

**NORTHEAST OHIO CONSORTIUM (“NOC”)
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 2023
11:00 a.m.**

Geauga County Offices, Meeting Room B167-B168,
12611 Ravenwood Drive,
Chardon, Ohio 44024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Dvorak
Commissioner Sabrina Christian-Bennet

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Casey Kozlowski

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Margo Reda (OMJ-Geauga), Hattie Grubke-Barnard (OMJ-Ashtabula), Alissa Drees (ACJFS), Kim Brown (OhioGuidestone), Angel Brandner (PCJFS), Vanessa L. Beard (PCJFS), Sue Brannon (PCJFS), Alyssa Steinhoff (GCJFS), Brian Guarniere (GCJFS), Craig Sernik (Area 19 Director), Denise Gehring (Area 19).

Ms. Christian-Bennett called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

Minutes

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve the meeting Minutes from July 26, 2023, as presented. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Administrative Report

Mr. Sernik reported the ARIES system issues remain, ODJFS provided a hold harmless on performance measures, still waiting for Area 3 to reach out to us regarding the broadband expansion, QUEST II grant will be for the electric vehicle industry, keep offering to assist BACs to support developing the industry recognized credentials pathway to graduation and Ashtabula and Portage Counties have their virtual reality headsets. ODJFS gave the area \$10,000 for rebranding of the new red/white/blue Ohio logo with the name remaining the same and have until June 2024. UI continues to have issues, rapid response for Deluxe Corporation will be done by OMJ-Portage with an on-site transition center. Will go after a special grant in October for additional youth monies. The Ohio Workforce Association held its first training in which OMJ-Portage’s Mandy Minnick and A-Tech’s Shae Ballard presented representing Area 19 very well. Working with Conexus to assist with making a connection to Portage County trainers and Portage County employers for advanced manufacturing.

Fiscal Report

Mr. Sernik reviewed the fiscal report handout with all those present. ODJFS asked if Area 19 would loan them Fresh Start funds to be paid back in either November or December. Ashtabula stated it would give up \$30,000 and Portage \$20,000.

Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to accept the fiscal report as presented. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

One Stop and Youth Reports

OMJ-Geauga County. Ms. Reda reported have someone provisionally hired for the Auburn Career Center Navigator position, assisted ESC of Western Reserve for application for part of the Ohio STEM Learning Ecosystems initiative and was submitted earlier this week, collaborated with the Drug Court's "Rocking the Community Resources" event in which 200 people attended, working to solve not having TTY in the OMJ Center building, Ohio Highway Patrol job fair event was held with close to 20 individuals attend and 4 candidates, incumbent worker training had 14 businesses 161 employees trained, Jodi Clute was at Chardon High School to work with 50 students to show an OMJ-Center demo of outreach jobs, and the summer youth employment program ended beginning of August did have 25 participants with actual wages earned \$67,000.

OMJ-Portage County. Mr. Sernik reported a rapid response will be held for Deluxe Corporation and the educator breakfast was held in which 60 plus individuals attended.

OMJ-Ashtabula County. Ms. Grubke-Barnard reported 27 job orders for 10 employers in August, rapid response event for Rite Aid with other Rite Aid stores grabbing up employees, in August did 19 briefings, TABE tested 31 people, approved 17 trainings in August 14 LPNs and 3 RNs and 6-8 in process, HEAP begins, ASPIRE program will offer night and weekend GED classes, SNAP/ENT is adding three new exemptions beginning September 1st, 64 mandated CCMEP youth, total CCMEP program as of September is 609 with 98 in follow-up with currently 500 active youth. RESEA average for August, 77 youth participating working just through the summer employment program with approximately 70 percent of the youth have applied to be in the year round program.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Invoice from Ashtabula County Commissioners for indirect costs associated with WIOA; total \$8,467.00.

Mr. Dvorak moved to table the agenda item Invoice from Ashtabula County Commissioners for indirect costs associated with WIOA; total \$8,467.00. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Budgets for the PY 23 Youth Agreements.

Ashtabula JFS Agreement/Budget:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with ACJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$17,000.00 for pre-enrollment services and \$3,000.00 spread out over four articles) for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

A-Tech Agreement/Budget (Ashtabula):

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with A-Tech for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County Agreement/Budget (Ashtabula):

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County in an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Geauga JFS Agreement/Budget:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with GCJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

OhioGuidestone Agreement/Budget:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with OhioGuidestone for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$136,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Portage JFS Agreement/Budget:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with PCJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

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

Mr. Dvorak 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 \$182,500.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Leadership Portage County Agreement/Budget:

Discussion commenced. Discussion concluded.

Mr. Dvorak moved to amend the motion to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support an agreement with Leadership Portage County for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG to read Motion to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support leadership and entrepreneurship CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget to support leadership and entrepreneurship CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 for the FY 23 fiscal year from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. An agreement for a total amount for each article of program services will be negotiated by the Executive Director and ratified, approved, and signed by the President of the NOC COG. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Policy Changes.

Review of recommended policy amendment to the Area 19 Local Policy A-07 Incumbent Worker Training. Mr. Sernik explained the proposed changes to all present. **Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to amend the Incumbent Worker Training Policy, A-07. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.**

Fresh Start Funding.

Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to authorize the Executive Director to loan an amount to be determined of Fresh Start funds from ACJFS and PCJFS to ODJFS. Mr. Dvorak seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourn the Meeting

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

Meeting Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Denise Gehring.