



**Executive Committee Meeting  
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 12, 2024, | 4:00 p.m.**

**Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88147866113?pwd=VGRLQmFqQ0dOZ2twR0dBWE5EdEdLZz09>

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***Board Members Present***

Leanne Liddicoat, Chair	Chelsea Rullie
Barbara Cosner, Treasurer	Jonathan Smith
Cathy Sterbenz	

***Staff Present:***

Amy Martinez	Meranda Smith
Travis Piatz	Patricia Padilla
Tim Hoerner	Michelle Smith

***Guests:***

None

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**Call to Order**

Leanne Liddicoat called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Leanne Liddicoat virtually presented the meeting minutes from the January 9, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. No further discussion followed.

**Cathy Sterbenz moved to approve the January 9, 2024, Executive Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Barbara Cosner. Motion carried**

**Consent Agenda**

Leanne Liddicoat virtually presented the consent agenda, calling for any item to be removed for discussion. No discussion followed. Leanne called for a motion to approve the items listed below.

- 03-23-001 January 2024 Financial Statements
- 03-23-002 PY23 WIOA Subcontractor Modification 2
- 03-23-003 PY23 Commerce WorkFirst Amendment A
- 03-23-004 PY23 State EcSA Modification 1

**Jonathan Smith moved to approve the items on the consent agenda as virtually presented, seconded by Cathy Sterbenz. Motion carried.**

## **PY22 IRS Tax Form 990**

Barbara Cosner virtually presented the IRS tax form 990 stating the following highlights. Following the completion of the Program Year 2022 (PY22) state audit, staff have completed the PY22 IRS Form 990. Upon completion and internal reviews, Form 990 was sent to Alegria & Company for final review. Key details:

- Net Assets increased \$82,016 for a year-end total of \$2,293,914.
- 3 largest program accomplishments;
  - WIOA - \$5,601,171 in program expenses, \$4,612,188 in subcontracts, and 941 participants served,
  - WorkFirst - \$1,497,909 in program expenses, \$1,466,940 in subcontracts, and 130 participants served, and
  - State EcSA - \$505,866 in program expenses, \$442,015 in subcontracts, and 64 participants served.

No further discussion followed.

**Cathy Sterbenz moved to approve the PY22 IRS Tax Form 990 as virtually presented, seconded by Jonathan Smith. Motion carried.**

## **Rapid Response**

Travis Piatz provided a rapid response update to the committee regarding the various agriculture layoffs happening in the region over the past 6-8 months. Over 650 employees have been laid off from 5 businesses. Columbia Valley Fruit, Roy Farms, Skagit Horticulture, and more recently, Del Monte. Staff provided rapid responses to the identified businesses and are working on coordinating a rapid response with Del Monte. However, Del Monte is working with their union representatives to address some issues at Toppenish, and until that is resolved, planning the rapid response is on hold. Travis mentioned that the Tree Fruit Association reported some challenges with the cost of fruit and the cost to produce. Hops have issues with over-planting and lack of sales. Grapes may also be having some issues this year, yet nothing definitive has been reported. Due to over 500 people being laid off, with an estimated 30% monolingual, SCW will apply with the Employment Security Department for a National Dislocated Worker grant from the Department of Labor. Leanne Liddicoat asked if there was something more going on to cause such a large shift. Travis mentioned the Tree Fruit Association is concerned with the current costs, noting apples had a great year last year which drove the costs down. It was also noted that due to weather-related issues, cherries in the north central region may have some upcoming concerns. Hops were also over-planted, and sales were down. Jon Smith shared with the group that a federal legislator sent a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture to declare a disaster for the 2023 sweet cherry harvest for the growers, noting it as an economic injury disaster. Amy asked for the link from Jon, stating these workers would be eligible for the national dislocated worker grant. . At this time, a lot of workers are on standby for unemployment insurance for the winter and are not due to come back until April. SCW is working with the Employment Security Department to watch the UI numbers and see what will happen and how much it'll impact the system. A discussion of possible future options, H2A workers, ag equipment automation, and apple variety cost to produce followed. Amy let the committee know as updates come, those will

be shared. Lastly, the retirement PERS audit has been completed with no findings or issues noted. No further discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.