

Oregon Employment Department Advisory Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 27, 2014
1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Clif Davis, Chair of the Council. Chair Clif welcomed all present.

Members Present:

Robin Bitrick (via telephone)
Barbara Byrd
Clif Davis, Chair
Thomas Kelley
Bill Kluting
Aniel Yates (via telephone)

Staff to Council:

Melissa Leoni

Members Excused:

Mary Taylor

Others Present:

Lisa Nisenfeld, OED Director
Dee Anna Hassanpour, Deputy UI Administrator
Dave Carpenter, Office Manager, Metro UI Center

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Robin Bitrick to approve the minutes from the September 11 and October 14, 2013 meetings. Motion seconded by Tom Kelley. No discussion. Minutes approved.

Governor's Workforce System Redesign Initiative Update

Lisa Nisenfeld, OED Director, provided the Council with background and a handout describing the recommendations approved by the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) on January 3, 2014. The Council reviewed the 15 recommendations, including recommendation #7 that enhances the role of OWIB and gives it oversight over the Workforce Investment Act funds in Oregon. This recommendation, which is included in the proposed 2014 legislation (SB 1566), will broaden the OWIB's role to include the Employment Department with staffing from the Department. Under recommendation #9 to establish collaborative relationships with other state advisory bodies, the OWIB would look to the OED Advisory Council to be the experts on unemployment insurance. Also discussed was recommendation #6, which is no longer part of the 2014 legislation, although planning work is ongoing in preparation for 2015-2017 budget and legislative discussions.

Council members discussed the status of funding for the workforce system, efforts to assist the long-term unemployed, the potential redistricting of local workforce boards, and the accountability and effectiveness measures of the workforce redesign recommendations.

Agency Update

Lisa Nisenfeld, OED Director, reported that she had been hired to effect change and make improvement in the Department. She updated the Council on the work plan being developed by the agency executive team, including doing the Lean process on unemployment insurance, holding townhalls about WorkSource services this spring, working to improve information technology processes, collaboration with Washington State on service delivery along the Columbia River, and integrating change management into every agency project.

OEDAC January 27, 2014 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Overview and Updates

Dee Anna Hassanpour, Deputy Administrator UI Benefits, and Dave Carpenter, Office Manager, UI Metro Center, gave a presentation focused on a brief overview of the UI program in Oregon, and updates on the Short Time Compensation (aka WorkShare) and Self Employment Assistance (SEA) programs.

State and Federal Legislative Updates

Melissa Leoni reported that the agency is currently reviewing proposed legislation for the 2014 session and will provide the Council with an update during session.

Good of the Order

Lisa Nisenfeld reported that she would like future meetings to include more advice from the Council and fewer presentations from staff, and see the agenda identify where the Department is seeking forward input from the Council. Future meeting dates were briefly discussed. Melissa Leoni will send calendar holds for the March, June, September and December meeting dates (second Tuesday of the month).

The Council discussed the member appointment process as a few members' terms have expired and others are coming up in 2014. The Council also discussed holding the Chair elections at the March meeting, which means that, following past protocol, the new chair will be a management representative. Melissa also noted that the Council binders need to be updated.

Follow Up Items

1. Provide copy of SB 1566 and OED-tracked bills.

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.