



workforce
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

WSW Board Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2022
4:00 p.m.
Zoom Conference Call

Board Members Present: Darcy Altizer, Chris Bailey, Jen Baker, Karen Bowerman, Mike Bridges, Bob Carroll, Renny Christopher, Ralph Clark, Monte Constable, Karin Edwards, Lekha Fernandes, Bob Gustainis, Ilona Kerby, Mara Kieval, Diane McWithey, A.D. Simmons, Paige Spratt, Shannon Stull, Lee Tischer, and John Vanderkin.

Board Members with Excused Absences: Tracy Doriot, and Ted Sprague.

Board Members with Unexcused Absences: Eddie Martin.

Guests Present: Tim McGann and Tennille Johnson.

Staff Members Present: Linda Czech, Denise Elliott, Amy Gimlin, Miriam Halliday, Betsy Hanrahan, Darcy Hoffman, Barri Horner, Alyssa Joyner, Kari Kollander, Julia Maglione, Sean Moore, Star Rush, Tamara Toles, Benton Waterous, and Traci Williams.

Welcome, Introduction of Members, Guests, and Staff

Chair Paige Spratt opened the meeting at 4:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Members, guests, and staff introduced themselves in the chat box.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Spratt entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of the minutes from the Council meeting held on December 8, 2021, Contract Memo, and Policy Memo; which included 2011 Stevens Amendment Requirements, Coordinated Business Services Policy #4002 Rev 2, and Eligibility Handbook.

Karen Bowerman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Shannon Stull. Motion carried.

WSW FINANCE

WSW Treasurer, Renny Christopher presented the treasurers' memo to the full Board, mentioning that WSW's financial audit report for the program year ending June 30, 2021, which consisted of no issues or findings. Treasurer Christopher also mentioned that the WSW IRS Form 990 was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and later reviewed and approved by the Executive Board and will be timely filed by the WSW auditor.

Treasurer Renny Christopher also shared that the WSW budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 will be developed over the next three months. A draft will be available for review by the

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Finance Committee and Executive board at a meeting in May with the final draft presented to the full board at the June meeting for review and approval.

WSW GOVERNANCE

Governance Co-Chair A.D. Simmons shared that the Executive board had two open seats that needed to be filled asap. The Governance Committee nominated both Monte Constable and Darcy Altizer, the Executive board unanimously approved at the February Executive board meeting. Also shared was that the Governance board extended an invite to Tracy Doriot to join the WSW Governance Committee, which he accepted. In efforts to cultivate an inclusive environment for our new board members in the coming months, the Governance Committee has created a Sponsorship Subcommittee and will be reaching out to the full board for support in this effort in the coming months.

Governance Co-Chair A.D. Simmons also gave an update on the recruitment efforts for the 11 open seats on the WSW board. The Governance Committee has been successful in recruiting ten leaders in our community. Those ten individuals have submitted their applications and Governance will review and nominate the new members to the April and May Executive board meetings. The prospective board members will be put forth in front of the full WSW board at the June board meeting for final approval. The Governance Committee is still actively seeking a private sector representative from Wahkiakum County.

WSW ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Board member Shannon Stull shared the economic mobility grant report out to the full board to provide a status snapshot of WSW's major investments. Shannon Stull highlighted some of the successes for NW Promise. Also shared was on of the challenges of the Thrive initiative, which is expected to be underspent and underperformed as it moves to the end of the grant cycle. WSW is looking ahead to the development of a new contract with ESD for ESCA round 2 and is working to spend out remaining program funds. WSW has successfully supported the emerging Neighborhood Resource Coordination Council nonprofit, as well as successfully brokered a data sharing agreement between WSW and DSHS to allow for employment focused outreach to SNAP enrolled individuals. Questions were addressed and answered by WSW CEO Miriam Halliday and WSW's Director of Programs, Benton Waterous.

WOMEN in the WORKFORCE

CEO Miriam Halliday gave the full board a presentation on Women in the Workforce, highlighting on labor force participation, average monthly wages, average earning by race, % of industry jobs held by women, and how WSW investments are being used. Board members Renny Christopher, Paige Spratt, Dr. Karin Edwards, and Darcy Altizer shared some experiences that they have gone through with the full board. The full board, WSW staff, and guests were then placed into break out rooms to discuss ways to promote economic opportunities for women in SW Washington.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT

Public comments were invited but none were forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further for the good of the order, Chair Spratt entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Diane McWithey moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m.