



## Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Thursday; June 4, 2015; 4 – 5:30 p.m.  
Community Action Inc.

### Meeting Summary

#### Attendees (15):

Greg Boysen, Public Works Director, City of Beloit  
Michele Carter, DBE Program Chief, WisDOT  
Sheila De Forest, Beloit City Councilor  
Vincent Fisher, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist, WisDOT  
Alicia Griffin, I-39/90 DBE Outreach Coordinator – Rock County, Serendipity Communications  
Julie Harkinson, I-39/90 Sr. Equal Rights Officer, Harkinson Consulting LLC  
Tracy Jallah, Apprenticeship Training Representative - Madison South, DWD (Teleconference)  
Kelly Jackson, Statewide Tribal Liaison, WisDOT (Teleconference)  
Erika Rebout, Rock Road Companies, Inc. Benefits Manager/EEO Coordinator (Teleconference)  
Lynn Jones, Deputy Director, Community Action Inc.  
Jennifer Koleske, OBOEC, Labor Development Specialist, WisDOT  
Russ Podzilni, Chairman, Rock County Board of Supervisors  
Kim Schauder, I-39/90 Project Supervisor, WisDOT  
Randy Terronez, Assistant to County Administrator, Rock County

#### Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Vincent Fisher, WisDOT, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist

Action: None

#### Agenda Item: Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Apprenticeship Report Statistics

Presenter: Vincent Fisher, WisDOT, OBOEC, Equal Opportunity Specialist

#### Actions:

1. Tracy Jallah will inquire about obtaining Walworth County's apprenticeship numbers per request by Lynn Jones.
2. The DBE Program Office will include a baseline on apprenticeship numbers so that Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee members can see the difference. This will be provided at our August 13, 2015 meeting.



## Discussion:

### Handouts:

- Southwest Area Construction Apprentice Snapshot – Rock County Zip Codes
- Southwest Area Construction Apprentice Snapshot – Green County Zip Codes

Vincent Fisher outlined the following data that is highlighted in the handouts:

- Southwest Area's non-minority, female apprentices with a Rock County zip code totaled 5. They included positions in Construction Craft Laborer, Construction Electrician, Iron Worker and Steam Fitter.
- The apprentice trades that are used in road and bridge construction work that is included in the handouts includes: Carpenter (Construction), Concrete Finisher, Construction Craft Laborer, Construction Electrician, Iron Worker, Operating Engineer, Painter and Decorator, Plumber and Sheet Metal Worker
- There were a total of four (4) Minority Apprentices with Rock County Zip Codes. They include:
  - 1 – Hispanic Carpenter (Construction)
  - 1 – African American Construction Electrician
  - 1 – Hispanic Construction Electrician
  - 1 – African American Operating Engineer

Michele Carter summarized the following information highlighted in the handouts:

- The benefits of looking at a snapshot is that it informs us of new people that have become apprentices. These people have passed all trade standards, they have passed tests and an employer has picked them up. This report lets us know if there is any movement. It shows the trades with the most diversity coming in or not.
- This month's reports shows that out of 219 Rock County apprentices:
  - A few women are inching up with a total of 5 females
  - There was a total of 7 minority apprentices
  - There are more females coming in as apprentices than there are Black males
- In Green County, there is no female activity. There are 40 apprentices in all trades. Of the 40, 2 are minority.
- Although the Dane County report wasn't included as a handout, their numbers double and/or triple those that are shown in Rock County.

Lynn Jones asked if it would be possible to get the apprentice statistics for Walworth County. Tracy Jallah indicated that she would inquire about getting those numbers.

Sheila De Forest asked if we'd come up with an idea for a baseline so that we can see the difference. This was brought up at the last meeting. Michele Carter indicated that we will be able to include that information at our next meeting.

