

HGEI State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) Membership Meeting
Thursday, September 9, 2010, 10:00 – 12 Noon
Conference Center Rooms 1 & 2

Meeting Minutes

Attendees/DWD Staff:

Nate Klinck (member), Acting Chair
Patty Van
Fannie Cox
James Fenrick

Attendees (in-person):

Alison Cole
Barbara Street
Gary Gatman
Jim Heck
Mike Patrick
Ron McKulick
Sherm Johnson

Attendees (call-in):

David Blumenthal
Deborah Waymire
John Corcoran
John Schneider
Lisa Lee

Absent:

Bart Brown
Brandon Seitz
Cathy Tripodi
Dennis Southerland
Gerald Rea
Kathleen Randolph
Kris Deckard
Mike Sheek
Ron Keeping

Assignments/Action items for December 8, 2010 meeting:

1. Mr. Klinck asked the membership for their assistance in establishing an initial listing of certificates programs in their respective areas and to send their lists two weeks before the next meeting. DWD staff will merge the information and have available for discussion at the next meeting.
2. Regional Operators must select a Case Manager who will be responsible for creating and modifying participant information into the RAD system.

Mr. Klinck, acting Chair, welcomed everyone, officially called the meeting to order at 10:10 am, and conducted roll call. Of the 22 members, 13 were in attendance, either in person or by telephone, and a quorum was present.

Prior to the meeting, an agenda, a copy of the May 19 meeting minutes, and other materials were electronically distributed to the membership. Mr. Klinck asked if all had had an opportunity to read the minutes, asked for corrections/additions, and called for a motion to accept as written. There was a motion and second and the minutes were unanimously approved and accepted as written.

Mr. Klinck opened the meeting with brief discussion of the status of grant projects and by asking members to give consideration to the types of strategies to move the grant forward, moving from operational to more strategic issues. Further, he suggested that the focus of the group is to move from operational/details to strategies – to address training relative to certifications of value in emerging, green industries.

Project Updates

Ron McKulick and Jim Heck, regional operators from Regions 10 and 11, respectively, were asked to give updates on their regions' projects.

Region 10 Update

Region 10, like 11, has a specialized project; the Mid-American Science Park (MASP). Formerly known as the Training, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (TIE) Center, MASP will serve as a bi-regional training center established to, among its other objectives, train bi-regional displaced workers to support the growth of energy-based businesses. The Science Park has purchased a 100,000 sq ft building that is being transformed into labs to support training and other business needs.

Mr. McKulick briefly discussed the July 2 meeting with staff, area business representatives and DWD staff that led to some consensus building around training objectives and needs. The MASP is slated to open early 2011.

Mr. McKulick is working with Ivy Tech Community College on green training evaluations for 25 programs. Further, he is developing a survey which will be disseminated to southern Indiana businesses to determine needs to be able to assemble training programs that meet the needs of employers. Some of programs will focus on providing credentialed training to incumbent workers, at no cost to the participant. He intimated that he felt the region would meet its training objectives and outcomes.

Regional 11 Update

Jim Heck, regional operator, also gave an update on the region's progress toward curriculum development, training and employment. Regional 11's Advanced Energy Center will serve as the facilitator of a wide array of training programs currently offered by the education and training around clean coal technology. Vincennes University has

two courses the region is considering for use in training engineers and general maintenance workers. Mr. Heck estimated that training will begin mid year 2011 and approximately 400 individuals will participate in their training program.

Recovery Act Data (RAD) System Update

Fannie Cox, DWD Office of Policy staff, gave a brief update on the Department of Labor (DOL) newly implemented RAD system. An information packet was provided to SESP membership prior to the meeting as well as on-line links to the webinar and user guide. Ms. Cox provided information about user roles, login instructions, and guidelines about utilizing the data system.

Staff who will enter data will continue to enter data in the state's tracking system and will enter similar data into RAD. DWD staff will review data in RAD prior to submitting to the DOL. DWD staff will provide a calendar to regional staff indicating dates by which data and information should be entered into the RAD system.

Certificate Program Review

Mr. Klinck led open discussion about certification programs and on-the job training. Much discussion ensued about determining and defining green training and qualifying certificate programs. Mr. Klinck stated that he was hesitant to put out specific guidelines and wanted some flexibility to be as inclusive as possible when making those determinations. Mr. Klinck suggested that trade partners might be farther along in defining green certificates and could get certificate program through labor partners.

He later asked each regional representative to provide a brief update on the various projects. While there seemed to be progress in some regions, in some others, staff were having discussions with many companies and saw future opportunities, but had not established firm agreements with any companies. Many reiterated concern around determining what qualifies as green and how to interpret specific policies (TAA) relative to OJT guidelines.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SESP Steering Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 and will be hosted by Mike Patrick.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.