

**NORTHEAST OHIO CONSORTIUM (“NOC”)
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING AGENDA**

September 2, 2020
12:00 p.m.

Conducted via Phone Conference
Due to Coronavirus Pandemic

Mr. Sernik announced today’s meeting was published in the local newspapers which referenced the NOC COG website that provided the call-in information. This is in compliance with the State Auditor and State Attorney General’s rules on Ohio’s Public Meetings Act and Ohio Sunshine Laws and as a result is an official business meeting.

ROLE CALL OF THOSE PRESENT VIA PHONE CONFERENCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Sabrina Christian-Bennett
Commissioner Jim Dvorak

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Casey Kozlowski

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sue Brannon (PCJFS), Brian Boykin (PCJFS), Angel Brandner (PCDJFS), Margo Reda (OMJ-Geauga), Craig Swenson (GCJFS-Director), Kimberly Brown (OhioGuidestone), Hattie Grubke-Barnard (OMJ-Ashtabula), Ron Smith (ACDJFS), Patrick Arcaro (ACDJFS-Director), Craig Sernik (Area 19-Director), Michelle Laveck (Area 19), Denise Gehring (Area 19)

Ms. Christian-Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m.

Minutes

Ms. Christian-Bennett moved to approve the meeting Minutes from June 24, 2020 as presented. Mr. Dvorak second the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Kozlowski – Yes

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

The motion passed.

Administrative Report

Mr. Sernik reported on the following items.

Brief update of Business conducted since last meeting.

JobsOhio is looking to roll out monies to assist workforce with some individuals who come into the OMJ center that may not be eligible for services. This will be called "Ohio to Work." The pilot county will be Cuyahoga. State staff will not return to the OMJ Centers until next year and most likely not travel until next spring. State said they would give Area 19 a waiver to skip competitive procurement within the four year time.

Perform measures negotiations. The rates to negotiate have been discussed with the OMJ Centers and they've agreed upon and a letter has been submitted into the State. Mr. Sernik reviewed the proposed measures handout emailed to all board members.

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve the performance measures be negotiated as presented in the handout reviewed today. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

Fiscal

Michelle Laveck reported she is still working on the admin budget report. She will be closing out the MOU sharing this month and money pulled this week. The conversion will be completed in October and the auditors will visit in February 2021 and the June 30, 2019 fiscal auditing was completed.

Mr. Sernik reported the State wants to give us an extra year to spend PY18 and PY19 monies that close June and liquidates in September. The State will need to go to feds to sign off on amending their plans and they assured if feds approve they will leave money in our CFIS, if feds say no then the State grabs money and will distribute probably not until 2021. We a motion is needed for our area to have the ability to do a swap of monies between the counties in order to book and close as many PY18 and PY19 grant lines as possible. This would be strictly for PY18 and PY19 monies only.

Mr. Dvorak moved to authorize the NOC COG Office working in conjunction with the fiscal subgrantees to do a no charge allocation swap of new monies and old monies for the next 60 days so that no PY18 or PY19 monies are returned to the State. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

One Stop and Youth Reports

OMJ Center Portage County.

Mr. Boykin reported the summer youth program hours are up from 20 to 40 hours serving 200 youth, WIOA adult and dislocated unit, OMJ is involved in the Goal4 It!, business services is beginning the fourth round of the Portage Manufacturing program with nine cohorts participating in a three day work setting and a two day classroom setting, and the OMJ is doing virtual job fairs.

OMJ Center Geauga County.

Ms. Reda reported the OMJ opened by appointment only on July 5th, individuals are using telephone and virtual links in OMJ center, created virtual workshops, TechCred was awarded to the OMJ Center for Microsoft Tech which Mandy Monroe will participate in, Citizen Circle new marketing outreach to remind individuals this service is available, and renewed the Library MOU.

OMJ Center Ashtabula County.

