

Minutes
OSAC – Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2009
4020 E. 5th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

Welcome/ Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman McNally at 11:05 a.m.

Acting Chairman McNally welcomed all members, advisors, staff and guests and directed the Council to Tab 1. William McNally proceeded with special introductions of Robert Gartner, of Columbus Sheet Metal Workers, William Russell, of Ohio Board of Regents, Dennis Duffy, of Ohio State Building Trades, and Laura Abu-Absi, Legislative Liaison, ODJFS Legislative Services.

The Acting Chairman then called for the first order of business to be the election of Chair.

Stephen Lipster received nomination for the Employee Representative of Council. William McNally received nomination for the Employer Representative side of Council.

Council members William McNally, Patrick McLaughlin, Douglas Soma, Stephen Lipster, Robert Gartner, David Siravo, Thomas Conley, and Deborah Catri, cast vote for Stephen Lipster. Council member Joshua Corna voted for William McNally.

Stephen Lipster accepted the position of Chairman of Council. William McNally will reside as Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Lipster expressed his appreciation and acknowledged Mr. McNally for his leadership as acting chair from the prior months.

Roll Call of Council:

Chairman Lipster called for a roll call of Council.

Present:

Members: Stephen Lipster, Joshua D. Corna, William McNally, Patrick McLaughlin, Douglas Soma, Robert Gartner, David Siravo, Deborah B. Catri, and Thomas Conley.

Advisors: Laura Abu-Absi, Legislative Liaison for ODJFS Legislative Services, Terry Worst, Director State Approving Agency for Veterans Training, Terri Burgess Sandu, Director, Hard Hatted Women, William Russell, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Adult Education and Institutional Collaboration, OBR, Dennis Duffy, Secretary Treasurer of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council, and Andrew Maciejewski, Executive Administrator, OSAC, OWD.

Staff: OSAC: Connie Sink, Annette Galli-Jones, Tara Burkhalter, Candace Welch and Marcus Combs.

Guest: Vince Irvin (Construction Craft Laborers), Randy Davis (ABC), Mike Macintosh (ABC), Joe Travis (Carpenters, South West), Mike Ball (Carpenters, North West), Kathleen Wildman (Hard Hatted Women), John Hughes Jr., (Ohio Labor Statewide Director)

Quorum being present, Chairman Lipster continued with the business of the meeting.

Approval of April 2009 Minutes

Chairman Lipster directed Council's attention to Tab 2 in the booklet, the April 2, 2009 OSAC meeting Minutes.

Chairman Lipster opened the floor for questions, revisions, and comments.

Motion was set before the Council by David Siravo to approve the April 2, 2009 OSAC meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion was seconded by Doug Soma.

No further discussion being heard nor said, Chairman Lipster called for a vote.

Council unanimously approved the motion to accept the April 2, 2009 Minutes.

Old Business:

No new report given.

Council Reports:

Chairman Lipster turned the floor over to Andrew Maciejewski, Executive Administrator.

Mr. Maciejewski turned the attention of Council to the OSAC Financial Report listed under Tab 3 in the booklet. Deborah Catri noted OSAC was under budget, also noting that zero marketing expenditure had taken place. Mr. Maciejewski explained the State of Ohio is currently on a spending and hiring freeze, but the implementation grant that was received by U.S. DOL does have an earmark for marketing.

David Siravo questioned when the Town Meetings would start again. Mr. Maciejewski replied that the Town meeting schedule would soon be announced. Mr. Siravo asked the Administrator how many SAC states took advantage of the grant. Mr. Maciejewski noted that 21 SAC States received implementation grants and three did not.

Mr. Maciejewski directed Councils attention to Tab 4, the Compliance Status Report. He reported the 17 to 21 per month goal for the Compliance Specialists is being met. US DOL, ATR Marcus Combs is completing between one and two monthly as well. From previous reports, the Marietta Plumbers and Pipefitters and the Portsmouth Area Cement Masons are compliant and are moving forward. Insulators Local 50 JAC and the Dayton Painters JATC have been granted an extension to become compliant. Newly found non-compliant are McGinnis, Inc., Allied Machine, Grandview Fire, Harley Davison of Cincinnati, Gerstenslager.

Mr. Maciejewski directed the Councils attention to Tab 5 the Credit Voucher Report. Requests for the credit at or over 50% there were 41 Construction entries, 14 Other entries, 6 Manufacturing entries, totaling 61.

Requests for under 50% credit there were 103 Construction entries, 7 Other entries, and 6 Manufacturing entries, totaling 116 entries.

Deborah Catri commented that the sponsors appeared to be doing a better job of filling out the appropriate paperwork. Mr. Maciejewski believes the sponsors are doing a much better job of filling out and submitting the appropriate documentation for previous credit.

