

New Mexico Public Education Department Apprenticeship Training and Advisory Committee (ATAC)

IBEW – Local 611 Hall
4921 Alexander Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM

January 19, 2010

MINUTES

A regular bi-monthly meeting of the New Mexico Apprenticeship Training and Advisory Committee was called to order by Mr. Chris Romero, Chair, at 10:05 am on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at the facilities of the IBEW Local 611.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bec Rheins	Chris Romero	Louise Williams
Rick Meyer	Charles Schumann	Jeannie Baca
Jerry Welch	Nancy Reisbeck	

MEMBERS ABSENT

Elisa Gallegos
Renee Lowden
Greta Schouman

AUDIENCE:

Celina Bussey, NNM Independent Electrical Contractors	Marvin Duran, NM Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 3 JATC	Phyllis Franzoy IEC Southern NM
Joseph Handley, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers Local 76	Charles Humiston JATC for the Electrical Industry	Tony Korwin, Career, Technical Workforce Education Bureau
Gary Majewski, NM Laborers’ Training and Apprenticeship Trust Fund	Valerie Martinez, NNM Independent Electrical Contractors	Adrian Quintana, NM Plasterers & Cement Masons
Debbie Seward, Operating Engineers Local 953	Larry Sonntag, NM Roofing Contractors Association	David Wilson, American Fire Sprinklers Association, NM Chapter

AGENDA

Ms. Bec Rheins motioned to approve the Agenda as presented. Mr. Charles Schouman seconded. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rick Meyer motioned to approve the Minutes as presented. Mr. Jerry Welch seconded. Motion passed.

NM PED UPDATE

Ms. Louise Williams welcomed Mr. Chris Romero back from his recovery period. She thanked Mr. Rick Myer for filling in for the chair for the November regular meeting for the ATAC. Mr. Jim Baca of IBEW welcomed everyone to their facility.

Ms. Williams announced that today is the opening day of the Legislature’s 30 day session and encourages everyone to make an effort to attend and participate with the legislators.

ATAC VACANCIES

Ms. Williams announced two vacancies on the Apprenticeship Training Advisory Committee. One position is a voting position for Employers of Members of Apprenticeable Trades and one is a non-voting position representing the New Mexico College and University Systems of Vocational Education. An announcement along with the electronic application went out to the apprenticeship community; closing date for submitting applications is Tuesday, February 15, 2010.

Another announcement will go out in April regarding committee terms expiring June 30, 2010. Applications will be due in May so the selections can be made by June 30. If you or anyone you know may be interested in applying for any of these positions, please contact Ms. Williams for the electronic application, if you don't already have it.

2009 SOLVENCY FUNDING

Ms. Williams addressed about the Solvency Reduction Bill, HB 17 & 33 page 3 (7c) signed by the Governor November 12, 2009. The original appropriation for the Apprenticeship Assistance Act is \$650,000 and this Special Session Bill reduces that amount by 6.5% across the board, which rounds to \$42,300. After all reviews and Dr. Garcia's signature, respective letters will be sent to each program before the end of February. She suggests that you adjust 6.5% off of your allocation to get that amount, in addition, welcomes anyone to call her to if they want to know their specific amount.

MID YEAR STATUS

Ms. Williams reminded everyone that with mid-year, this is the time of year to survey their budgets and make realistic projections to spend down – can you spend down 100%; fund management is critical. If any funded program determines they will not be able to spend the entire 100% and need to adjust the mid-year survey there is still time. Please call Ms. Williams for mid-year survey revisions before she runs the final calculations by end of legislative session.

Ms. Williams presented a spreadsheet for discussion representing an unofficial balance, (signed copies of second quarter claims are handed over by DWS in today's meeting for final calculations); the worksheet shows expenditures for each program to date through second quarter electronic claims. The explanation of the financial worksheet show five programs submitted mid-year surveys, reverting \$20,094.60 in reduced slots (unofficial). Unofficially, total expenditures claimed to date represent 46.31% of the budget spent, leaving a balance of \$348,989.43 before calculating the solvency reduction.

If there are no more slots reverted by programs solvency reduction will come out of the \$20,094.60 reduction of slots first and the balance from each program's budget reduction.

The color key of the spreadsheet reflects the percentage expended by programs and programs' level of risk. The high risk indicators include some of those programs reducing slots at mid-year.

Mr. Meyer expressed concern about those programs, particularly one, who have not expended at least a reasonable amount of their budget by mid-year.

Ms. Williams recommended a written explanation by the program on their intended training plan to spend down within reasonable timeline; this would be presented by the entire committee and perhaps if needed, have PED legal counsel review as well.

Rick Meyer motioned and Bec Rheins seconded to send AGC a letter asking them to submit a written plan within a week from the date of the request to the ATAC in reference to their training methods and how they will expend their funds in 3rd and 4th quarters. Further it was asked that PED will provide their allocation and expenditure history for the last couple of years no later than the end of the month.

In reply to a question asking if it was permissible for the committee to allow a program to exceed over 100% of their budget if they wanted to, Ms. Williams replied that that would require a new purchase order and a new contract, both of which would be very unlikely.

A member of the audience asked if this meeting was to discuss making adjustments for the remainder of the year. Ms. Williams replied that this is the time to make any adjustments for the remainder of the year. Any adjustments made must be made no later than 3rd quarter and presented to fiscal by end of April.

Ms. Williams said that rolling adjustments are something we've not done before. We need to look at what we need to do to be creative and make sure everybody can spend down and ideally try to make this mid year the time we

make the bulk of the changes. We don't want to implement any written caps but try to keep your journeyman spending within reason.