Ms. Grubke-Barnard reported visits to the OMJ Center for the month of July was 263 and August was 292, began TABE testing individuals with a maximum of four at a time, OMJ Center will not be open to general public yet trying to figure how to organize PPE, continue to work with individuals remotely with resumes and applying for jobs, last three months gone through majority of the wait list for CCMEP, approved seven LPN and a CDLA and one industrial welding in August, and updated library MOU for three years. CCMEP program has 820 participants with 521 in follow-up of which 40 are WIOA and 238 youth are TANF and 112 are mandated and 13 dually enrolled, and as of August 28th 48 youth are participating in summer employment program.

Old Business

Business Services Grant Discussion.

Mr. Sernik reported each of the three counties has a general plan in place and now need to bring together the stakeholders. The Ashtabula Committee initial discussions will be with Kent State-Ashtabula, A-Tech, and the OMJ Center-Ashtabula. The Geauga Committee is looking to meet with David Favorite with Geauga County Economic Development, Geauga Growth, and OMJ Center-Gauga. And Portage Committee discussions will be with the Portage Development Board and the OMJ Center-Portage. A portion of the Business Services Grant budget will go towards business customer data software and possibly purchasing virtual career fair/job fair software.

New Business

CCMEP Youth Budgets for New Contracts.

Mr. Sernik stated these are maximum budget authority and the actual contractual amounts will be negotiated in September. Should the State contact Area 19 to say they will not meet their commitment and give an amendment/waiver to the area's subgrant agreement then the area would need to change course and competitively procure.

ACDJFS:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with ACDJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

GCJFS:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with GCJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

PCJFS:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with PCJFS for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

ATECH (Ashtabula County):

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with ATECH for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

Catholic Charities (Ashtabula County):

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with Catholic Charities for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

OhioGuidestone (Geauga County):

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with OhioGuidestone for CCMEP services in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

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

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve a WIOA CCMEP budget as presented on the agenda to support an agreement with Family & Community Services, Inc. for CCMEP services an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for the FY 21 from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

Policy Amendment C-11 Individual Training Account (ITA):

The current per program year cap is \$7,500, so the total cap should be \$15,000, not \$12,000 as currently stated. Note that all other individual trainings are capped at \$6,000 per program year and \$12,000 per program.

Mr. Dvorak moved to amend Area 19 Local Policy C-11, page 6, D., 5. Limits on Training, a) (1), (2), (3); to raise the total Individual Training Assistance cap from \$12,000.00 to \$15,000.00 per individual for Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Health Care related training. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

Policy Amendment A-01 Adult and Dislocated Worker Eligibility:

The State has changed their definition of self-employed individuals allowing areas to serve those individuals in the gig economy, self-employed individuals, and contractors.

Mr. Dvorak moved to amend Area 19 Local Policy A-01 to define Self-employed individuals for the purposes of Dislocated Worker Eligibility. “Self-employed individuals, including contractors and those working in the gig economy, who are unable to work due to the COVID-19 pandemic.” This is based on state definition changes. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

WDB Membership-Slate Nominated Individuals:

Mr. Dvorak moved to approve the Slate of Nominees as presented on the agenda for the following individuals to the Workforce Development Board:

- **Christian Klein, Company 119, BUSINESS, term 9/2/2020 to 9/3/2022**
- **Anthony Lignetta, Mar-Bal Inc., BUSINESS, term 9/2/2020 to 9/3/2022**
- **Michelle Bertman, Catholic Charities, COMMUNITY BASED, term 9/2/2020 to 9/3/2022**
- **Scott Wludyga, A-Tech, ABLE, term 9/2/2020 to 9/3/2022**
- **Tim Volpone, Ziegler Heating Company, BUSINESS, term 9/2/2020 to 9/3/2022**

Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Christian-Bennett – Yes

Mr. Dvorak – Yes

Motion passed.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn the Meeting

Mr. Dvorak moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Christian-Bennett seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Commissioner Dvorak - Yes

Commissioner Christian-Bennett - Yes

Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Denise Gehring.