.69 million. Mr. Murphy informed the Council that the average starting wage for welder technicians is approximately \$22/hr.

Mr. Murphy stated that GBC could also expand a mobile welding facility. GBC was the recipient of a Federal Trade Adjustment grant and they purchased a used mobile welding facility that will be housed predominantly on campus in order to expand the existing training available for students. With the mobile welding facility, GBC would need (a) another instructor for three years @ \$339,930 with an operating budget of \$60,000, and (b) to upgrade the welding mobile facility at a cost of \$189,693. The total would cost \$469,623 and 720 new students could be served over three years with mostly contracted students being provided short-term training as needed by industry. The facility would be moved around to different industry sites for the trainees and would cost approximately \$625 per student.

Mr. Murphy informed the Council that GBC has only one Instrumentation Technician professor. To expand the program, GBC would need one additional instructor at \$308,000 over three years, plus equipment expenses of \$250,000 over three years. The total is \$558,454. The job placement rate after graduation is 98%. The program could service an additional 48 students at an average cost of \$11,000 per student and the average starting wage is \$26/hr.

Mr. Murphy also informed the Council that Stan Hall introduced the career and technical education career pathways that are available with the Elko County School District.

The K-12 Education Subcommittee would also like K-12 Career Days to be held.

Council member Eldon Buckley apologized for his late arrival and provided a brief description of the training provided by his employer, National Career Institute. He stated that the National Career Institute provides this Council with another training provider that can retrain people quickly to fill available job vacancies.

Council member Todd Valline informed the Council that he has seen many problems with short term re-training and with veterans describing their job experience in layman terms. It was suggested for this Council to look at ways to provide short-term retraining and address the common problems that occur. Mr. Valline agreed with the suggestion.

Industry Employer Subcommittee – Chair: Cindy Wild

Ms. Wild informed the Council that her Subcommittee has identified the top five occupations based on industry employer needs and those are: Mechanics (all specializations combined together), Welders, Assay Lab Techs, Surveyors, and Environmental Technicians.

Ms. Gray thanked the members for their updates and turned to agenda item VII.

VII. **Discussion** – New Business and Future Agenda Items. ....Dana Pray

Ms. Gray advised the Council that the following items will be placed on the next meeting’s agenda:

- (a) Approval of the meeting minutes for September 4<sup>th</sup> due to the lack of a quorum for today’s meeting.
- (b) Pilot project proposal ideas and WIA funding recommendations, both of which are due December 16, 2013.
- (c) Data for unemployed Nevadans.

Ms. Gray also requested that Earl McDowell provide her and Chair Dana Pray with a copy of member meeting attendance records, as she would to review for members who have missed more than three meetings with unexcused absences.

VIII. **For Possible Action** – Future Meeting Schedule.....Dana Pray

Ms. Gray stated that the K-12 and CTE Education and Training Subcommittees need to meet prior to the next meeting of the Council and asked that a meeting date for the Subcommittees be scheduled prior to a mining conference that will occur during the week of December 2, 2013. Earl McDowell replied that he will provide the Subcommittees with available meeting dates for them to choose from and schedule the Subcommittees meeting accordingly. The next Council meeting will be scheduled to follow the Subcommittees meeting.

IX. **Second Public Comment Session** ..... Dana Pray

Members of the public may now comment on any matter or topic, which is relevant to or within the authority or jurisdiction of the Board. You may comment now even if you commented earlier; however, please do not simply repeat the same comment you previously made. Please clearly state and spell your name. Public Comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson.

When Ms. Gray announced the Second Public Comment Session, Mr. Ron Fletcher from the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation Employment Security Division introduced himself and told Ms. Pray that there is training that occur for incumbent workers and displaced workers. He asked Ms. Gray whether an individual who is highly trained and that had been a certified welder in another industry might have the basic skills at least to qualify them for retraining to weld in the mining industry. He also asked if those skills might need to be complimented with mechanical skills or millwright skills. Council member Cindy Wild offered to answer that question and stated that in her experience industry will only hire a few people that have non-industry specific welding skills. She stated that industry prefers for them to have mechanical skills as well.

Earl McDowell advised the Council that DETR’s Workforce Solutions Unit (WSU) website is up and running. This Council has their own page with updated information on meetings, agendas and minutes. He asked members to take a moment to visit the website and send him any feedback they might have.

Odalys Carmona, Youth Liaison for DETR’s WSU, informed the council that there will be upcoming STEM conferences with the College of Southern Nevada, Nevada State College and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas during the 2014 school system. She told the Council that she is also working the GEARUP programs for possible funding of the conferences.

Hearing no other public comments, Ms. Gray closed the session and turned to agenda item X.

X. **Adjournment** ..... Dana Pray

Ms. Gray adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

*Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration by the public body, and/or pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. The Chair may continue this meeting from day-to-day. Pursuant to NRS 241.020, no action may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.*

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**  
**MINING AND MATERIALS SECTOR COUNCIL**

Sharon Anderson, Ray Bacon, Jonathan Begley, Marilyn Blades, Pam Borda, Denise Carver, Mark Doty,  
Russ Fields, Nancy Gray (Vice-Chair), Stan Hall, Sharon Horn, Rob Jordan, Commissioner Vida Keller, William  
Kirby, Dr. Karoly Kocsisk, Bret Murphy, Mike Page, Dana Pray (Chair), Joe Riney, Councilwoman Gerri Schroder,  
Carrie Stringham, Wanda Taylor, Todd Valline, Cindy Wild and Jeff Zander

**Notice:** *Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting should notify Derita Hopkins, DETR, Workforce Solutions Unit, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., in writing at 2800 E. St. Louis., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104; or call (702) 486-0523; or fax (702) 486-6426 on or before the close of business Tuesday, November 5, 2013.*

**Notice of this meeting was posted at the following locations on or before 9:00 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting:** DETR, 2800 E. St. Louis, Las Vegas, NV; DETR, 500 East Third St., Carson City, NV; DETR, 1325 Corporate Blvd., Reno NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 3405 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 119 Water St., Henderson, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 2827 N. Las Vegas Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 1929 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 172 Sixth St., Elko, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 480 Campton St., Ely, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 121 Industrial Way, Fallon, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 475 W. Haskell, #1, Winnemucca, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 4001 S. Virginia St., Suite G, Reno, NV; NEVADA JOBCONNECT, 1675 E. Prater Way, Suite 103, Sparks, NV; GRANT SAWYER OFFICE BUILDING, 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV; LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV; NEVADAWORKS 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Building A, Unit 1., Reno, NV; WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS, 7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, NV. This agenda was also posted on DETR's Web site at [www.nvdetr.org](http://www.nvdetr.org). In addition, the agenda was mailed or e-mailed to groups and individuals as requested.