

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
MAY 15, 2009

The minutes from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, May 15, 2009, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Terrietta Robinson at (916) 654-8035 or James W. Scholl at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
Workforce Services Division

Attachment

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, May 15, 2009

Agenda

- 10 a.m. **Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics** Bob Hermsmeier
Workforce Services
Branch (WSB)
- Wagner-Peyser New Hires in One Stops
 - Flat Screens
 - Unemployment Insurance News
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**
- Reporting Requirements Liz Clingman, WSB
 - Financial Management Michael Evashenk, WSB
- Trade Adjustment Act Update** Jose Luis Marquez, WSB
- State Fiscal Year 2009-10 Federal Budget Authority/Allocations** Michael Evashenk, WSB
- Waivers Update** Barbara Halsey
California Workforce
Investment Board

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, May 15, 2009

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics—Jose Luis Marquez, Workforce Services Branch (WSB)

The following items were added to the agenda at the start of the call:

- Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 19-08 NEG National Emergency Grants Funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 Resources,
- Effects of Business, Transportation and Housing (BTH) activity on Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA),
- Employment Development Department's (EDD) Impending Solicitation: ARRA, WIA 15 percent or WIA 25 percent funds as part of FY 2009/10 Allocations,
- TEGL 21-08 Pell Grants and the Payment of Unemployment Benefits to Individuals in Approved Training.

Jose Luis Marquez announced that Bryan Rogers from Long Beach has joined the LWIA Advisory Committee.

Wagner-Peyser New Hires in One-Stops—EDD is hiring additional personnel to provide workforce services in the One-Stop offices. Progress has been made to fill most of the approved positions. Staff placement is based on a number of factors to ensure offices have adequate coverage for the increasing workload.

Flat Screens—Select comprehensive One-Stop Career Centers and EDD Workforce Services Offices will be equipped with a flat screen television and educational digital video disks (DVD). The DVD is intended to assist claimants in filing accurate and completed Unemployment Insurance (UI) claim forms and resolve some of the issues challenging the unemployed.

Unemployment Insurance News—This item was tabled until our next Advisory Committee Conference call.

TEGL 19-08—The State's understanding of the TEGL is that it removes some of the barriers for successfully operating a National Emergency Grant (NEG) program and presents new opportunities. Jose Luis suggested that local areas that have not had a chance to review this TEGL should take time to review it. Local areas can contact the WSB for assistance in submitting and managing NEG projects. Some direct granters (Native Americans and farm worker grantees) from Department of Labor (DOL) can also directly apply for ARRA NEG funds.

ARRA of 2009

- **Reporting Requirements**—The Employment Training Administration (ETA) issued a Federal Register emergency notice on April 30, 2009. This notice addresses ARRA reporting requirements for ETA programs namely WIA and Wagner Peyser. The WSB staff is compiling a chart to show what data are required and what data fields within the Job Training Automation will be used. The ETA is requiring states to forward individual client records to the DOL on a quarterly basis starting with the quarter ending March 31, 2010. These requirements should not put any additional reporting burden on the local areas except for monthly participant data.
- **Financial Management**—The financial reporting requirements under ARRA are basically the same as WIA. The State has established new grant codes to track ARRA funds separately from the regular WIA funds. Unless the DOL requires different reporting requirements, there should be no problems reporting ARRA funds.

Effects of BTH Activity on LWIAs—The BTH has requested that each LWIA submit a list of projects that are “shovel ready” or connected to ARRA funding. The local areas expressed concerns regarding the BTH request. Barbara Halsey suggested that LWIAs go to www.bth.ca.gov and review the overview document regarding the BTH request.

The BTH has met with Agency Secretaries, including Acting Secretary Hoffner. It has been noted that there is a workforce development component that needs to be addressed. The plans that have been developed are being posted, by area, on the BTH website under Regional Economic Recovery Work Plans. The California map included on this site is divided into the 12 Caltrans areas and only 3 of the 12 areas have posted their plans. Ms. Halsey offered to discuss the Workforce Community’s concerns at the May 21, 2009, meeting with BTH.

Trade and Globalization Adjustment Act of 2009 Update—Although new regulations for the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Act have not been published, the new requirements are effective Monday, May 18, 2009. Note: The TEGL on this subject was published the evening of May 15, 2009 (TEGL 22-08). The State is not issuing guidelines until the federal government issues these regulations. The federal government received a number of petitions under the new rules, but told petitioners to withdraw them. It is expected that these petitions will be resubmitted when the new provisions become effective. The states have been given six months for implementation of the new program design.

State Fiscal Year 2009-10 Federal Budget Authority/Allocations—The local area allotments have been published and the sub area allocations have been released.

Impending or Future Grant Solicitation from EDD—The State is going to apply all existing policies to the WIA 25 percent funding received through ARRA. These funds will be available to local areas to fund additional layoffs that cannot be served with their formula funds. With regard to WIA 15 percent proposals, the WSB is processing the requests through EDD, Labor and Workforce Development Agency, California’s Recovery Taskforce and the Governor’s Office.

TEGL 21-09 Pell Grant and other Financial Aid—A conference call was held on May 15, 2009, to discuss the TEGl issued by the DOL and the partnership between the Workforce Services program and the UI program. The TEGl encourages states to: (1) broaden their definition of approved training for UI beneficiaries during economic downturns, (2) notify UI beneficiaries of their potential eligibility for Pell Grants and other student aid, and (3) help individuals apply for Pell Grants through the One-Stop Career Centers. The LWIAs are concerned that the letters to UI claimants will result in a larger volume of clients coming into the One-Stop Centers. Currently, UI Branch is working to develop the letter that will be sent to UI claimants.

Waivers Update—All the current waivers were included when plan extensions were submitted on April 15, 2009. The new waiver for procurement requirements which allows for existing contracts to be amended to service summer youth and increase contract amounts for existing youth service providers is pending. The procurement waiver's comment period closed on May 5, 2009.