

WIOA Regional and Local Designation and Redesignation  
Chief Local Elected Officials Special Session

January 30, 2015  
1:30 P.M.  
Capital Plaza Tower, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Attendees**

Chief Elected Officials: Judge/Executive John Wilson-Bluegrass, Judge/Executive Gary Robertson-Cumberlands, Judge/Executive Al Mattingly-Green River (for Bill Parrish), Judge/Executive Tommy Turner-Lincoln Trail, Judge/Executive Larry Foxworthy-TENCO, Judge/Executive Albey Brock-EKCEP (for Ed Pennington, Judge/Executive Greg Terry-West KY (by phone)

Staff: Deputy Secretary Beth Brinly, Commissioner Beth Kuhn

Guests: Craig Brock-Bell-Whitley CAA, Inc., Rob Lincks-Bell County Deputy Judge, Melissa Aguilar, Lori Collins, Elizabeth Hack, Linda Prewitt

Commissioner Kuhn opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions.

Deputy Secretary Brinly explained the purpose of the meeting was to create a common understanding of the role of the regions and local areas, understand the federal requirements and to gather feedback from the Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEOs) regarding the two local options and the regional recommendation presented by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Designation/Redesignation Steering Committee or to suggest additional options. She further provided the timeline for the designation/redesignation process and a summary of WIOA explaining the new board structure and bringing together workforce partners in a more collaborative way. Deputy Secretary Brinly added that it was the intent of Congress to have less local areas and that local areas would collapse into regions that would be solution based, employer driven and improved customer service.

Deputy Secretary Brinly provided information concerning the CLEO's role, stating that the Interlocal Agreement would require more specific information to be included, such as how the CLEO is determined, how Board members are appointed, removed or reappointed, how the fiscal agent is selected and how liability is apportioned. The second governance agreement must be a Memorandum of Agreement (Partnership Agreement) between the local elected officials and the Workforce Board explaining who does what and how disputes are resolved.

The key workforce governance and the key workforce system tasks were reviewed. The development of a new strategic workforce plan for the entire local workforce system which includes at a minimum the four core partners is paramount. Regional collaboration is required. Also, it is the intent of the law that the fiscal agent and direct service provider should be different.

After providing the background work of the Steering Committee, Deputy Secretary Brinly asked for comments and discussion on the committee's local options and regional recommendation. Comments included:

- Because of the Economic Regions in eastern KY, approval was noted that the EKCEP region remain as is.

- If the Barren River area had a different fiscal agent, issues may be resolved. But, no matter who the fiscal agent is, they are still a workforce area. Even if new areas, the area would have to collaborate in regional environment.
- There would be more administrative costs if a local area divided into two workforce areas. No need to increase overhead.
- If a local area is reorganized and there is not support from all parties, nothing is resolved.
- There would be fewer looks from employers if areas divide.
- When a new CLEO is appointed within the areas, the state will support and provide education on roles and responsibilities.
- In some areas, the WIB is isolated from the real world.
- LEOs should be informed on money issues that flow to the Board and what it can be used for.
- Sixteen of the 17 counties in the Bluegrass area want to keep workforce area as is.
- No matter how the local areas are divided, they will end up in the same region.
- Boundaries should consider economic structure.
- Must have community involvement.
- Changing boundaries is not the only option to bring about change and improvement.
- Creating the three intrastate regions would be the layer over the local areas.
- The central region would include more jobs and more population.

Several of the CLEOs commented that things were working well within their respective areas and that there were very few problems. It was the consensus of the CLEOs that Option 1, (no changes to current structure) was the best option for the state. They also agreed with the Regional recommendation of three Intrastate Regions.

Several of the CLEOs expressed their appreciation for the work done by the Steering Committee and staff for the vast information that was provided.

Meeting dismissed.