

Future Workforce Alliance of Snohomish County

December 15, 2021 – 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

In Attendance

Board Members (UPDATE)

Amy Drewel, Rich White, Jolenta Coleman-Bush, Scott Forslund, Jessica Barr, Van Kuno, Amit Singh, James O'Brien, Dan Chaplik, Janice Greene, John Haarlow, Mark Clark, Crystal Donner, and Kieron Shorrock.

Snohomish County and Workforce Snohomish

James Henderson, Joy Emory, Simreet Dhaliwal, and Neepaporn Bounjaktha.

Proxies

- Amy Drewel served as proxy for Mary Jane Brell-Vujovic.
 - Robin Curtis served as proxy for Garry Clark.
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Introduction

The Board's Chair, Amy Drewel, welcomed the board, led introductions and gave an overview of the agenda.

Discussion & Action Items

The following Action Items were discussed and affirmed by vote by the Board:

September 16, 2021, Board Minutes

- The draft minutes were presented by Rich White, Secretary/Treasurer. No amendments were made to the draft minutes.
- Approval
 - Motion: Mark Clark; Second: Van Kuno.
 - Board minutes for September 16, 2021, were approved without amendment.

Ad-Hoc Nomination Committee

- Per the Future Workforce Alliance Bylaws adopted on June 16, 2021:
 - 4.2 Election and Appointment of Officers: The Board shall establish an ad hoc nominating committee comprised of current board members. This committee shall present nominations for Board Officer Roles of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer to the Board.
- Dan Chaplik and Jolenta Coleman-Bush volunteered to serve on the committee.

Business Solutions

- Joy Emory, CEO of Workforce Snohomish (WFS), provided an overview of the request to the Board for Workforce Snohomish to develop and deliver Business Solutions to support the recovery and resiliency

of Snohomish County. Business Solutions services would commence on January 1, 2022, with the provision that WFS will remit a firewall policy to the Snohomish County Future Workforce Alliance prior to January 1, 2022.

- WFS delivery of Business Solutions would provide an opportunity to align and integrate with Economic Alliance Snohomish County's existing Business Retention and Expansion program. Business Solutions will be out in the community and officed at WorkSource Everett and WFS. The delivery of Business Solutions by WFS would be a permanent change unless the Board believes otherwise. Business Solutions is primarily service oriented and would enhance Adult/DW and Youth programs. The State of Washington and Department of Labor have not defined specific metrics for Business Solutions.
- Scott Forslund asked for an amendment to Motion 21-10 to limit the period of time for WFS to deliver Business Solutions in order to determine its effectiveness. The amended motion read:
 - NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Snohomish County Future Workforce Alliance Board of Directors votes to approve Motion 21-10 for Workforce Snohomish, to develop and deliver Business Services to support the recovery and resiliency of Snohomish County businesses *commencing on January 1, 2022, and ending on June 30, 2025*, with the provision that WFS remits a firewall policy to the Snohomish County Future Workforce Alliance prior to January 1, 2022, as required.
- Approval
 - Motion: Amit Singh; Second: Janice Greene.
 - Motion 21-10 was approved as amended.

Adult/DW RFP for Additional Workforce Services

- Joy Emory, CEO of WFS, discussed with Jessica Barr and Van Kuno the option to bring on additional providers for the existing Adult/DW program.
- Joy Emory requested authorization from the Board to issue an RFP for an additional contractor to support service delivery. A decision to issue the RFP by WFS would be based on the need to add additional capacity to administer the program.
- Motion 21-11 was presented to the Board:
 - NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Snohomish County Future Workforce Alliance Board votes to approve Motion 21-11 for WFS to issue a competitive procurement for additional Adult and/or Dislocated Worker subrecipient(s), in order to extend service delivery in Snohomish County.
- Approval
 - Motion: Mark Clark; Second: Rich White.
 - Motion 21-11 was approved without amendment.

Information Items

Workforce Snohomish Update

- Joy Emory, CEO of WFS provided the following updates to the Board:
 - Good Jobs Challenge: A nation-wide competitive grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to get Americans back to work by building and strengthening regional systems and sectoral partnerships to train workers with in-demand skills that lead to good-paying jobs.

