



Business and Economic Development Committee

Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board

Sept 16, 2009 4:00 p.m.

MAN-TRA-CON

Family Opportunity Center

120 Southtowne Shopping Center

DuQuoin, IL 62832

Minutes

Members Present: William Armstrong, Robert Mees, Jim McPhail, Mary Ellen Bechtel and Rex Cusumano

Members Absent: John Alongi, John Rendleman, John Hammack, Leo Childers, Richard Morris, Janice McConnaughy and Rodney Cabaness.

MAN-TRA-CON Staff Present: Rosie Robinson

Call to Order

Committee Chairman Armstrong called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was performed and a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Armstrong requested a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 29, 2009. Rex Cusumano made the motion to accept the minutes. Mary Ellen Bechtel provided the second. All members were in favor.

Orders of the Day

Chairman Armstrong introduced the first item on the agenda as an application from General Dynamics for Incumbent Worker Training. Ms. Robinson explained that the application was very thorough and the company qualifies based on them being in the manufacturing industry sector. Currently General Dynamics employs 3 individuals who have Level I and 40 hours of Level II training on NDT Non Destructive Test Operations and X-Ray Film Reading. At the end of the year, one of those qualified individuals will retire leaving only one primary and alternate technician. No other film readers are qualified, nor can they function in a capacity to monitor and administer effective radiographic equipment. In the event of a national emergency, future business and further attrition, the company does not have the means to meet the challenge if required. Contracts that would normally flow through GD in Marion, are now going to their competition based in Iowa. GD has plans in place to move in to another business aside from ammunitions. This training is crucial for any potential projects that the company

may move toward. A visible reduction in turnover will occur with these trainees thus resulting in additional administrative costs.

The NDT Operator and X-Ray Film reading course will be provided by St. Louis Testing Laboratories, Inc. based out of St. Louis, MO. Training will be conducted 2 nights a week at the General Dynamics Training facility and will occur between 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm for 10 weeks. This training program follows the guidelines established by National Aerospace Standards and Illinois Emergency Management Agency guidelines. Currently under specification requirements and by regulation within the State of Illinois, formal training is required for NDT Technicians and personnel that read x-ray film. This program is open to Salaried Engineers and hourly staff who wish to participate. This accredited training allows the employee the ability to qualify for examination of a professional certification as a Certified Radiographic Technician Level II that increases their marketability skills. This will also allow them to start the qualification process to obtain their industrial radiographer license issued by the state. The project is expected to start on September 21, 2009 and should be ended on November 30, 2009.

Estimated total project cost is \$19,900.00 along with a book fee of \$75.00/student. Total estimate is \$20,650.00. MAN-TRA-CON's current policy awards businesses a maximum of \$10K within a current fiscal year and there is already a project in place with GD. Remaining award for General Dynamics and total costs projected using WIA Funds is \$4,880.00.

Mary Ellen Bechtel made a motion to approve the application in the amount of \$4,880.00. Jim McPhail made a second motion. All committee members were in agreement, motion carried.

Chairman Armstrong noted there were no matters from the floor or public comments. A motion to adjourn was offered by Chairman Armstrong. A motion made by Robert Mees and seconded by Rex Cusumano. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.