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**CWDC Board Meeting
October 17-18, 2013
Rocky Mountain Innosphere, Fort Collins, CO**

Thursday, October 17, 2013

Chair Toya Speckman called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. Director Stephanie Steffens welcomed everyone and presented Dave Csintyan with a small token of appreciation for having served two years as Chair. Dave will continue to provide his vision and leadership in the role of Past Chair. Toya thanked the Fort Collins planning committee for their assistance in setting up a great meeting: Jay Hardy, Julie Zinn, Jim Neubecker, Ryan Keiffer and Joni Friedman.

Approval of the Agenda and Old Business

Toya asked for approval of the agenda. Jim Neubecker made the motion, and Julie Zinn seconded. Without further discussion, the agenda was approved. Toya then asked for approval of the July meeting minutes. Josh Davies made the motion, and Jim Neubecker seconded. Without further discussion, the minutes were approved. Toya also mentioned that there were no consent agenda items for this meeting.

New Business

Toya went over the goals of the meeting:

1. Welcome and engage new members
2. Gain agreement around strategic plan summary
3. Demonstrate implementation of the strategic plan through committee work
4. Seek input from full Council to guide current initiatives
5. Learn about and share innovative practices from local community
6. Have some fun!

Julie Zinn then introduced Mike Freeman, CEO of the Rocky Mountain Innosphere, who welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the Innosphere.

Toya asked all of the new members to introduce themselves, followed by the rest of the Council members and guests. The state agency representatives also took a few minutes to provide updates from their agencies, especially related to workforce issues.

Strategic Plan

(See "Introduction and Strategic Plan" slides.) Toya thanked the Strategic Planning Task Force for their work: Kyle Sickman, Maria Feekes, Roni Wisdom, Kathy Worthington, Jay Hardy, and Ellen Golombek. She then introduced Brian Pool with North Highland, who has been working with the CWDC on updating its strategic plan.

Brian went through the new mission statement and the Strategy Articulation Map (SAM). Toya called for a vote to approve the mission statement. The vote was taken via clicker technology, and the mission statement was unanimously approved.

Brian then went through each of the five strategic goals, explaining the thinking of the task force on each one. There were no issues on Goals 1, 3, and 4. On Goal 2, the Council decided to replace “data driven” with “evidence based.” On Goal 5, the decision was made to change “systems” to “sources.” Toya asked for a clicker vote to approve the five strategic goals, and they were unanimously approved (with the above stated changes).

Education & Training Committee

(See “Education and Training” slides.) Toya introduced Josh Davies, Chair of the Education & Training Committee. Josh gave an overview of the purpose and structure of the committee, which is to coordinate efforts and leverage best practices in education and training programs across Colorado. Josh gave an update from the State Youth Council, and invited Scott Stump from the Colorado Community College System to provide an update on the Career Pathways initiative. Rebecca Waldo talked about the goals and purpose of the Governor’s STEM Roadmap, which is to coordinate and align all STEM education efforts across the state. Josh then moderated a panel about STEM initiatives, with panelists: Scott Nielsen from Preston Middle School (K-12), Dr. David Prawel from CSU (Higher Ed), and BJ Lopez from Woodward (Industry). The Council had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions to the panelists.

Tours and Dinner

In the afternoon, the group toured the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery (an innovative public-private partnership) and New Belgium Brewery. Over dinner, they heard from Jacob Castillo and Jerry Thurber about the initiatives of the Larimer County Workforce Board. Mrs. Colorado Mina Muirhead then presented about women in the workforce.

Friday, October 18, 2013

Toya opened the second day with a recap of the previous day’s conversations and tours.

Industry/Sectors Committee

(See “Industry Sectors” slides.) Toya introduced Jay Hardy, Chair of the Industry/Sectors Committee. Jay gave an overview of the purpose and structure of the committee, which focuses on championing and supporting sector strategies in Colorado. He introduced Stephanie Steffens to talk about how Colorado approaches and supports regional industry partnerships. The National Governors Association is highlighting Colorado as a benchmark state for how to promote regional industry partnerships, and Stephanie has been invited to present on this topic at the upcoming “America Works: Education and Training for Tomorrow’s Jobs” summits in Connecticut and New Mexico. “America Works: Education and Training for Tomorrow’s Jobs” is the initiative of the 2013-2014 NGA Chair, Governor Mary Fallin of Oklahoma. Emily Lesh discussed the types of technical assistance that the Colorado Workforce Development Council offers to the regional sector partnerships. She asked for input from a few sector partnership participants in the room. Dave Griffin with the Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium then gave an update on the Business Services Action Plan. The Council had a work session on performance metrics that should measure and guide the industry engagement work in Colorado. Finally, CWDC announced that there will be a Sectors Summit II in March 2014. More details to come.

Advocacy Committee

Toya introduced Don McClure, Chair of the Advocacy Committee. Don talked about the purpose and structure of the committee, which is to advise on policy and legislative issues relevant to the CWDC mission, awareness and marketing efforts, and alignment work. Don then moderated a legislative panel, with panelists: Representative Brian DelGrosso (CWDC Member), Representative Crisanta Duran (CWDC Member), and Senator John Kefalas (represents Fort Collins). They talked about their expectations for the upcoming legislative session and how the CWDC can better engage the legislators around workforce issues.

Chair's Discussion and Wrap Up

Toya led a discussion with the Council members about takeaways and action items from the meeting. She reviewed the goals of the meeting, and how they were accomplished. She thanked everyone for their attendance and engagement. Stephanie mentioned the first ever joint meeting of the National Governors Association State Workforce Board Chairs and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), which occurred in Denver in September. Ellen Golombek, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Labor & Employment, was elected as President-Elect of NASWA, and Governor Hickenlooper is currently Chair-Elect of NGA, so there will be a huge opportunity for aligning those groups over the next few years.

Toya adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.