- Grant application in partnership with Seattle-King Workforce Development Council (King County), Workforce Central (Pierce County) and Workforce Snohomish/Future Workforce Alliance.
 - Proposals are due to EDA on January 26, 2022.
 - The grant proposal includes sectoral partnerships in maritime, life sciences, healthcare & construction/ infrastructure. The application will be centered on equity to support the Board's goals and incorporate community voices and lived experience with a high emphasis on specific populations as well as women and BIPOC owned small businesses.
- Economic Security for All (EcSA): EcSA was announced in June of 2019 by Washington State Governor Jay Inslee to provide \$5.9 million in grants to help fight poverty in Washington State. EcSA works with organizations in four workforce development areas to develop plans and sustainable activities to help lift families to above 200% of the federal poverty level. EcSA focuses on serving families enrolled in early childhood education programs.
- The FWA Board approved Motion 21-09 for WFS to issue an RFP for a provider to develop and implement a service model focused on serving low-income (200% of federal poverty level) families.
 - The WFS update included the completion of a first draft of an asset map and the documenting re-training and/or re-employment (government) programs. WFS continues to have discussions with Human Services Snohomish County to design a program to serve families with young children. No planned date for release of subrecipient RFP at this time.
- Governor's Designation WIOA Priority Populations: Governor Inslee updated Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) priority populations. The update was initiated by Washington Workforce Association members and adds several populations to the WIOA Title I focus populations. Next steps include the development of policies to support implementation of this designation, including proposed performance measures and expectations for updating local and state plans.
- Mid-Year Update: Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Budget for Snohomish County - July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022: WIOA formula funding realized a 30% increase for 2021 due to high unemployment and long-term unemployed in the County; PY21: \$5,031,127; PY20: \$3,854,655. Increase of \$1.18M (31%).
- A focus is on diversified funding strategies that align with and advance FWA and WFS strategic priorities around job seeker, employer and strategic partnerships.
 - Approximately \$300,000 of the budget is allocated to support research and analysis, workforce system development, and FWA Strategic plan implementation.
 - One FTE to be hired by WFS to support data compliance and analytics.
 - A priority of the budget is to ensure programs receive increased funding to address demand for services of job seekers, youth and businesses and support/enhance compliance.
 - In addition, WFS will continue to be a good steward of our financial resources, given continued uncertainty pertaining to the pandemic and economic conditions.

- Finally, WFS will start up a cybersecurity program and an RFP for increased capacity training.

Youth Working Group Update

- Rich White, Chair of the Youth Working Group provided an overview of the group's Statement of Work and Understanding.
 - The role of the Working Group is to identify and develop strategic recommendations to create pathways to economic success for youth (ages 14-24) and assisting the FWA in developing and recommending employment and training strategies for Snohomish County's youth.

Future Workforce Alliance Update

- James Henderson of Snohomish County provided the following updates to the Board:
 - Workforce Strategic Plan Implementation Plan Proposal and Next Steps: James Henderson presented a proposal to support the implementation of the Future Workforce Alliance Workforce Strategic Plan that was recently completed. The proposal included the formation of an ad-hoc working group to develop a proposal for strategic plan implementation and to present that proposal to the FWA Board at the March 17, 2022, meeting.
 - Proposed 2022 Board Schedule: The proposed schedule would include quarterly Board meetings beginning in March to support WIOA contracts and activities. Staff would also explore information sessions between the board and key industry businesses, workforce stakeholders, community organizations, and educators to better understand workforce needs. Finally, an annual retreat with board members and stakeholders will be scheduled in October/November to review strategy progress to date, lessons learned, and opportunities for continuous improvement.

Public Comments

No comments were provided.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is on March 17, 2022.

The Future Workforce Alliance Board reviewed and approved the December 15, 2021, minutes at the March 17, 2022, Board meeting. Attested to by:

Richard White

Rich White, Secretary/Treasurer

March 17, 2022

Date