

EAWDB Executive Committee/Chief Elected Officials
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 24, 2009

As Approved by Executive Committee..... April 14, 2009
As Approved by CEOsJune 9, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting between Chief Elected Officials and the Eastern Area Workforce Development Board was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Kiva Room of the Hotel Santa Fe in Santa Fe, New Mexico by EAWDB Chairman Jimmie Shearer.

ROLL CALL

Shearer stated that roll call would not be taken and that the sign-in sheet (**Attachment #1**) would be maintained as the official record of those in attendance. He asked that those who might not have signed in to please do so. The sign-in sheet reflects that the following were in attendance and that a quorum was present to conduct business.

CEOs Present: Matt White (Mayor of Eunice), Eileen Sedillo (Alternate for Lincoln County Commission Chair Tom Battin), Orlando Ortega (Mayor of Portales), Judy Stubbs (Alternate for Sam LaGrone, Mayor of Roswell) and Richard Arguello (Union County Commission Chair).

EAWDB Executive Committee Members Present: Jimmie Shearer, Christy Bourgeois-Beasley, Sue Bracksieck, John Merchant, Larry Smith, Skip Overdier, John Hemphill, Ray Battaglini and Gail Melpolder.

EAWDB Executive Committee Members Absent: Becky Rowley and Terri Douglass.

Board Staff Present: Nick Brady, Glennis Erramouspe and Ruby Witt.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS: All present introduced themselves and Chairman Shearer expressed his appreciation for everyone's participation and interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Battaglini, seconded by Overdier, the agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF CEO/EAWDB BUDGET MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2008

Chairman Shearer reported that these minutes had been approved by the Eastern Board in their August 2008 meeting and then requested a motion from a CEO to approve these minutes. On a motion by Union County Commission Chair Auguello, seconded by Mayor Matt White of Eunice, these minutes were officially approved by the CEOs.

DWS UPDATE

Appreciation was expressed by Chairman Shearer to DWS Secretary Betty Doris and Deputy Secretary Teresa Gomez for their attendance at our meeting.

Secretary Doris stated she was happy to be in attendance and said t she was excited to have gotten as far as we have with local integration of the one stop centers. Having various partners under one roof will not only save money for the agencies involved but will provide better service delivery to clients needing the services provided by partner agencies.

Doris stated that the Department of Workforce Solutions did not prepare a legislative agenda for this session as the Department had their work cut out in continuing with the integration process.

Doris said expects many dollars to be added to the adult/dislocated worker and youth funding streams by the Economic Recovery Act and said that first time in many years the state will have a summer youth program. Once these funds are received from the USDOL by the Department, the DWS will make this money available to local boards within thirty days. She said that the various providers of the board should begin gearing-up to utilize these additional funds.

Deputy Secretary Gomez reported that the states are expected to spend these funds quickly and efficiently and stressed the importance of transparency and accountability.

When Secretary Doris had completed her comments, Chairman Shearer requested that the CEO's present be allowed to discuss local/regional economic conditions while

Secretary Doris and Deputy Gomez were still in attendance. Both the CEOs and Executive Committee were agreeable.

Discussion on Local Issues:

Union County: County Commission Chair Richard Arguello reported that while the detention facility has been a big boon for the local economy, that workers had left jobs with other employers to work for the prison. The biggest challenge for the county is securing workers. There is a need for people with CDL licenses. Agriculture/farming is main industry.

Lea County: Ray Battaglini reported that Lea County was in serious need of workers and housing. There has been little layoff in the oil fields. Five new hotels have been opened and there are workforce needs in the hospitality industry.

Portales: Mayor Ortega reported that Portales was doing very well. Jobs were being created and that the current unemployment rate is somewhere between 3-4% and consists mainly of individuals who do not want to work. Industries are healthy doing well. He said that Eastern New Mexico University is experiencing their highest enrollment in thirty years.

There have been recent issues with the DWS offices relating to staff cut-backs. Secretary Doris said she was aware of this and that there will be some relief.

Roswell: Judy Stubbs said the City is spending a lot of time negotiating with the Police Union. In her job as a regional representative, she said employment is down in the area and that she believes folks are underemployed.

Eunice: Mayor White said there he nuclear facility had 150 jobs over \$100,000 per year. Unemployment under 2%. Need for housing is a critical issue.

Ruidoso: John Hemphill stated unemployment was at 4%. There has been a large influx of individuals entering the one-stop regarding unemployment.

CHAIRMAN's REPORT

One-Stop Contract Extensions: Shearer explained that the board had originally intended to RFP the one-stop contracts for the period beginning July 1, 2009. He said the board had reconsidered this and decided not to RFP the contracts at this time due to all the extra work which had been placed on the current one-stop providers and the administrative staff in connection with the integration process. He requested a motion from the CEOs approving of the Board's action. **A motion was made by Mayor White, seconded by Arguello and adopted to approve at least a one-year extension to**

the current one stop contracts.

Board Vacancies: Shearer called the CEO's attention to the Board Vacancy List (**Attachment #2**) included in the meeting packets and asked CEO's to work with their local chambers of commerce/economic development organizations to fill these existing vacancies as soon as possible.

It is noted that Eileen (Lovelace) Sedillo, has asked to remain on the board as a private sector member from Lincoln County and she, therefore, will not need to be replaced.

ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY REPORT

TANF Challenge Update: Brady gave a brief update on the status of the TANF Challenge Project at the various colleges.

Website Development: Brady told the CEOs that a website for the Eastern Board was currently under development and currently contains board membership, policies as well as one stop and youth provider lists.

Additional Funding Sources: CEOs were informed of SB 417, 418 and 422 which had been introduced by Senator Morales from Silver City in the current legislative session. Brady said he was not optimistic that these bills would pass but said he was confident that their introduction would bring the importance of additional workforce funding for the four local boards to the attention of the NM legislature. Brady further mentioned SB435 introduced by Linda Lopes requesting \$5 million from the general fund for a statewide summer youth program.

Youth Activity Report: Sue Bracksieck, Chair of the Youth Council, referred those present to the January Youth Activity Report (**Attachment #3**) which reflects various activities in each of the youth provider's offices in our twelve county area.

OPERATIONS/FINANCE

Skip Overdier, Chairman of the Operations/Finance Committee presented to the following reports as a matter of information:

WIA/TANF Financials: The December financial for WIA and TANF (**Attachments 4 and 5**).

Revenue/Expense Statements: Reports as of December 31st for the one-stops in Roswell and Clovis (**Attachment #6**). Chairman Shearer suggested changes be made by the fiscal agent to this report which would make it more meaningful. Glennis Erramouspe, Chief Financial Officer for EPCOG, said she would do so.

One Stop Obligation Report: The one-stop obligation report for month ending January 31, 2008 (**Attachment #7**).

One Stop Activity Report: Activity Reports reflecting various activities within the local one-stops for the month of January 2009 and YTD (**Attachment #8**) were presented and briefly discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Shearer reminded everyone that the annual contracts/budget meeting between the Chief Elected Officials and the Eastern Board is scheduled on June 9, 2009 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Roswell Job Corps Center located at 57 G Street in Roswell, NM. He asked the CEOs to save this date and be with us at this meeting as we approved the board's budget and subcontracts for the period July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

Shearer again expressed his appreciation of all those who participated in this meeting. There being no further business to come before these two groups, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

AS APPROVED

Jimmie Shearer
EAWDB Chairman