MINUTES

NORTHWEST OREGON WORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING

April 26, 2024

Tillamook Bay Community College

Present:

Board:
Tony Erickson, Oregon AERO, Chair; **Linda Dugan**, Linda Dugan Insurance; **Todd Simmons**, Tillamook Peoples' Utility District; **Whitey Forsman**, Pacific Oyster; **Angeline Chan-Pepper**, Oregon Employment Dept.; **Eric Sherman**, IBEW Local 932; **Kirstin Salmi**, WCT Marine; **Lauren Smith**, DHS, Vocational Rehabilitation; **Lisa Avery,** Linn-Benton Community College; **John Hawkins**, Service Employees International Union; **Gabe Gurule**, Corvallis Fire Department; **Greg Morill,** Bergson Construction Inc.; **Than Tussing**, Fast Lube and Oil;

Excused:
Ann Buchele, Linn-Benton Community College; **Carrie Norris,** Samaritan Health Service; **Heather Taksdal,** Zwald Transport Inc.; **Jordan Meier**, Driftwood Restaurant; **Mario Calderon**, Local 737; **Paul Davis**, JBT Lektro; **Terre Cooper,** Tillamook County Economic Development; **Zach Poole**, Pig' n Pancake, Vice Chair/Secretary;

Consortium:
Pat Malone, Benton County Commissioner; **Pamela Wev,** Clatsop County Commissioner; **Casey Garrett**, Columbia County Commissioner; **Casey Miller**, Lincoln County Commissioner; **Doug Olson**, Tillamook County Commissioner;

Staff:
Jason Swain, NOW CCO; **Adrienne Peters**, Project Manager; **Logan Garner**, Youth Programs Manager; **Emily Schwartz**, Accounting Technician; **Brittney Lane**, Executive Assistant; **Aylee Rhea,** Program Manager; **Heather DeSart**, Executive Director; **Kortnie Williams**, Behavioral Health Program Coordinator; **Katrina Sturgeon**, Workforce Benefit Navigator;

1. **CALL TO ORDER, CONFIRMATION OF POSTING, and ROLL CALL**
   Chairman Erickson called the Meeting to order at 10:05am.
   Chairman Erickson asked for confirmation of the public posting of the meeting; Ms. Lane confirmed; Roll Call taken, quorum was established.

2. **REVIEW and APPROVE AGENDA**
   Agenda was approved with no corrections, additions, or removals.
   MOTION: John Hawkins **SECOND: Eric Sherman** **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**
   No public comment was made.

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
   - Accept staff's recommendation to approve minutes from January 26, 2024 Board Meeting

   MOTION: Eric Sherman SECOND: John Hawkins MOTION CARRIED.

5. **DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION** – Nadia Costa, Jones and Roth
   - Accept Staff's recommendation to approve PY 22-23 Audit Report

   Nadia gave an in-depth report of the audit report for PY22-23. She stated that NOW was great during compliance and the audit happened with no issues or finding. She also talked about NOW's money stewardship and how NOW was in compliance with all the rules and regulations.
   MOTION: John Hawkins SECOND: Eric Sherman MOTION CARRIED.

6. **INFORMATION** – Heather DeSart, Executive Director, NOW
   New Board Member Introductions (10 minutes)
   Heather introduced the new board members that had been appointed in during the last consortium meeting. The new board members are Than Tussing, Lisa Avery, and Angeline Chan-Pepper. Each board member was given a couple of minutes to introduce themselves. After introductions were finished, Heather also explained that a new County Commissioner had joined the Consortium Board and that Pamela Wev had been "promoted" to the CLEO position on the Consortium Board.

7. **INFORMATION** – Jason Swain, CCO, NOW
   Executive Committee Updates (10 minutes)
   Jason notified the board that there was an executive committee meeting and that the meeting approved NOW's use of a Money Market account for the funds that we are receiving and that the money that was earned as interest would be put right back into the unrestricted funds and used for programming. No questions were brought up during the discussion.

8. **INFORMATION** –Diana Nish, Equus
   Tillamook Highlights PY 23 (10 minutes)
   Diana Nish and Carla Lyman gave a presentation on Equus and their participants and how their program is doing in Tillamook county. They also went over a couple of success stories and impacts that their program is having on participants' lives.

9. **INFORMATION** – Logan Garner, Youth Program Manager, NOW
   Youth and Tillamook County Updates (15 minutes)
   Logan updated the Board about the Youth Program. He talked about the Maritime Boat Project that he wants to get underway and buy the kits to have welding participants build the boats. Logan also explained that NOW is going to be able to keep the profits from the boats to put into the program funding to keep the program sustainable.

10. **INFORMATION –** Kortnie Williams, Behavioral Health Program Coordinator, NOW
    Behavioral Health Funding Updates (15 minutes)
    Kortnie gave a brief presentation on the Behavioral Health programs that she is heading and explained the expansion that she's been able to accomplish within her programs. She also talked about ideas to keep the program self-sustaining.

11. **INFORMATION** – Shaun Barrick, OED
    Oregon Employment Department Economic Update (20 minutes)
    Shaun presented about NOW's region of Oregon's Economic and Employment updates. He talked about the steady decline of unemployment and how Oregon has reached a steady plateau since the pandemic.

12. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT** – Tony Erickson, Chair
    Tony said he had only a small report and informed the Board of his family status and how he's taking care of his mother now and his siblings are helping. He talked about how he appreciates the Board and NOW staff for helping cover while he's been in turmoil and that he's excited about attending more board meetings in person and looking forward to a new "normal."

13. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Heather DeSart, NOW Executive Director
    Heather made a lengthy statement about the Rendezvous Event her and two other staff members attended. She also presented Tony's award as well as an award for Birgitte due to her retirement and leaving the Board. Heather gave Katrina a minute to introduce herself and the WBN position. Heather also spoke for a minute about the Maritime Grant and that the Local Plan has been received by the state and that we should hear that it's approved sometime in June.

14. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** – Roundtable
    No Board Member comment was made.

15. **SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION**
    Doug Hunt was in attendance of the meeting. He stood up to make a couple of comments about how he really loved the NOW board and how he was one of the founding members and that the NOW board is one of the things he's most proud of. He explained that he was happy to see it thriving and hoped that NOW continued on this path and helped the community and stayed self-sufficient. Doug also made congratulations to Tony and commended him for his service and his capabilities.

16. **ADJOURN**
    The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.