Mr. Maciejewski turned the Councils attention to Tab 6, Status Report. The support staff totals from April to date are as follows: agreements - 1,311; certificates of completion – 1,092; apprentice cancellations – 763; Davis Bacon verifications – 423; and program cancellations – 108. The totals from the standards reports are as follows: new standards -10; current standards addition of occupation – 10; current sponsor updating – 24; current sponsor updating AAP – 3.

David Siravo questioned the number of cancellation. Mr. Maciejewski explained that a large number of the cancellations are due to the clean-up efforts by the ASP's and ATR, compliance audits, and the closures of businesses due to the economy.

Stephen Lipster questioned whether the Federal changes would increase the number of Standards updates. Mr. Maciejewski explained sponsors would not be mandated to update their standards they will have the option to do so and use some of the new language.

Mr. Maciejewski reported on the field staff operations, the total numbers of initial contacts with potential sponsors equal 1,362; contacts with current sponsors 2,395; contacts with sponsor partners 263; overdue reports 287; and zero apprentice notices 170. Mr. Maciejewski further explained how an apprentice becomes overdue.

Thomas Conley asked what happens when the company or sponsor does not provide RTI. Mr. Maciejewski informed him that the sponsor would be subject to an immediate review.

Thomas Conley asked what if the reasons given were due to economic issues. Mr. Maciejewski explained the sponsor entity is given the option to suspend or cancel the apprentices.

Terry Worst inquired if the contact numbers were multiples to the same sponsors, how many sponsors are out there in Ohio, and do we have a flagging system on whether the overdue apprentices are veterans. Mr. Maciejewski replied the contacts were occasionally repeats, there are over 1,000 sponsors in Ohio, and no there is no flagging system for veterans.

Deborah Catri inquired on the accuracy of the RAPIDS system. Mr. Maciejewski informed her it has issues but it getting better.

Mr. Maciejewski directed the Council to Tab 7, the implementation of the 29 CRF 29 as well as the modifications accepted to Rule 5101:11. As of June 6, 2009, the finalization and effective date for the Rule 5101:11 took place.

Deborah Catri commented on the very tedious and hugely time-consuming amount of effort put forth in completing this project.

Mr. Maciejewski noted the Town Meetings will help significantly with the implementation of the new codes and rules and asked the Council to review the Budget information for the Implementation Grant.

Stephen Lipster questioned the format of where Town Meetings will take place. Mr. Maciejewski informed the Council the meetings will take be scheduled, as in the past by EDR.

David Siravo suggested splitting the larger areas into smaller ones so they are more readily available. Mr. Maciejewski made note of the suggestion and commented there is going to be a mailing sent out with the different times, dates, and locations of the meetings so those who wish to attend have a variety to choose from.

Mr. Maciejewski reported on his attendance to the NASTAD meeting and provided printouts from the power point presentation. Mr. Maciejewski announced that he was asked to serve on the advisory board for pre-apprenticeship and the 29/CFR 29 new regulations implementation.

Mr. Maciejewski reported on the granted request for Rule 4 Exception by OBR for the IBEW/NECA electrical trade's apprenticeship programs. This is a blanket exemption for there programs to allow the students to receive general education college credit for the math and science that is built into the curriculum, even though the instructors teaching those courses do not hold a Master's Degree.

Mr. Maciejewski announced the OETDA will be the hosting the 2009 Apprenticeship Conference to be held on October 22-23, 2009. The format and venue will be the same as last year, a one-day conference spread over two days.

William McNally suggested moving the regular scheduled October 1, 2009 OSAC meeting to October 22, 2009 before the conference.

Deborah Catri asked for a show of hands on which members all would be able to attend out of the Council. All members with the exception of Joshua Corna are expecting to be able to attend if the meeting is held prior to the Conference.

Stephen Lipster wished to express thanks to Dennis Duffy and the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council for their continued support. Mr. Lipster also stated he has contact information available for anyone who wishes to assist in sponsorship for the conference.

Mr. Maciejewski then turned the attention of the Council to Tab 8. This report contained information from the Dayton Plumbers and Pipefitters Apprenticeship Program requesting the addition of direct entry to their selection procedure.

Mr. Maciejewski stated previous requests for direct entry language has always been denied.

Mr. Maciejewski noted several notices and complaints are received on sponsors not using defined selection procedures.

Stephen Lipster asked for additional information concerning the selection process for the Better Choice Program and these direct entries. Mr. Maciejewski reported that no additional information was not supplied with the initial request.

Chairman Lipster called for a motion to accept the addendum proposal of direct entry, Better Choice Program from the Dayton Plumbers and Pipefitters.

No motion was made from the floor.

Chairman Lipster instructed Mr. Maciejewski to continue with his report.

