



**Executive Committee Agenda**  
**September 11, 2023 from 1pm-2pm**  
**Virtual Meeting Via Zoom or Phone**

**Attendees: Dave, K'lynn**  
**Staff: Heather, Jessica, Fish, Teresa**  
**Called to order at 12:59**

**1:00pm: Consent Agenda – K'Lynn Lane, Chair**

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from August Executive Committee Meeting – *vote required*
  - *Dave made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, K'Lynn seconded. Motion passed with none opposed - and minutes are approved as written.*

**1:05pm: Strategic Planning Update – Heather Ficht, staff**

Share bid solicitation and current plan – *information only*

- Bids for facilitating the creation of the new Strategic Plan are due next Monday, September 18, 2023, and the committee consisting of – Erin Szymoniak, Jaime Eder, Dave Burger, Julie Matthews, and Soledad Haines will meet Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> to choose the prevailing provider. The new Strategic Plan will include targets, benchmarks, and goals. The Local Plan, required by WIOA, will be developed in the spring, and will be based on our Strategic Plan outcomes.

**1:20pm: Funding Updates – Heather Ficht, staff**

Share updates on various funding opportunities being pursued – *information only*

- OWP's Future Ready grant should be announced in October. This will compliment the Pathways Home grant and provide the remainder of the staffing costs.
- ECW staff submitted the Oregon Youth Employment Program (OYEP) grant last week. This money provides funding for youth internship costs that are more flexible than WIOA. ECW receives baseline funding of ~\$330k and submitted a proposal for the competitive funds to complement that as well for a total ask of ~\$1M.
- Benefits Navigator funding – we will be submitting our letter of intent at the end of this month. One idea is to utilize technology to better serve our outlying counties so that customers can connect to their local comprehensive WorkSource Oregon office virtually. This will help solve the problems of having to travel long distances and lack the of internet access in some of our rural and frontier areas.

**1:35pm Talent Hub – Teresa Cummings Weir, staff**

Share information on the new platform to facilitate internships across the region – *information only*

- Talent Hub is a fully customizable internship tracking system that helps align all community-based organizations with internship programs, who opt in and agree to follow our protocols. This system also creates one system for businesses to upload their



internship opportunities hopefully making it less confusing when working with multiple youth serving organizations. Essentially employers post opportunities and internship coaches match youth who are deemed work ready. ECW is rolling out Talent Hub slowly across our region in the hopes that all the bugs get worked out prior to opening it up to outside organizations. This system leverages Gorge Works, Youth Career Connect and Klamath Promise.

### **1:50pm Updates – all**

- PBS Newshour update – Heather
  - Producer decided to go to the valley instead of using our region so it is unlikely ECW will be highlighted.
- New Board members – Heather
  - K'Lynn will remain board chair- she owns a photography business, Memory Lane Photography and we are so grateful to have her remain in her position.
  - Lindsey Giamei – Toasted Maple, small business owner in The Dalles.
  - Greg Davis – Overwatch Imaging, does high-tech photography for events like wildfires, etc. and is located in the Gorge.
  - Chad Young – Skanska
- WORKing Together – only 3-4 board members not attending so great turn out, will get a full board photograph scheduled.
- Dave Burger:
  - Central Oregon is busy with construction projects and finding enough workers. Meta is in the upkeep stage of construction with renovations of their first buildings starting but they only kept a third of their workforce. Apple is pretty much done except for some modular buildings scheduled. Redmond airport has an upcoming project next year.
  - Next week is AFL-CIO conference in Bend – Thursday-Saturday then the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Convention is the following week in Klamath Falls.
- Fish –
  - Started Leadership Bend last week.
- Teresa –
  - Went to California Workforce Association's conference last week and shared some takeaways.
- Jessica –
  - ECW will start the annual single audit process with auditor Jones & Roth in a few weeks. This project lasts a few months and they will present the outcomes at our full board meeting in December.
  - HECC will be onsite in our Bend office at the end of September to audit ECW's WIOA program. They sampled 15 transactions and the supporting materials for those and they also look at our policies and procedures to ensure compliance.
- K'Lynn –



- This is her last week at the chamber of commerce and will transition into her new role at the Ford Family Foundation.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:58pm**