

**NORTHEAST OHIO CONSORTIUM (“NOC”)
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
September 28, 2022
1:30-PM**

Geauga County Offices, Meeting Room Suite A334
12611 Ravenwood Drive,
Chardon, Ohio 44024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Dvorak
Commissioner Casey Kozlowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Sabrina Christian-Bennett

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Margo Reda (OMJ-Geauga), Mandy Minnick (OMJ-PCJFS),
Andrea McGee (GCJFS), Alyssa Parnaby (GCJFS), Hattie Grubke-
Barnard (OMJ-Ashtabula), Sue Brannon (PCJFS), Angel Brandner
(PCJFS), Brian Boykin (PCJFS), Patrick Arcaro (ACJFS-Director),
Craig Sernik (Area 19 Director), Denise Gehring (Area 19).

Mr. Dvorak called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.

Minutes

**Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve the meeting Minutes from August 31, 2022, as presented.
Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

Administrative Report

Mr. Sernik reported the state has a new initiative, Project Hope, which is for those individuals who apply for UI to direct these individuals to the OMJ Centers or offer them assistance virtually. On site OMJ certification reviews have been done for Ashtabula, Geauga and Portage but did not have the Workforce Board approve at their meeting held today. This is because we just received the final quote to do the ADA review of the new Geauga County building which houses the OMJ Geauga Center.

Fiscal Report

Discussion of Funds in Jeopardy and Presentation of the Amended Administrative Budget for PY 22.

Mr. Sernik reported Ashtabula had an excess of \$41,000 of PY 20 CCMEP WIOA that was moved over to Geauga County who will expend it. Portage may have some youth funds remaining from their special grant that will be transferred over to Geauga County to expend. Discussions with the state began regarding Area 19 receiving special grants for youth this year to distribute to all three counties. It looks likely that \$300,000 in adult and dislocated worker from Ashtabula County will be returned to the State.

Mr. Sernik discussed a possible RFP/Q for professional services to all present. The board directed the NOC COG Director to place the professional services out for bid and the bids that are received to be presented to the NOC COG Board for the approval of the cost.

Mr. Kozlowski moved to adopt the amended Administrative Budget for PY 22 and approve the fiscal report as presented. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all those present.

Reports of County OMJ Centers

OMJ Geauga County. Ms. Reda reported the OMJ Center is taking meetings with Cardinal Local Schools and Chardon Local Schools for possible events to be held in the Spring of next year, and AWT training center ribbon ceremony will be held October 7th. The October 14th NEOEA Day teacher tour of businesses has low attendance numbers so far and the businesses that will be visited are Oman Family Living, Exscape Landscaping, and Great Lakes Cheese. Summer youth employment program closed end of August with only 23 kids in the program with \$65,000 in wages.

OMJ Portage County. Ms. Minnick reported CCMEP currently has 105 youth in the program, completed the procurement for leadership and entrepreneurship services and hope to enter into an agreement with Leadership for Portage County, running an event today to connect 187 ABOTs with employment, 117 PRC applications were received this month, WIOA unit is still actively approving ITAs, served 138 universal customers, and offered approximately 300 employer services primarily job postings and job orders. The Connections Program began which transitioned into the State's pilot Benefit Bridge Program and received some applications, OMJ staff will participate in more intensive trauma training in October, actively re-engaging the Citizen Circle and Re-entry Programs, and Hopetown Project has expanded to open to women's shelter. Partnered with Portage Development Board to put together a job fairs based upon bus routes and held the first job fair in Ravenna at a youth center with a total of 16 employers and 60 job seekers attend. And preparing to do another Kent bus route job fair and a Wyndham bus route job fair in the spring.

OMJ Ashtabula County. Ms. Grubke-Barnard reported have spent up to \$200,000 in adult funding for 21 ITAs so far, in August and September received 100 youth CCMEP applications, approximately 100 youth in the summer employment program with \$350,000 spent on youth, approximately 100 Just Summer Youth working, and used some PRC Covid funds to make "Ready-for-Work" bags for the summer work youth. Also doing trauma informed care training on October 6th for all the staff and partners, and HEAP begins November 1st. Also, attending Safety Council to let businesses know about the services offered at the OMJ Center, Ashtabula County Manufacturing Summer Camp concluded, and survey results were positive. A total of 20 job orders were received this month, as of September there are 640 youth in CCMEP program with 210 in follow-up and 430 active youth in program, and yO! celebrated their 20th anniversary.

Old Business

Amendment of the PY 21 ACDJFS Youth Agreement.

Mr. Kozlowski moved to amend the PY 21 WIOA CCMEP Agreement with ACDJFS for the period from January 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, to an increase not to exceed \$40,000.00 in WIOA funding. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Amendment of the PY 21 GCJFS Youth Agreement

Mr. Kozlowski moved to amend the PY 21 WIOA CCMEP Agreement with GCJFS to a conclusion of the term of the agreement from September 30, 2022, to that of September 30, 2023, and amend the amount of compensation available with an additional \$10,000.00.

New Business

Budgets for the PY 22 Youth Agreements.

Ashtabula County JFS:

Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Ashtabula County Department of Job & Family Services for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County:

Mr. Kozlowski moved to add to the agenda the motion to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County in an amount not to exceed \$21,850.26 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County in an amount not to exceed \$21,850.26 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Portage County JFS:

Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Portage County Department of Job & Family Services for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$326,205.66 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

A-Tech (Ashtabula):

Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with A-Tech for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$270,000.00 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

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Family & Community Services, Inc. (Portage County):

Mr. Kozlowski moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Family & Community Services, Inc. for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.00 for the FY 22 fiscal year from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Mr. Sernik stated the Workforce Board will be presented in December with the major policies that are used for self-sufficiency and everything in respect to supported services budgets to see if anything needs updated or changed. And possibly institute a needs related program which would allow to provide a stipend. Performance Measures were negotiated and those negotiated numbers are listed in the Performance handout.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourn the Meeting

Mr. Kozlowski moved to adjourn. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Denise Gehring.