

**INFORMAL WORK SESSION
MINUTES**

March 14, 2007

12:30 p.m.

Courthouse, Rm. 32

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern and Leslie Lewis

Guests: Agnes Balassa, Executive Director, Enterprise for Employment and Education (E3); Brian M. Thompson, E3 Board attorney; Jody Christensen, E3 Board Member; and Tom Fox, E3 Board Member

Topic: Enterprise for Employment and Education Organizational Structure (E3)

Kathy George opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Agnes Balassa presented information to the Board of Commissioners on the proposed new organizational structure (attachments). Currently E3 is part of Chemeketa Community College. The proposed new structure would have E3 become a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The E3 Board had a study and report presented to them that considered various successful organizational structures for the Workforce Investment Board; the report recommended that the E3 Board consider the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Miss Balassa explained that an advantage of the 501(c)(3) would be the ability for E3 to be more nimble and flexible as the needs of employers change. Tom Fox also spoke of the needs of the private sector and the need for E3 to be able to make decisions quickly, which is difficult with the current structure. Jody Christensen said that she had read the report thoroughly and agreed that the nonprofit organization would be a better business model. Miss Balassa also discussed personnel issues, liability insurance issues, and how they would be addressed in the new organization. Brian Thompson discussed some changes that he recommended be made to the Jobs Council's ORS 190 organization along with the creation of the 501(c)(3) organization for E3.

The commissioners thanked Miss Balassa and her group for their clear explanations of the needs and advantages of the reorganization.

Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Attachments (2): Current to Future Structure; Responding to Workforce Needs in the M-W Valley

Barbara Stanley, Secretary
(from notes dictated by Commissioner Lewis)

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