

NoRTEC
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2012
TELECONFERENCE

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Otto, Governing Board Chair, at 2:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The following governing board members were present: Steve Lambert, Gerry Hemmingsen, Jim Chapman, Ed Scofield, Les Baugh, Jim Cook, George Russell, and Wendy Otto. NoRTEC staff members Stewart Knox and Michael Cross were also present.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ACTION)

The meeting agenda was approved by consensus.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

V. NoRTEC Workforce Investment Board Composition (DISCUSSION)

Wendy Otto started the discussion about WIB composition with a reminder that NoRTEC had received an EDD finding in its latest monitoring report about insufficient labor representation on WIB. She also discussed recent state legislation that affects local WIB composition. She said that EDD state monitors were going to be looking at local WIB composition to make sure that there were no retired members serving.

S. Knox said that the High Performing WIBs legislation SB 698 is driving the examination of WIB composition and that SB 294 requires 15% Labor representation, whereas NoRTEC is currently only at 13% labor. He said that the WIB has several retired members and other members who may not have a tie to the labor market as required by the WIA legislation. Knox also said the third issue is the size of the current WIB which is expensive to support, and that a smaller WIB could save \$15,000-\$20,000 in board costs.

W. Otto stated that she asked NoRTEC staff to draw up a possible WIB composition that would meet all state and WIA requirements. The WIB composition proposal prepared by staff was discussed by the members.

M. Cross noted that the WIA does not require any CalWORKS/TANF representation on the WIB, but that NoRTEC had decided to add representation from that sector with three current members. Cross stated that the proposed plan includes one CalWorks/TANF representative.

G. Hemmingsen inquired about the definition of “retired” as it relates to WIB service. S. Knox stated that private sector WIB members must be (1) owners of businesses, chief executives or operating officers of businesses, and other business executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority; and (2) Represent businesses with employment opportunities that reflect employment opportunities of the local area, and (3) be appointed from among individuals nominated by local business organizations and business trade associations.

S. Knox stated that members from sectors other than the private sector would need to be an active, official representative of their organization, such as an employee or board member.

W. Otto noted that WIB Chair Hiram Oilar was invited to join this meeting and has been kept informed about this process. She also noted that the proposed plan has all WIB terms ending on June 30th, and that all current WIB members would be asked to reapply for a seat on the reconstituted board. Under this proposal, the Governing Board would meet in late June to select members for the new WIB to start July 1st, with a lottery drawing for staggered terms of either two or four years.

M. Cross stated that the plan called for NoRTEC staff to develop a new WIB application form which would be distributed to all current WIB members at the April WIB meeting. Then the Governing Board could review the applications and make decisions about whom to appoint.

J. Cook suggested that WIB members who are not reappointed should be honored for their many years of public service. W. Otto stated that honoring the service of WIB members who are not reappointed had been discussed with staff.

G. Russell stated that the WIB restructuring issue should be an agenda item at the April WIB/GB meeting so that everyone could discuss the issue and the go over the WIB requirements together.

J. Chapman objected to the proposed plan developed by staff and stated that each county should have representation from business, labor and education, comprising a “three-legged stool,” which has historically made workforce training programs successful.

S. Knox suggested that the seats could be assigned, to the extent practicable, so that each county would have at least one “at-large” seat. This would allow each county to

generally have at least two representatives on the WIB. A general discussion of this possibility followed. W. Otto suggested that this compromise plan be sent out to members of the Governing Board for further discussion at the next meeting.

E. Scofield stated that he was comfortable with the proposed structure. G. Russell added that it was important to have local programs that are involved.

VI. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION)

Upcoming Governing Board Meeting

A follow-up teleconference meeting to discuss the WIB restructuring was scheduled for March 28, 2012, at 2:00 pm.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by W. Otto at 3:25 pm.