

## **Salt Lake & Tooele Employer Committee (SLTEC) Meeting Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

Department of Workforce Services, Administration Building, 140 E 300 S Room #CR101, SLC, UT 84111  
Laurel Morris, Host (801) 468-0228

**Attendees:** Paul Ledesma, Jennifer Bastian, Julia Bench, Jill Boyle, James Glade, Tammy Scantlin (for Summer Palmer), Roberta Williams, Donna Gonzalez, Christine Kronkow, Jeff Ereksen, Sean Morris, Debbie Pazos, Brent Anderson, Cici Compton, Faye Martell, Laurel Morris, Amber Adams, Kim Lam, Tala Lakin, and Vicki Giesler,

**Excused:** Summer Palmer, Craig Sandberg, Jared Smith, Sarah Gloyn, Joe Tate, and Tracy Taggart  
**Guest:** Dave Ostrom

Paul Ledesma, SLTEC Chair, welcomed the group to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Dave Ostrom, DWS Assistant Deputy Director, shared an update on the Department of Workforce Services. DWS is undergoing major organizational change. Eligibility functions of the Department are now under one Division rather than divided into 5 geographical regions. Jon Pierpont, the former Director of Central Region is the new Eligibility Services Division Director. This reorganization coincides with the implementation of a comprehensive new eligibility computer system called EREP.

Dave indicated that the reorganization will result in an overall cut in eligibility positions. The goal is to centralize functions where appropriate, improve customer service by through process improvement, and reduce duplication of services. The next step is to redesign the rest of DWS, which includes employer and job seeker services. Dave noted that there are no firm answers about what "Business Services" will look like in the future.

Dave expressed DWS' appreciation for SLTEC and thanked the committee for the letter that was submitted to DWS leadership. He stated that DWS needs employers and employer input in the redesign process. He stated that he will look for ways to include employer input for both the redesign effort and the stimulus related programs.

Dave and Laurel provided information about a summer internship program for young adults (18-24) that will serve about 300 youth in Central Region. Employers will be asked to provide meaningful training and DWS will pay the interns a stipend.

Paul Ledesma mentioned that letter the committee submitted to DWS upper management expressed their desire to remain a strong partner and to be included in the discussion. He added that the members have the desire to help, but that they need to do it within the constraints of the companies they work for.

Dave anticipated some changing roles in the committee. He hopes DWS will have a better relationship with employers including committees like the SLTEC. Laurel said that she would look for opportunities to include the committee where possible. Dave will give more info to Laurel to disperse to the committee after the fact. He encouraged the committee to look for ways that they'd like to be involved. He wants it to be vital and to continue.

CiCi and Christine offered comments about how vital it is that DWS listen to employer input. Both indicated that employers are the ones who create the jobs and who set the standards for employing the workforce.

Laurel mentioned a push for specialized customer groups. Job development for populations with increased barriers is something we'll see more of. Dave expressed a desire for employer feedback on what's included in the curriculum development for DWS workshops. Dave provided his telephone number (801-526-9684) and he invited committee members to call him with questions or suggestions.

Paul invited members to share any comments they had.

Discussion - HB 206 Employment Selection Procedures- The meeting shifted gears as Jill Boyle lead as discussion on House Bill 206 on employment selection procedures. It will prohibit employers from soliciting personal information including dates of birth, social security numbers, and driver's license numbers at the time of application. This will require employers to modify the order of their processes. Paul mentioned that it was signed on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Companies are currently conducting pre-employment background checks using social security numbers. Jill and Paul will find out about the effective date and share it with the committee.

Laurel welcomed Tammy Scantlin to the meeting who was covering for Summer Palmer at Nicholas and Co.

Laurel noted that the BCLs will be in contact with committee members about the summer internship program. Also, they are looking for more employers for the Workability Job/Career Fair on April 22 from 10-2.

Planning – future meetings/venues/topics:

Paul asked about restructuring the committee. What DWS support can the committee get? Laurel said DWS will continue to participate and can provide some, but not all administrative support. She also noted that morning workshops w/out breakfast might be possible. She'll make that request with her manager. She also sees the committee being more involved in development of agenda and wants the meetings to remain meaningful.

Jill wants to know generally what is available to job seekers. In response, a future meeting will include an upfront team member talking about the service that an individual receives when he walks into an Employment Center.

Laurel mentioned another vacancy on the committee – Tammy Johnson has been laid off. Cici also announced that she'll be leaving ATK and consequently the committee.

Julia mentioned that UI and the determination process would be a great topic. Perhaps previewing it here and then holding it as a workshop.

Jennifer mentioned the English Skills learning center coming as a presenter. It's really helped Wal Mart. It's an onsite service to teach ESL.

It was noted that Paul would develop the agenda for the next meeting with assistance from Laurel and other committee members.

**Next meeting, Wednesday, June 3, 7:30 a.m. –hosted by Christine at SOS**