

**NORTHEAST OHIO CONSORTIUM ("NOC")  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 14, 2018  
1:30 PM**

OMJ Center – Portage, Conference Room  
253 S. Chestnut Street,  
Ravenna, Ohio 44024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Casey Kozlowski (Ashtabula County Commissioner)  
Walter "Skip" Claypool (Geauga County Commissioner)  
Sabrina Christian-Bennett (Portage County Commissioner)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Patrick Arcaro (ACDJFS-Executive Director), Sue Brannon (PCJFS), Angel Brandner (PCJFS), Brian Boykin (PCJFS), Mandy Berardinelli (OMJC-Portage), Lissa Barry (Delta Systems), Ron Smith (ACDJFS), Craig Sernik (Area 19-Director), Michelle Laveck (Area 19), Denise Gehring (Area 19)

Mr. Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

Minutes

**Mr. Claypool moved to approve the minutes from December 6, 2017 meeting. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

Administrative Report

Mr. Sernik reported on the following items.

*Federal Issues.* Congress reached a budget deal on February 8, 2018. Domestic spending will increase by \$63 billion in FY 18 and \$68 billion in FY 19. In order to make WIOA funded at the level congress said it would fund WIOA FY 18, they would need to increase WIOA \$300 million from where spending was for FY 17.

*State Issues.* The OWA is discussing some revisions to the CCMEP administrative rules with ODJFS.

*Audits.* The auditors are currently at the NOC COG office.

*Unemployment Compensation System* is experiencing issues again with only a small staff to man the call-in lines.

*State Policies.* The most recent updated policy is the Use of Social Media. Portage and Ashtabula both use social media and Geauga does not. Portage and Ashtabula received a report card from the state outlining a few minor items that have since been fixed and both counties are now in compliance with state policy.

*Record Keeping.* The state will in the near future implement rules regarding when we can gather and what they want us to gather with social security numbers.

*Ohio Workforce Association Business and Miscellaneous.* The state is updating their State WIOA Combined Plan which the OWA reviewed and found a couple of performance measures objectionable. One is that for areas such as Area 19, if a measure is passed but one county within the area is carrying two other counties who had failed on their own the area would fail as a whole. This is in direct contravention to federal law. Also the state is trying to measure the total number of individuals who are receiving unemployment compensation in a county compared to those that are registered and enrolled in WIOA. The OWA is not sure what the measure for this would be. The OWA is planning a strategic retreat for mid April 2018. It was suggested that each of Area 19's OMJ Centers send an individual with Mr. Sernik to attend the retreat. The OWA at their February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will be meeting with candidate for governor, Attorney General Mike DeWine.

### Fiscal Report

Ms. Laveck reported that all counties had signed off on the July 2017 to December 2017 financials.

### Old Business

- *Presentation of Performance Reports.* Mr. Sernik reported PY 17 first quarter measures total of five measures the area is exceeding four measures and meeting one.
- *CCMEP Status.* Mr. Sernik stated the OMJ Center case managers and fiscal are experiencing difficulties with the new state CFIS and CLT systems. The case manager enters an eligible youth for a service requiring direct services into the system but when fiscal goes into the system to update and make payment there are times when the service will need to be entered multiple times. This causes a time burden on both the case manager and fiscal. The state has responded this is due to a system error. CCMEP is seeing a post summer dip in enrollment. CCMEP Youth enrollment for Ashtabula is at 507, Portage is at 160, and Geauga is between 6 and 8.
- *Update on Job/Career Fairs.* Mr. Sernik report Portage is planning a combined job and career fair, Geauga is planning to do three job fairs: 1) a regular job fair; 2) a reverse job fair; and 3) a job fair for the CDL training students, and Ashtabula is planning a job fair in April. Ms. Berardinelli announced the job/career fair will be on March 14<sup>th</sup> held at NEOMED with all local schools invited with 750 students who've rsvp'd. This is a career fair in which vendors represent career clusters; students are given a passport with career clusters and will receive a stamp in their passport each time they ask questions at a Station. Currently have 12 to 13 college/trade schools to participate and some good resources for teachers and schools. Question was asked if the public was invited. Ms. Berardinelli responded no it is closed to the public because it is with the youth. Mr. Sernik stated Ashtabula's job fair will be held at KSU-Ashtabula with juniors and seniors in the morning and the afternoon will be for the general public.

### New Business

- *Discussion regarding contract between JobsOhio, the NOC COG and Area CDJFS.* Mr. Sernik reported JobsOhio wants to be able to come with an employer to meet with the OMJ Center to provide talent for the employer. A template of the agreement has been marked up with suggestions to send on behalf of the OWA to JobsOhio. The agreement would become enforceable if JobsOhio develops and identifies a project

in your area. The OMJ would then draw up a budget with a work service agreement drawn up afterwards. Discussion commenced. Discussion concluded.

**Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to authorize Executive Director to enter into Negotiations with JobsOhio and each of the CDJFS to execute a Master Services Agreement. Mr. Kozłowski seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

- *Presentation on ARC POWER grant opportunity.* Mr. Sernik reported the \$1.5 million ARC POWER grant was published the last day of January. The large group we are with is pursuing the grant and will probably ask for \$3 million to do business services. It will be matching money between a 44 to 50 percent match. Discussion commenced. Discussion concluded.

**Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to authorize Executive Director to submit a budget for the ARC POWER grant opportunity with a match of up to what is currently invested. Mr. Kozłowski seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

- *Discussion regarding entering into a contract with Auditor's Office, Division of Small Government for the provision of a Generally Accepted Accounting Principal Conversion.*

**Mr. Claypool moved to approve entering into a three (3) year contract with the Auditor's Office, Division of Small Government for the provision of a Generally Accepted Accounting Principal Conversion, for up to 50 hours of service per year, at a price of \$50.00 an hour, for a maximum amount of \$2,500.00 per year. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

- *Library MOU.* Mr. Sernik recommended the OMJ Centers reach out to each of the libraries within their county to invite them to attend a partners meeting to discuss what each can do to cross promote each other's organization.

- *Appointment to the Workforce Dev Board.*

**Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to accept the resignation of Moné Givner, representative of Wagner-Peyser program, from the Area 19 Workforce Development Board. Mr. Claypool seconded the motion which was approved by all present.**

**Mr. Claypool moved to appoint William Moore, representative of Wagner-Peyser program, to the Area 19 Workforce Development Board representing Wagner-Peyser & VETS for Portage, Geauga, and Ashtabula. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all present.**

#### Public Comment Period

None

Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Claypool seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Meeting concluded at 3:17 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Denise Gehring.