



**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
March 17, 2005**

**Members:**

**Gary Barnes**

*Northwest Food Employers, Inc.*  
Management

**Diane Boly**

*Boly/Welch Inc.*  
Management

**Al Dorgan**

*United Steelworks of America*  
Labor

**Faith Dubin**

*Serena Software*  
Public

**Margaret Hallock**

*Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics*  
Public

**Gwyn Harvey, Chair**

*Oregon Workforce Investment Board*  
Public

**Sonja Henning**

*Tonkon Torp LLC*  
Public

**Tim Nesbitt**

*Oregon AFL-CIO*  
Labor

**Linda Rasmussen**

*Communications Workers of America*  
Labor

**Patrick Smith**

*Lane, Coos, Curry, Douglas Building Trades Co.*  
Labor

**Lisa Trussell**

*Associated Oregon Industries*  
Management

**Vacant**

Management

**Present**

Diane Boly, Al Dorgan, Faith Dubin,  
Margaret Hallock, Gwyn Harvey,  
Sonja Henning, Tim Nesbitt,  
Linda Rasmussen, Patrick Smith  
and Lisa Trussell.

**Not Present**

Gary Barnes

**Employment Department Staff**

Debbie Lincoln, Greg Hickman,  
Susan Johnson, Tamara Brickman,  
Renee Bryant and Tammy Adkins

**Old Business**

The minutes from 2/24/05 were accepted.

**Minutes**

The minutes will be submitted via email,  
prior to the next meeting of 4/21/05.

The meeting began at 10:05 am.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

**Gwyn Harvey** – Welcomed all Advisory Council members to the meeting.

**MOTION:** **Gwyn Harvey** - Called for comments and/or objections with respect to accepting the minutes of 2/24/2005.  
**Al Dorgan** - Seconded the Motion.  
**Gwyn Harvey** – **MOTION CARRIED.** The minutes of 2/24/2005 were unanimously approved and accepted as is.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL VACANCIES

**Tamara Brickman** - Welcomed **Patrick Smith** to the Employment Advisory Council and then asked Pat to give a brief overview of his background. Pat stated that he is Secretary-Treasurer of Lane, Coos, Curry, Douglas Building Trades and a Business Representative for the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (Drywall Finishers). Patrick Smith has been appointed to the labor position which was previously held by Bob Shiprack.

**\*\*\* The agenda was rearranged at the request of Marc Kane (HIRE Calling) due to Mr. Kane's availability. \*\*\***

## TAX RATE MARGINS

**Tracy Louden** - Provided a hand out on Tax Rate Margins including projected trust fund balances (with and without the passage of HB 2127).

## JOBS PLUS

**Marc Kane** – Provided an overview of his background and job history as it relates to employment issues. Marc currently works for HIRE Calling and was invited to the Advisory Council meeting to give his JOBS Plus presentation as it is presented to legislators. Took note of the fact that there is concern about the administrative costs of JOBS Plus (listed at 33%), however they believe this is a money saving project and that the costs should be worked on without shutting down the program.

**The Advisory Council** - Voiced concern with the information presented by HIRE Calling and indicated there was a discrepancy surrounding the issue of those “likely to exhaust.” It was noted that Employment Department statistics are generated by

information on “specific numbers and people,” whereas HIRE Calling’s informational resources (as presented) appear to be statistically unconfirmed, the Council members asked for verification of the resources used by Hire Calling. Several members discussed their concerns with the JOBS Plus program, the discussion included: (1) concerns that there is an ethical issue with using UI dollars to fund the JOBS Plus program and felt that JOBS Plus was a “social” program and that we should, therefore, not be using UI dollars to fund this program; (2) the JOBS Plus program takes away the opportunity for qualified people, not in the JOBS Plus program, to compete for these jobs; (3) questions about the benefits of the JOBS Plus program when there is not a return on investment; (4) concern that there is no equal opportunity to compete for jobs. The Advisory Council expressed great concern with HIRE Calling’s information and lack of sources provided in their material. The Council further discussed that overall, there is no compelling justification to support the program based on the data that has been discussed several times by the Employment Advisory Council.

**Marc Kane** – Reiterated his assertion that the JOBS Plus program supports low wage earners and does not force high wage earners into lower paying jobs. As presented, this legislative proposal would require a diversion of approximately \$100 million to support an eight year program, that new eligibility criteria would be established to allow only those individuals who earned \$15 per hour or less prior to becoming unemployed AND who are within the first eight (8) weeks of their unemployment insurance claim. Marc noted, that that AOI’s executive board has endorsed the proposal.

**ACTION:** The Advisory Council asked Mr. Kane to report back regarding source(s) used to generate the data and statistics listed in the materials provided by HIRE Calling.

**BREAK 10:25AM – 10:30AM**

**\* Marc Kane Left at 10:25AM \***

**Gwyn Harvey** – Asked the Advisory Council members for a consensus as to whether there was any compelling benefit to continue the JOBS Plus program since the cost ratio was not effectively presented by Hire Calling.

