



W.S.D.I.

## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 23, 2010  
**TO:** Lane County Board of Commissioners  
**FROM:** Chuck Forster, Executive Director  
Lane Workforce Partnership  
**SUBJECT:** ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING A LANE COUNTY  
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LANE WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

### I. MOTION

ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING A LANE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE  
LANE WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Board is being asked to appoint Debra Smith, Director, Employee, Customer and Community Services of EWEB, to the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors.

### III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

#### A. Background Action and Other History

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires the establishment of local workforce investment boards (comprised of a majority from business). The local board sets policy for the workforce investment system in that area. The purpose and scope of its programs are governed by the Workforce Investment Act. Note: On January 25, 2000, the Lane County Board of Commissioners approved designation of the Lane Workforce Partnership as the local workforce investment board under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

In order to receive federal job training funds to serve youth, adults and dislocated workers, workforce boards must include representation of six groups.

1. *Business* - must be owners of businesses, chief executives or operating officers of business, and other business executive or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority.

2. *Local educational entities*
3. *Labor organizations*
4. *Community-based organizations*
5. *Economic development agencies*
6. *One-stop partners*

Program services are provided through The Workforce Network (local one-stop center). An initiative of the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors, The Workforce Network is an alliance of workforce organizations that include: Department of Human Services, Employment Department, Lane Community College, Lane Workforce Partnership and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

**B. Policy Issues**

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 establishes board composition and nomination requirements for membership on local workforce investment boards, i.e. the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors. All non-business appointments are approved by the Lane County Board of Commissioners through Lane County's Board Order process.

The Board of County Commissioners is being asked to appoint Debra Smith as a Lane County representative to serve on the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors beginning the date the board order is signed through December 31, 2012. Ms. Smith wishes to serve on the board of directors, and the board of directors supports this request.

Debra Smith, Director of Employee, Customer and Community Services of Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB), has been nominated by the Eugene Chamber of Commerce to serve as a Lane County representative on the board.

**C. Board Goals**

The Lane Workforce Partnership is dedicated to improving the competitiveness of local businesses through the development of a skilled workforce and to enhance the ability of Lane County residents to secure and retain family wage jobs. The activities of the Lane Workforce Partnership relates directly to Lane County's goal "*work for a strong regional economy to expand the number of family-wage jobs available in Lane County*" (Lane County Strategic Plan 2001-05, Section IV).

**D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations**

Because membership of the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors is on a volunteer basis, there is no financial and/or resource considerations to this appointment.

**E. Analysis**

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 establishes board composition and nomination requirements for membership on local workforce investment boards, i.e. the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors. In order to be in compliance with the federal Workforce Investment Act, the board of County Commissioners is being asked to appoint Debra Smith to serve on the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors as a Lane County representative.

**F. Alternatives/Options**

To not appoint Debra Smith would result in non-compliance with the federal Workforce Investment Act and potentially decertification of the Lane Workforce Partnership as the local Workforce Investment Board. This would result in loss of services to Lane County residents and businesses.

**IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION**

The appointment would be effective on the date the Board Order is signed.

**V. RECOMMENDATION**

To appoint Debra Smith to the Lane Workforce Partnership board of directors beginning the date the board order is signed through December 31, 2012.

**VI. FOLLOW-UP**

Not applicable.

**VII. ATTACHMENTS**

Board Order

**IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON**

**}ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING  
}A LANE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO  
}THE LANE WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP  
}BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ORDER NO.**

**WHEREAS**, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires the establishment of a local workforce investment board in order to receive federal funds to serve business, youth, adults and dislocated workers in Lane County; and

**WHEREAS**, the membership shall be consistent with Title I, sec 177 (b) of the Workforce Investment Act, with a business majority and chair, and shall be appointed by Chief Elected Official(s) from each area; and

**WHEREAS**, this matter having been fully considered by the Lane County Board of Commissioners, it is hereby

**RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the following named person be appointed to serve on the Lane Workforce Partnership Board of Directors beginning the date the board order is signed through December 31, 2012.

Debra Smith  
Director of Employee, Customer and Community Services  
Eugene Water & Electric Board  
Lane County Representative

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Sorenson, Chair  
Lane County Board of County Commissioners

**ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING A LANE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LANE  
WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS**