

BUTLER MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

March 29, 2006

MINUTES

Present:

Jim Ferguson – Penn United Technology
Dave Frengel – Penn United Technology
Terri Bowser – CID Associates
Doug Bartosh – Unimach Manufacturing
Mary Salony – TCWIB
Peggy Weckerly – Butler County CareerLink

Minutes of the March 29, 2006, meeting were reviewed and approved.

Clearview Mall Manufacturing Showcase May 5-6-7

Jim and Peggy met with John Brautigam of Clearview Mall and were told the cost of placement of 15 tables and 2 chairs/table in Center Court will be \$1500 total. The purpose of this is to showcase, network and recruit – and to show the connection of the company product with the end product. Each manufacturer needs to bring a display and sample product(s) and provide someone to help in rotating staffing for the entire event. Two people need to be there at all times for that weekend – someone from HR, a crew leader, skilled worker, etc. **As a special incentive to join the Consortium, the fee will be \$150 for non-members and includes a 1-year membership in the Consortium.** Current Consortium members will pay \$100. The Eagle is offering a large display ad to highlight this event and encouraging each manufacturer to pay for a business card size ad (see example included) for \$100 each if 12 companies pay for their ads there.

Checking Account Issue

The group unanimously voted to open a Butler County Manufacturing Consortium checking account. Jim Ferguson is the current Chairperson, and Doug Bartosh agreed to be the Treasurer and will secure an EIN and open the account. This is considered to be an “interim board” pending new memberships. Membership dues can now be sent to:

Unimach Manufacturing
% Doug Bartosh
1652 Route 422 East
Fenelton, PA 16034-9713

Work Ready Training Program

The Tri-County Manufacturing Consortium has voted to purchase this program using current grant money to bring people into manufacturing (see example enclosed). Florida manufacturers created the curriculum to include basic math and insure that new employees have basic skills to help in job learning and retention. Job seekers can be self-referred or local manufacturers can refer someone whom they want to hire. The second

level looks at worker groups needing safety and other more specific training. The end result is a Work Ready Certificate which can be taken the employer to encourage hiring.

Doug sees this as being similar to Manufacturing 2000 for which he was an instructor. He sees potential in this since currently employees “fill in space” and then are weeded out. Work Ready would eliminate most of that. Pre-and post-testing of recruits would be required. Dave suggests that the ultimate results be shared with area schools to demonstrate how many graduates from each district can pass the basic test.... with the goal being to help to develop need instructional emphasis.

Consortium Website

Allegheny Graphics in Armstrong County designed that county’s website <http://www.armstrongmfg.org/> , and we need to determine whether a commitment was made to them for all 3 counties. Peggy will contact Vickie DeThomas, Tri-County Chair, before the next meeting.

Incumbent Worker \$\$\$ Received!

Mary Salony confirmed that TCWIB has received the incumbent worker grant monies, although a formal announcement will occur soon!!! That means money is available for the training the consortium indicated they wanted.

The remainder of the meeting included “show and tell” of products from the companies represented today.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 19, at 7:30 AM at Butler County CareerLink