



SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SPOKANE WORKFORCE COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

March 1st, 2024
Meeting held via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christina Vigil Gross
Robert Duron
Diana Wilhite
Ron Valencia
Tina Morrison
Steve MacDonald
Kelley Charvet
Kimberly Watkins

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Lisa Brown
Commissioner Josh Kerns
Derek Tyree
Scott Simmons

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Mattke
Jeanette Facer
Kevin Williams
Jessica Clayton

Chair Christina Vigil Gross called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

ITEM #1 – GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Jessica Clayton, Division Executive Development & Program

DWG Quest Reallocated Funds

In January, the Executive Committee approved a preliminary award of an additional \$28,213 in funds for Quest Dislocated worker Grant program from Employment Security Department. We have since been notified that another area declined funding, and our actual reallocation is \$536,427, which will leverage with other grant funds to support staff capacity at WorkSource Spokane and expand availability of training and supportive services to our customers. This increase will bring our total DWG Quest award to \$1,565,028.

EcSA State Reallocation

The SWC has been awarded an additional \$98,145 from Employment Security Department for our Economic Security for All grant program, which supports customers who are both under the poverty line and those who are above but at-risk of falling into poverty. These are reallocated funds from other areas who do not anticipate using the funds before June 30, 2024.

(information only, no action required)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Action: Motion and second to approve SWC to accept \$536,427 in additional funds from WA Employment Security Department for the DWG Quest grant program and subcontract up to \$450,000 to the Spokane Workforce Consortium. Approved unanimously.

ITEM #2 - Resource Center of Spokane County -Facilities and Move Options

Mark Mattke, Chief Executive Officer

Due to funding and cost issues it has become necessary to look at different location options for the Resource Center of Spokane. Option A: is To close RCSC and pull out of upstairs completely but this option is not reasonable as we want to maintain a human service team. Option B: Move to Spokane Housing Authority which has some space available, however, they cannot fit all partners from RCSC. Option D is to negotiate reduced space/ square footage upstairs for a lower cost, but this option is difficult as all partners would need to be called upon to contribute to pay new rent amounts and building owner has not been open to negotiations to reduce the space. Option C is to consolidate downstairs into WorkSource. SWC programs, CHAS, Pioneer, and others have agreed to the relocation and being folded into the IFA cost sharing structure. We believe option C is the best option.

ITEM #3 – ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

Mark Mattke, Chief Executive Officer

- Local Agreement has been approved by the County and is now in approval process by the City.
- Tech Hub grant has been submitted. Asking for 80 million dollars.

Chair Christina Vigil Gross adjourned the meeting at 1:30 P.M.