Ms. Celina Bussey recalled that last year programs reverted money and asked if the agreements for the coming year will reflect the reverted funds and the solvency and pointed out that new spreadsheets will have to be redone to reflect their new budgets.

Ms Williams said that the letter from Dr. Garcia will provide new budgets. In order to stay within budget and keep that rate of pay as written in the agreements, overall hours will need to be readjusted down by each program. No new agreements will be necessary as programs will not exceed budgets originally provided.

Ms. Williams reminded everyone that PED is submitting a legislative request for \$ 650,000 for Apprenticeship funding. She urges everyone to talk to their legislators to ensure the funding passes for next year's allocation.

2009 MAP OF TRAINING SITES

Ms Williams introduced the new map and thanked Ms. Caroline Jaramillo-Crone for her work on it. She also thanked the programs for responding and providing the information on their training locations and satellite locations.

The 2009 map is a modification of the one created in 2008 with information provided by funded programs through the survey in August. The icons are different than those in the former and fewer colors were used for ease of reading.

Ms. Williams reported that the information referring to the OJTs means every county where apprentices worked over the course of the year from January through December 2009 regardless of the length of time they are in any location. It's important that the information displayed on the map reflects your program as accurately as possible and not just willing to work in all counties, but actually worked. We ask that you track this monthly information with your members.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Chris Romero urged the trades' folks to visit their legislators during the session and talking to them about how important it is that the apprenticeship legislation not be cut. Mr. Romero stated that he will be visiting the legislators. Mr. Romero stated he can not lobby or visit legislators and couldn't even attend the session with out the permission of the Cabinet Secretary.

Rick Meyer suggested that throughout the year apprenticeship programs invite their representative legislators to events they may be holding at their locations. This would give them a better understanding of what the apprenticeship training is all about and could make a larger impact in their lobbying efforts.

Mr. Korwin also encouraged everyone to visit their representatives even if it's just a couple of minutes.

Mr. Romero announced a couple of Job Fairs coming up; the Los Lunas Career Fair March 10 and Santa Fe High School April 5. Although some programs are not accepting applications and some of long lists of applicants waiting to be accepted there are some that are accepting applications. Mr. Romero urged members of the training programs to attend and talk to the students and make schools aware that apprenticeship training is still being promoted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Joseph Handy asked if the midyear surveys should be submitted at the same time as the 2nd quarter claims. Ms. Williams' answer was that programs please try to make any adjustment to their budgets prior to the mid year surveys are submitted.

Mr. Leonard Bridge asked if the amount of funds being reverted affect the amount the legislature will allocate for Apprenticeship; Ms. Williams' reply was that she did not believe so because this information is used by PED internally in managing the budget and one of those ways is to do a mid-year adjustment so that those programs can redistribute; and spend down the figure that was reverted at the end of the year.

Pre-Apprenticeship Rule

Ms. Williams spoke about a memorial introduced by Senator Bernadette Sanchez and Representative Berry sponsored a Memorial to start a process that identifies the need for more apprentices. Information that would be gathered from across the entire state: where are the gaps in services, which programs can support this initiative,

which schools have the capacity to implement this project. The premise was that new funds would be sought to support this, but this is not likely this year as the Legislature is looking at cutting budget, not expanding. Ms. Williams spoke about Senate Bill 46 which the Governor signed and is specifically for addressing the issue of getting the skillset ready in high school graduates as you need them – as the workforce is starting to retire. Because of this Bill, PED is required to write a Rule to go into Law. This gives apprenticeship programs a structure to work within the public school system. By creating a framework in conjunction with schools, programs can provide industry instructors or work with the school's instructors to ensure that they have the skills they need to train students to meet the needs of the labor market. The Rule has been approved by a sub committee, reviewed by Superintendents, it is currently being reviewed by Legal Counsel and going through final review for signature by Secretary Garcia. It will probably be set for public hearing after the Legislative Session is over.

Programs who are interested in participating with schools and to move pre-apprenticeship to another level, please contact Ms. Williams.

In response to request for clarification on the definition of a pre-apprentice, Ms. Williams said, "According to this piece of legislation, it is for Juniors and Seniors in Public Schools or Charter Schools who have defined an interest area in trades. If, for example, a student wants to train in welding, but the school doesn't have a welding course or instructor, an apprenticeship program can be approved within a district under a memorandum of agreement with a registered apprenticeship program who provides an instructor for foundation classroom instruction only at training halls.

Currently, there is no additional legislative funding request for this project. Mr. Romero said there may be a chance of having access to WIA funds.

She also reminded everyone about the option to contact Margaret Garduno of DWS about getting on the WIA eligible provider list. In order to have access to those funds you must to apply on-line with WIA. Please contact Ms. Garduno or Ms. Williams or go through your local workforce office. There are four workforce areas in the state. One application will suffice for all areas. However, each area has its own policies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Romero announced an initiative by the Apprenticeship Training Office of the DWS to promote the Green Industry. A Request for Proposal was submitted to the Cabinet Secretary for ten \$5000 grants to ten programs. Four thousand will be assisting with instructor costs and curriculum and one thousand will be for one apprentice.. Programs will be required to write an essay and the apprentice will write an essay. Ten programs will be selected and the winning apprentices will be tracked throughout their enrollment to assess their progress.

Assuming the grant is approved, DWS will distribute applications with details of all criteria and eligibility requirements.

The next meeting will be March 16, 2010 at 10 am and is mandatory meeting regarding applications. It will be held at the offices of the National Elevators Industry Educational Program Local 131, 2835 Pan American Suite F in Albuquerque.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.