



NEMO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

111E. Monroe • Paris, Missouri 65275 • www.nemowib.org • (660) 327-5125 • Fax (660) 327-5128

**NEMO Workforce Development Board (WDB)
Employer Engagement Committee Meeting
January 16, 2018**

Members Present

Annette Sweet
Jim Kolve
Pat Poepping
Corey Mehaffy

WDB Staff

Diane Simbro
Shelia Jurgesmeyer

Members Absent

Lesa Barber
Diane Noah
Darin Arnsmeier
Mac Wilt
Stephen Garner
Dennis Gill
Clinton Flowers
Gabe Suddrath

Guests

Shari Schenewerk
Rita Brown
Sheree Prebe
Allysia Long
Kim Cull
Polly Matteson
Randy Lane
Bryan Barnes
Brandi Glover
Janet Hickey

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Jim Kolve called the January 16, 2018 Employer Engagement Committee Meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. at the Missouri Job Center-Hannibal in Hannibal, MO.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and a signature sheet was signed by those attending. Four committee members were present, and a quorum was established.

INTRODUCTIONS OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Everyone introduced themselves.

**NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE
CERTIFIED WORK READY COMMUNITIES**

• Update on County Progress – Shari Schenewerk & Rita Brown

Shari Schenewerk said Warren County was now certified and Lincoln County only needed three or four more. There is usually not a lot of movement in December and January. They finally got information to connect with someone at Missouri State Technical College who does testing at the correctional facilities.

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They were in the early stages of setting things up at the facility at Randolph, and it looks like they will have regular testing set up between the Macon AEL and the Probation and Parole Offices. New data is being submitted to ACT due to the decline in unemployment and they are waiting for ACT to adjust the numbers. She explained how the higher unemployment numbers of the past affected the transitioning numbers of the counties. She hoped to get a report on the new numbers soon.

Rita Brown said testing dates had been set for Marion and Ralls County and Palmyra. They would be testing in Palmyra on April 24 and Ralls County would be March 1st and 2nd. Staff at the Hannibal Schools would be getting back with her to set that date. She said the Hannibal Schools were going to be more difficult due to the large number of tests. They are hoping to be able to cover the expense with what was requested and the money Mark Grieshaber raised which was a little over \$4000 for Marion and Ralls Counties and they hoped to cover Hannibal with the remainder.

Shari said testing for 17 year old individuals had to be paid either locally or through a grant. Those over 18 could test at no charge. Ralls and Marion applied and received grant money for those under age 18. However, the amount they received doesn't cover all of the seniors. A lot of the schools either test everyone or no one. Diane said we also have funding through the University Missouri Extension to assist with the testing.

Janet Hickey said the testing for Montgomery County had been delayed. The last email she received on January 12 said the State hadn't reached an agreement with ACT so they could not order the paper/pencil test. Therefore, they had to cancel the February 2nd date. Shari said she would look into the issue to see if she could get any updated information.

Rita said the Palmyra School District had been really helpful in promoting the NCRC. They even contacted the local media and WGEM did a profile for them which was really helping to get the word out. It was noted that the online test cost \$27 for all three test and the paper/pencil test was about \$45 to \$50. The only way to test at the Corrections facilities is with the paper/pencil test.

Shari said Adair, Randolph and Warren Counties were the only Northeast counties certified at this time. However several others were close.

• **Job Center Monthly Update on NCRC Traffic – Diane**

Diane Simbro provided a detailed report showing the activity of the NCRC at each Northeast Region Job Center. She said the data would be used to discuss where more work was needed to promote the program and what might be done to raise the numbers. She said the report would be emailed to everyone. For the months of November and December the NCRC had been marketed to 229 individuals 15 had tested and 14+ (still waiting on Nov numbers from Hannibal for achieved) had achieved the NCRC. She said the test was lengthy and getting people to take the time to test was a challenge. She felt finding a way to entice individuals to want the test was needed.

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Shari said we should see some of those individuals from Buckhorn who lost their jobs (approximately 60) coming in to test for the NCRC because of the Trade Act Program requirements.

Diane said we are currently working on an Apprenticeship grant and one of the requirements for individuals to be an apprentice was that they take the NCRC. Shari said in meetings she had attended regarding the Skilled Workforce MO, it had been discussed that the NCRC would be a part of any kind of recruitment training assistance individuals receive as well.

Pat Poepping asked how many employers were requiring the NCRC. Rita said the City of Monroe was using it and other counties were supporting it. She said if we could get more employers to use it, it would be very beneficial but it was a challenge for employers because of turnover.

Diane said there had been conversation about extended hours and possible testing on Saturdays to help accommodate some individuals who wished to test. It may not have been successful when tried before, but we may want to keep the idea on the table if we are able to increase the numbers of employers that prefer the NCRC. We may also want to consider breaking up the testing instead of doing all three hours at once.

DATES FOR MO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Diane said the upcoming Missouri Hospital Association meeting was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. February 7th at the Hannibal Regional Hospital in Hannibal, MO. Jill Williams the facilitator for the meeting would be sending out invitations to everyone.

GROWTH SERVICES GROUP PRESENTATION

Corey Maheffy provided a presentation from the Growth Services Group (GSG) regarding a new program based on Gallup data that is designed to work with existing employers in expanding profit and productivity through employee engagement. He provided handouts and discussed the information. Individuals were asked to partner with GSG and introduce them to area employers to get them to engage with the program. GSG would do the marketing of the program. More information would be provided in a future meeting to better explain the program. In 6 weeks, they would like to see a commitment of employers with 10 employers recruited. The meetings with the employers to explain the program, would be one face-to-face three hour meeting with an additional one day presentation.

It was noted that there would be no NEMO Workforce Development Board meeting in February; however, the information would be provided to the Executive Committee for discussion.

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NEMO REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Pathways Consultant/Career Advisor Polly Matteson with the NE Regional Professional Development Center at Truman State University provided information regarding D.A.R.T.S (Discovering Alternative Routes to Success).

Polly said student's exposure to a job/career was key when they were deciding their major. Students really needed to talk to people who were in the field of their interest to find out what the day to day job was really like.

As a Pathways Career Consultant, she works with employers to find out what their needs are. As a Career Advisor, she goes into the classrooms to provide presentations and works with teachers and counselors to give them ideas of ways they can incorporate career development into their classrooms. Currently she has two projects going on. One is for teachers and is a Career Pathways Internship where they are touring businesses in the region. The other is a Career Awareness program designed for seventh graders called Discovering Alternative Routes to Success (D.A.R.T.S). This will be an opportunity for students to explore diverse career paths through hands on, interactive table exhibits, with an emphasis on what is often thought non-traditional, based on gender. Date for the event will be March 21, 2018 at the Truman State University Student Union Building. Morning session are at 8:30-11:15 and the afternoon session will be 11:30-2:15. Prior to the event, each student attending will take the MO Connections Interest Inventory and will list their top three on the registration form.

Diane said the NEMO WDB Youth Council had been discussing this very thing and would like to be involved in and aware of these events and assist where possible.

OTHER BUSINESS

Diane said there hadn't been any recent updates to the NEMO WDB website. However, there was a NCRC link on the webpage that links to the WorkKeys site where the current status of the counties could be found.

Jim Kolve provided a handout regarding Missouri High School graduation rates. Missouri ranked sixth.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at the Kirksville Job Center.

ADJOURN

Pat Poepping moved that the meeting be adjourned and the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00.

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