Kim Schauder asked "How long would a person be considered an apprentice?" Michele Carter shared that they can come on and drop off. Their length of time depends on the trade (e.g., an electrician is 5-years). Apprenticeships, though, are not in actual years; but, in hours-in training classifications and working on projects gaining a skill set. Case in point, even if you passed the standards and you've never worked for an employer, you won't get there.



## Wisconsin Department of Transportation



Sheila De Forest shared that occasionally people come in as journeymen. Is there a way to capture that and add that? Michele responded that this would be in our TrANS program status. The Apprentice Snapshot report has nothing to do with our TrANS program counting.

Julie Harkinson asked if the labor information that talks about the total minorities – regardless of the program – is provided. Michele Carter responded that it is.

**Agenda Item:** WisDOT I-39/90 Mega Project Overview - Review of Let Schedule

**Presenter:** Kim Schauder, WisDOT, I-39/90 Project Supervisor

**Action:** None

**Discussion:**

Handouts:

- WisDOT I-39/90 Mega Project Overview (6/4/2015)
- Beloit to Janesville 2015 Construction Activities

South Segment Construction Activities highlighted:

- County G (Prairie Avenue), Rock County & BT (Inman Parkway extension), Rock County – The existing diamond interchange and structure over the interstate will be reconstructed to meet current standards and to accommodate additional lanes.
- County G (Prairie Avenue), will be done this year.
- County BT (Inman Parkway extension), may take 2 years to get through. The contractor is hoping to complete in Fall 2015.
- Avalon Road will be starting later this year and will be converting to a diverging diamond interchange – eliminating left turns across the traffic and creating a free form left turn.
- Rock River Bridges will be going on.
- County S (Shopiere Road) interchange, Rock County
  - New ramp to the far right – dirt being moved.
  - Existing road where buildings are, will become a frontage road.
  - There's a backage road that will take you to a gas station – this is for access issues.

**Agenda Item:** Workforce Utilization SW Region

- Review Workforce Utilization for Active Contracts
- Workers with Rock County Zip Codes
- Demographics of current SW Region Workforce

**Presenter:** Michele Carter, WisDOT DBE Program Chief



## **Action:**

- The Workforce Utilization SW Region Report will be distributed electronically to Stakeholders along with the Meeting Summary of this meeting.

## **Discussion:**

### Handouts:

- Geographical Analysis Report – Zip (Head Count)
- Mega Project Workforce Utilization Report Head Count

### **Geographical Analysis Report – Zip (Head Count)**

- Zip Code 53534 (Edgerton, WI) has the largest number of individuals working in the Southwest Region. The list of counties identified in the Southwest Region include: Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, Rock, Sauk and Vernon
- The most minorities are coming out of Zip Code 53511 (Beloit, WI).
- This report gives an idea of where people are that are working on our projects. These people, though, can be working throughout the state. This information is obtained through certified payroll and shows where their checks go.
- 6,566 is the total number of people employed in Southwestern Wisconsin. Of that number, 2.08% are female and 9.38% are minority.

### **Mega Project Workforce Utilization Report Head Count / I-39-90 Rock County (Illinois Stateline to Madison)**

- The trade that's using the most apprentices is heavy equipment operators.
- The heavy equipment operator apprentices include 37 Caucasian males and 2 females.
- Journeymen, someone that has finished an apprenticeship or already had a skill level, has 352 heavy equipment operators.
- Journeymen usually have a 1:5 to 1:3 ratio across all the trades.
- Heavy Equipment Operators make \$36.72 per hour and they have a Fringe Benefit Package of \$20.
- Laborers also have apprentices
  - 11 compared to 453 journeymen
  - Female: 3.8%
  - Minority: 12%
- Laborers and operating engineers have the most diversity statewide
- Laborers have a union located in the Dane County/Madison area and a separate one in the Milwaukee County area. Flaggers are in this category and sometimes traffic control, air tools and skid steers are included.
- Laborers earn \$29.04 per hour and they have a Fringe Benefit Page of \$14.63 (fringe)
- Laborers – flaggers are in this category sometime (traffic control), air tools, skid steers,



Julie Harkinson asked for clarification under the different categories. Michele Carter indicated that a Laborer is not just a pick up person. This category is “apprenticeable” and a person can become a journeyman laborer. An individual can start as a laborer and decide to be another trade once an idea of the requirements is obtained. It’s not “chump” change. Michele also noted that in all proposals, the wage range is placed as the back.

