

**7.D Acceptance of the CWI Special Innovations Grant for the Virtual Job Center –  
(Action)  
(Approve Recommendation from Workforce Services and Finance Committees)**

SWWDB was awarded \$100,000 for a Special Innovations Grant from the Council on Workforce Investment (CWI). The grant will enable the SWWDB, in cooperation with the Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB) and the North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB), to develop a technology-based workforce delivery system that can be used as an alternative to the current facility-based Job Centers. The “Virtual” Job Center will be an enhanced web site which can be accessed from anywhere there is Internet access. The two main purposes for developing a Virtual Job Center is to be able to provide extended access to Job Center services in a time where funding for physical Job Center sites is declining, and to provide access to Job Center resources and services 24 hours a day to both jobseekers and employers.

While award of the grant has been discussed previously and the Workforce Services Committee and Finance Committee have both acted to accept the grant, the grant needs to be approved by the Board to be included in the 2006-07 budget.

Both the Workforce Service Committee and the Finance Committee recommend acceptance of the CWI Special Innovations Grant for the Virtual Job Center in the amount of \$100,000. Board action on the recommendation is requested.