**Advisory Council** - Discussion took place with respect to other feasible alternatives to the JOBS Plus program and whether there should be alternatives for the diversion. It was noted that employers pay for a very small benefit and the program is only administered to a small percentage of people. The Employment Department already performs job match via iMatchSkills, and is already assisting the targeted populations. The question was raised as to whether a task force should study job training programs to determine other feasible alternatives.

**ACTION:** **Gwyn Harvey** - Asked if the Advisory Council wanted to take formal action on this issue.

**Lisa Trussell** - Asked for more information on the Employment Department’s information with respect to who is “likely to exhaust.”

**MOTION:** **Tim Nesbitt** – Moved that staff prepare documentation to address the accuracy and analyze facts, assumptions and projections regarding JOBS Plus and bring a report back to the Council.

**SECOND:** **Al Dorgan.**

**VOTE:** **Motion carried with unanimous vote.**

**MOTION:** **Tim Nesbitt** – Moved that the Advisory Council oppose legislation which will use a diversion from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund to continue the JOBS Plus program.

**SECOND:** **Diane Boly.**

**VOTE:** **Motion carried – 9 Ayes:** Boly, Dorgan, Dubin, Hallock, Harvey, Henning, Nesbitt, Rasmussen, Smith; **1 Nay:** Trussell.

### **SB 397 PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG TESTING DISQUALIFICATION**

**Susan Johnson** - Provided an analysis of SB 397. This bill would disqualify claimants from receiving unemployment benefits for failing pre-employment drug testing. Susan indicated that it was believed that this bill would be of no great impact. The fiscal impact is \$386,000, however, there would be no impact with hearings, just one side over another.

**Gwyn Harvey** – Indicated that she was hearing mixed responses with respect to SB 397, Advisory Council members were asked for a motion to either support or oppose this bill. The Advisory Council decided not to take action at this time and see if the Department receives additional information from the US Department of Labor.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

**Tamara Brickman** - Provided a handout of an abbreviated table of Priority 1 and 2 legislative bills and discussed several bills therein. The Council considered a few bills individually with respect to their support or opposition.

**HB 2818:** Requires UI recipients who are Spouses or Dependents of actively deployed Military personnel to be referred to JOBS Plus before any other JOBS Plus participant.

**Gwyn Harvey:** Called for Advisory Council position on HB 2818.

**MOTION:** Linda Rasmussen - Moves to **OPPOSE** HB 2818.

**SECOND:** Pat Smith.

**VOTE:** Motion carried – 9 Ayes: Boly, Dorgan, Dubin, Hallock, Harvey, Henning, Nesbitt, Rasmussen, Smith; 1 Abstention: Trussell

**HB 3307:** Eliminates requirement that jobs made available to JOBS Plus Program participants will not displace regular employees or fill unfilled positions previously established.

**MOTION:** Linda Rasmussen - Moved to **OPPOSE** HB 3307.

**SECOND:** Tim Nesbitt.

**VOTE:** Motion carried - 9 Ayes: Boly, Dorgan, Dubin, Hallock, Harvey, Henning, Nesbitt, Rasmussen, Smith; 1 Abstention – Trussell.

**SB 690:** Repeals the sunset on the Supplemental Unemployment for Dislocated Workers (SUD) program. Extends the SUD program eligibility criteria to Oregon National Guard or military reserve forces following change of status at time designated by executive order as period of combatant activities.

**MOTION:** Tim Nesbitt - Moved to **SUPPORT** SB 690.

**SECOND:** Al Dorgan.

**VOTE:** MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

<b>FEDERAL WORKFORCE INFORMATION / WASHINGTON DC UPDATES</b>
--

**Debbie Lincoln & Gwyn Harvey** – Provided handouts on the WIA Reauthorization Bills and Proposals. Debbie and Gwyn discussed the progress of the recent meetings in Washington, DC with respect to the WIA reauthorization and proposed bill(s) which would repeal the Wagner-Peyser Act. The Feds want to give Governors more authority, however, the states are pretty distressed about any proposed legislation to repeal the Wagner-Peyser Act. It was noted that there seems to be more support for the Senate bill and less support for the House bill.

**ACTION:** Debbie Lincoln urged Advisory Council members to take a position on this issue and stressed the need to make our positions known to the Feds. Will continue to monitor federal legislation and bring it back to the Council at the appropriate time.

**TAX SECTION TOUR**

***RESCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING ON 4/21/2005***

**CLOSING BUSINESS**

**NEXT MEETING – (4/21 @ 10AM - 12:00)**

- More discussion on bills, especially health care-related bills.
- Update on JOBS Plus with date resource information.
- Legislative Update (Tamara Brickman)
- Child Care Division Update (Tom Olsen)
- Tax Section Tour (Renee Bryant)

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:52 AM....**