### Truck Drivers

- There is a lot of diversity and larger numbers in truck drivers.
- The Truck Driver percentage is 5.2%
- Numbers this period:
  - 1,577 - Total
  - 41 females – 2.5%
  - 124 minorities – 7%.

This is higher than the US DOL Office of Federal Contract Compliance thinks the goal for this area should be
  - In Rock County, 3.1% is the minority percentage goal
  - In Dane County, 2.2% is the minority percentage goal
  - In Milwaukee County, 8% is the minority percentage goal. They’re currently at 7.8%
  - Females across the state should be 6.9%. We’re at about 2.6%.

Russ Podzilni asked if these numbers represented all union jobs. Michele Carter responded that in bid letting, the prime contractor leads it. For example, Zinego is one of the biggest non-union contractors winning our contracts. However, the vast majority are union contractors.

### Agenda Item: TrANS Program Update

#### Action:

- TrANS report, once compiled by Forward Service Corporation, will be sent out to Rock County Stakeholders.

#### Discussion:

- The TrANS class will be completed on June 12<sup>th</sup>. A networking event with contractors will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- A TrANS report will be sent to Stakeholders.
- Randy Terronez shared that the TrANS program and contacts are mentioned during career fairs.
- Sheila De Forest has been referring and recruiting “like crazy” using Facebook and the City Council.
- Community Action is really working to prepare people for TrANS.
- Lynn Jones is feeding TrANS participants through various programs including the Fresh Start and the Fatherhood Initiative Programs. Staff in these programs are really involved with the participants and getting them ready for TrANS. Sometimes it’s a matter of building the basic skills and preparing them for the testing.



## Wisconsin Department of Transportation



- Lynn Jones shared that the first TrANS group was a little rough and that the timing was challenging. Community Action is working with the staff of Forward Service and helping to support them as much as possible.

**Topic:** Calendar Items, Let Dates and Business Committee

**Presenter:** Vincent Carter, WisDOT Committee Facilitator

**Action:** None

**Discussion:**

- Kelly Jackson shared that The 2015 Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference will be held November 3-4, 2015 at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Green Bay, WI
- Michele Carter shared the following handouts:
  - WisDOT DOT Apparent Bid Results for the letting of May 12, 2015
  - DOT Division of Transportation System Development (website – Highway construction bid letting information)

The Apparent Bid Results For The Letting of May 12, 2015 handout gives an idea of the companies that are competing on WisDOT projects. Primes that bid must be doing 30% of the work.

Russ Podzilni asked how people are able to bid. Michele Carter shared that bidders must pre-qualify through the Bureau of Project Development. If they are a subcontractor, though, they don't. Primes will also be vetting a firm that submits a quote. Ultimately, though, WisDOT has a contract with the prime and the prime contractor is the one that has a contract with the sub.

### **Business Committee**

Sheila De Forest asked if technical assistance would be provided for businesses looking toward contracting opportunities. Alicia Griffin shared that the WisDOT offers one-on-one consulting assistance and other support services to assist DBE firms. These services include the following:

- Management services in business plan development
- Financial package preparation
- Accounting systems
- Bonding and marketing assistance
- Technical assistance

Meeting concluded at 5:30 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

August 13, 2015, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

**Community Action, Inc.;** 20 Eclipse Center; Beloit, WI (GPS Address: 600 Henry Avenue)

Teleconference Number: **888-557-8511** / Access Code: **4253910**