

## ACCO Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes, June 25, 2009

Attending were: Mike Thompson, Chairman; Gayle Ward, ACCO Executive Director; Carla Bonner, CED Special Projects; Melba Nance, Blaine County; Gary Deckard, Washington County; Roy Bible, Craig County; Steve Tompkins, Custer County; Roy Wayne Blevins, Johnston County; Doug Wright, LTAP Director; Mike Hinkston, LTAP; Wayne Scribner, Marshall County; Notie Lansford, CTP Director; Kevin Smith, Pittsburg County; Susan Ulrich, Comanche County; and Linda Herndon, Washington County.

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order, at 1:00 PM. Herndon called roll. Guests were recognized.

A motion by Melba Nance was made for approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the ACCO Education Committee held May 21, 2009, seconded by Wayne Scribner, passed by acclamation.

Thompson made two announcements: Doug Wright was officially appointed the Director of the OSU Center for Local Technology Assistance Program by the OSU Board of Regents this week; and J.M. Kelley, Commissioner from Custer County had passed away. Roy Bible offered a prayer for his family and friends.

Doug Wright stated that as Director he would like to have some members from this Committee attend an overview of training offerings to be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August. He said he plans to refocus more on Technical Training.

Thompson asked Gayle Ward for her report. Gayle stated that she had received approval by the ACCO Board of Directors for the Strategic Planning Committee to move forward with the plans made at the last meeting. She plans to make a more in-depth presentation to the Board at their July meeting. She encouraged every member of this committee to attend their CED meetings and make reports regarding this group's progress, requesting their district's input. A "Course Frame Work" list was distributed for consideration. After lengthy discussion it was agreed that we should focus on two courses to develop at this time. The #1 course agreed to will be "County Commissioner Duties 101", and #2 "Resources 101". Each one of these may be offered twice during the year at different locations in the state. Input from the Committee members, OSU, and other resources will be utilized to develop these courses.

Plans are to develop a time-line for course development, and hold four abbreviated courses per year including hands-on activities, role playing and small group activities. The courses are to be held at different locations across the state, possibly state parks. Simplistic 101 pocketbooks are to be developed focusing on each course. She encouraged any Commissioner that was interested in promoting this effort to sign-up to be involved. Dana Hudgins, Creek County Commissioner, would like to be added to the committee.

Some other items discussed were:

- Development of the pocket-sized 101 Manuals for each course with members encouraged to e-mail their thoughts to Carla Bonner [carlab@okacco.com](mailto:carlab@okacco.com);
- The DA's Council would like to hold a workshop with Commissioners;
- The importance of not overlooking the extreme differences between counties – each one with specific needs and differing focuses;
- Development of a "Best Practices List" as a resource for commissioners;
- Developing a "Committee's List of Commissioners" to provide additional resources based on subjects, i.e. bridge funding, road construction, personnel challenges, media relations, etc;
- Testimonials to be shared regarding the importance of cross training of personnel in all county offices and departments;
- The importance of accurate numbers for the 2010 US Census which will determine basis for redistricting and funding for grants;
- CED's must strive to share resources within their districts (transfer of equipment rather than trashing); and
- The differences between "the private business way and the county way."
- Golden Rule of hiring, "Never hire anyone you couldn't fire."

Carla requested a review of the questionnaire and for any other questions or suggestions be e-mailed to her so the revisions can be made. Plan is to distribute the questionnaire during the summer conference.

A Strategic Planning Committee Motto was recommended by Melba Nance: **Strength by Education, Service Through Knowledge**. A motion to approve by Roy Wayne Blevins and seconded by Steve Tompkins, and was unanimously approved by the committee. Gayle said they would work on getting some buttons made to help develop interest in education.

The importance of promoting county government in our communities was discussed. Notie reported OSU is working to update their video on Understanding County Government. Gayle pointed out Randy Robinson had developed a power point focused mostly on county commissioners responsibilities, but also includes an overview of county government is available and is available upon request. Ideas on ways to improve the relationships between county commissioners were requested. Success stories of what has worked would be good information to share.

At the July Summer Conference meeting, a brief overview of this committee's goals and objectives will be presented during the Committee's scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda D. Herndon, Secretary