

**WORKFORCE ALLIANCE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**August 6, 2009, 8:00am**

Attending: Randy Johnson, David Talley, Steve Parrish and Vern Crawford  
Staff: Steve Craig and Sharon Brea  
Telephonic Attendance: Amy Dean

- I. Meeting called to order by Steven Parrish.
- II. Review and approval of draft Minutes from April 2, 2009 meeting (Johnson/Parrish). No additions, deletions or corrections were made to the standing agenda.

III. Legislative Issues

- WIA Reauthorization  
Vern reported on the Federal scene that the WIA reauthorization Bill is still in process and probably will not be reauthorized until next year. Noteworthy is a Senate Bill provision that disallows the organization or reorganization of the Workforce Boards until the WIA is reauthorized.
- Federal and State funding  
Vern reported there were no cuts to the Adult training allocation for FY 2010/2011. Youth funding is expected to continue during FY 2010/2011 at the same level with no major change. The State Estimating Conference is projecting \$1 billion more in funding than the current year. No budget cuts appear to be on the horizon. Sales and doc stamp tax revenue are coming back.

Vern went on to report the administration is strong in education with a focus on community colleges and charter schools for retraining with those dollars going directly to the school and not the Workforce Board. The Senate budget includes a separate allocation for nursing education in the amount of 217 million which is a 47% increase over the current level.

- Health Care Initiative  
Vern reported the Health Care Bill passed 31/28. Current language of the Bill requires across the board coverage for both the employed through employer sponsored plans and unemployed through government provided coverage. In the event an employer or individual does not elect to obtain coverage a fine could be imposed.
- ARRA / Stimulus Funding  
Vern reported the Land To Rail Project is proposed to fund wireless internet service in rural areas such as Belle Glade, western Martin County, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee counties.

Steve reported the Youth Program has exceeded its goal to train and employ 1,000 youth with 340 of the 1,010 employed in Belle Glade. Additional youth are expected to be served through a separate training program with Palm Beach Community College. Stimulus funds will also be used in partnership with Tenet Hospital for healthcare training.

- Action Items:
  1. Vern will set up meetings with local chief of staff regarding budget allocations for workforce training.
  2. Steve and Kathryn are expected to obtain a preview of the Workforce Florida budget in September. Effort should be made to obtain state cash match for adult training programs if possible.
  3. NAWB conference to be held in March 2010. Vern will arrange to meet with local delegation members or chief of staff.

IV. Member Issues/Concerns. None were noted. Meeting adjourned.

Date for next meeting – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009