Mr. Maciejewski informed the Council that the Dayton Urban League had submitted a set of standards for approval. Mr. Maciejewski reported on the performance of the Dayton Urban League's previous program as 287 registered apprentices and zero completers. There was much discussion on the ability of the Dayton Urban League to be a sponsor entity as well as the events that led to their registration.

Council instructed Mr. Maciejewski to follow standard operating procedure and report back on the progress of the standards.

Mr. Maciejewski directed the Council to the handout of a draft on OSAC DRAFT policy on Pre-Apprenticeship. Mr. Maciejewski stated the purpose of the pre-apprenticeship program to act as a bridge over whatever obstacle an individual might have into the registered apprenticeship system and have the support to succeed. These recognized programs will be required to have a direct linkage with registered apprenticeship sponsor or group of sponsors. It was noted that this concept is not new but needs to be clearly defined, standardized, regulated, and credentialed.

Stephen Lipster expressed thanks to all of those who were involved in the pre-apprenticeship policy draft. Further noting OSAC wants to take ownership for pre-apprenticeship in Ohio. He believes if pre-apprenticeship is done properly and correctly, it will be a benefit for the communities, the sponsor, and Ohio as a State.

Terri Burgess Sandu acknowledged those who used pre-apprenticeship as a tool to broaden career choices, as well as express concerns with EEO and wants the defined statutory of limitations for OSAC.

There was much discussion on the framework as well as comments from Terry Worst on ensuring that our veterans are able to access their benefits through the GI.

Douglas Soma made a motion to approve the Pre-Apprenticeship Draft as the framework for the policy.

Motion second by Patrick McLaughlin.

No further discussion being heard nor said, Chairman Lipster called for a vote by show of hands.

Council unanimously approved the motion to accept the Pre-Apprenticeship Draft as the framework for the policy.

No further discussion being said nor heard, Chairman Lipster thanked Mr. Maciejewski for his reports.

New Business:

No new report given.

Ohio Board of Regents

Chairman Lipster turned the floor over to William Russell, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Adult Workforce, OBR.

Mr. Russell introduced himself to the Council members and guests. He then commented on Rule 4 Exception setting precedence and he believes will be an excellent model.

Mr. Russell reported on ABLE and Skills Bank being joined in OBR.

Deborah Catri inquired on the status of the Skills Bank due to funding. Mr. Russell indicated that the agencies are working together to find the necessary funds.

No further discussion being said nor heard, Chairman Lipster thanked Mr. Russell for his reports.

State Approving Agency for Veterans Training:

Chairman Lipster turned the floor over to Terry Worst, Director State Approving Agency for Veterans Training.

Mr. Worst reported a backlog issue of approximately four months for approvals for benefits.

Mr. Worst also reported his department would be moving over to the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, 77 South High Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

No further discussion being said nor heard, Acting Chairman McNally thanked Mr. Worst for his reports.

Wage and Hour:

No new report given.

Legislative:

Chairman Lipster turned the floor over to Laura Abu-Absi, Legislative Liaison, ODJFS Legislative Services.

Ms. Abu-Absi introduced herself to the Council. She reported that Legislation is currently on recess but upon return, there will be a focus on the Ohio's auto industry.

Ms. Abu-Absi reported on the Federal level, it is a possibility of unemployment benefits being increased to 92 possible weeks. As well as extended unemployment benefits for spouses of services people and veterans.

No further discussion being said nor heard, Chairman Lipster thanked Ms. Abu-Absi for her report.

Legal:

No new report given.

Attorney General's Office:

No new report given.

Hard Hatted Women:

Chairman Lipster turned the floor over to Terri Burgess Sandu.

Mrs. Sandu discussed the Women in Non Traditional Occupations grant extension for Hard Hatted Women.

She reported they are now approved as a Vista Site and is in the process of hiring.

No further discussion being said nor heard, Chairman Lipster thanked Mrs. Sandu for her report.

Good of the Council:

Chairman Lipster opened the floor for discussion and comments.

Andrew Maciejewski informed Council Dean Guido would be undergoing double knee surgery. He presented a card for signatures and requested donations for a well wishing gift.

Chairman Lipster announced the next meeting date would be the morning of October 22, 2009 prior to the opening of the Apprenticeship Conference in Dublin. The last OSAC meeting of the year will be; December 3, 2009, 4020 E.5th Ave., Columbus, Oh, Room M146.

Deborah Catri asked if the 2010 Council meeting calendar could be sent out as soon as possible.

A motion was set before Council by Deborah Catri to adjourn.

Motion was seconded by Dave Siravo.

No discussion being heard nor said, Chairman Lipster called for a vote.

Council unanimously approved the motion to adjourn at 2:05pm.

Minutes Approved:

Steve Lipster, Chairman Date

Andrew Maciejewski, Executive Administrator Date