

**AREA 19 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2019**

Geauga County Offices, Board of Health Meeting Room
470 Center Street, Building #8
Chardon, Ohio 44024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judith Barris, Eric Davis, Nicole Deligianis, Joel Domino, Brad Ehrhart, David Favorite, Mark Frisone, Jonathan Forbes, Richard L. Jackson, Renee M. Klaric, William Moore, John R. Ringer, Dean Susan Stocker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizabeth M. Barry, Dr. Jerome Brockway, Dan Brubaker, Michelle Delgross, Mike DeLuke, Lynn Hartman, David Hyre, Kenny Lohr, Greg Myers, Sandy Nelson, Lisa Shank, David Shea.

Others in Attendance: Laure Gauntner (ASPIRE, Maplewood Career Center), Kathy Nakoski (ODJFS), Kim Brown (OhioGuidestone), Hattie Grubke-Barnard (ACDJFS), Margo Reda (OMJ-Geauga), Mandy Berardinelli (OMJ-Portage), Kellijo Jeffries (PCJFS-Director), Brian Boykin (PCJFS), Ron Smith (ACDJFS), Veronica Curry (OhioGuidestone), Craig Sernik (Area 19-Director), Denise Gehring (Area 19)

Mr. Jackson, Chair of the WDB called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Past Business

Approval of Minutes.

Ms. Deligianis moved to approve the minutes from September 4, 2019. Mr. Domino seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Approval of Motions of the NOC COG since September 4, 2019 WDB meeting.

Motion to establish a scoring committee that is Geauga driven recommending a representative from GCJFS, a representative from the NOC COG Office, one Geauga Commissioner or proxy, and one Geauga Economic Development individual (if not bidding).

Motion to establish a scoring committee comprised of one representative from each of the CDJFS, one representative from each County Economic Development if they wish to participate, and one representative from the NOC COG Office.

Ms. Deligianis moved to accept the motions of the NOC COG report from September 4, 2019. Mr. Domino seconded the motion which was approved by all members.

Election of Officers

Report of Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominees: 1) For Chairperson: Renee Klaric; 2) For Vice Chairperson: Richard L. Jackson; 3) For Executive Committee

Position #1: Brad Ehrhart; 4) For Executive Committee Position #2: Nicole Deligianis. No additional nominations were made from the Floor.

Mr. Frisone moved to elect the slate of nominations as presented, Renee Klaric as Chairperson, Richard L. Jackson as Vice Chairperson, Brad Ehrhart as Executive Committee Position #1, and Nicole Deligianis as Executive Committee Position #2. Mr. Ringer seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Administrative Report

Mr. Sernik reviewed the Administrative Report handout with all those present.

Opioid Grants.

Mr. Sernik reported the original advice and guidance received regarding the SOR Grant was to find partner agencies who are already handling individuals who could refer them on to us so we could provide the services and we would never have to touch the survey. The feds have given guidance since that if an individual receives services that point of contact will need to do the survey, so every agency that meets with an individual will need to fill out a survey. Recently learned that up to 20 percent can only be spent on supportive services under the National Emergency Grant #3 but can spend on training. The plan will be to spend money on staffing and training. Mr. Sernik petitioned the state to see if there is anything that can be done regarding the 20 percent cap on supportive services.

State Workforce Issues.

The state is working on new pathways to graduation including K-12 industrial credentials, supporting secondary STEM, support of Career Technical Education, and working on Perkins V plan which the CCMEP program is part of. Area 19 is involved in Business Advisory Committees with representation in Geauga and Ashtabula Counties. OMJ-Portage is working on representation by attending regular meetings with superintendents and guidance counselors. Area 19 is looking at ways to support STEM education in schools. Also working with career technical education in ways to promote increased enrollment and administration of the local CCMEP programs in school districts. Mr. Sernik reviewed the PowerPoint handout regarding education and workforce statistics with those present. Area 19 would like to plan as a regional event a train the trainer day by inviting guidance and post-secondary guidance. The administration did the first round of TechCred applications and the Chancellor of Education came up with the programs that it will support. They're reviewing applications with the first initial awards to be announced by the end of this week. The state has asked the OMJ Centers to the extent that if an employer wasn't awarded in their area could they potentially pursue a second chance. Area 19 has a policy and funds available and therefore responded to the state in the affirmative. Area 19 will get a list of those employers who were rejected to reach out to them plus do an open enrollment making available between \$80,000 to \$85,000 in Incumbent Worker Training dollars to employers. The goal would be to begin taking applications the beginning of January making awards the first quarter of next year. Local Area policy states the employer must make a match of some kind.

Common Performance Measures.

The state measures have now changed. Now in October the state gives measures to the feds who run them through a federal statistical model. Then sometime in January or February the state will notify areas of a pass or fail. The number the state negotiated with the workforce areas that is the

pass or failing rate could now change. As a result of this, the state announced they will forgive any failures for this year.

Discussion regarding the internship program that federal law requires youth who are working in certain disciplines need to be 18 years of age before they can participate at a workforce and if there is any way to begin working on the law for youth who are going to be a high school senior. Mr. Sernik responded he will bring this issue up with the state of Ohio and JobsOhio.

One Stop and Youth Reports

OMJ Center Portage County.

Ms. Berardinelli reported the CCMEP team between August to October served approximately 205 enrolled youth per month offering 1,800 services. Focusing more on tutoring, study skills, transition to post-secondary to keep the in-school youth engaged. Also backing the schools by doing Job Coaching within the schools once a week for four hours meeting with youth on basic career readiness skills. Seeing an increase in the homeless youth population 18 year old who are seniors in high school. Made some relationships with a motel in Kent for temporary housing and with the local housing authority FYI program, and with Coleman a mental health provider to assist with getting these youth in housing so they can graduate high school. The second cohort partnership with Stark State had nine individuals go through the program for this year. The third cohort for manufacturing just graduated. The Work Activity Unit came up with three ideas for using the opioid grant dollars. One idea has already begun through a collaborative effort through PCJFS, the court system, Portage County Jail, and Paris Linen Company with five individuals who were hired through this program using Grant #3 money to pay for supportive services. Ms. Jeffries stated transportation continues to be the biggest barrier that currently with the project with the county jail and Paris Linen the PCJFS is subsidizing the transportation picking individuals from the jail for the afternoon shift then a driver going back out at midnight taking them back to the jail. Manufacturers are experiencing the same issue. While there is public transit it doesn't run seven days. The PCJFS is using incentive dollars to subsidize a lot of the transportation. Had opportunity to speak to ODJFS Director Hall and expressed the wish for the state dollars to be more flexible and earmark more funds for transportation. Ms. Berardinelli reported the Business Services Unit attended a state training in Columbus offered by the Ohio Economic Development Association which was a collaborative effort between economic developers and workforce professionals to create pipelines and recruit talent. Three rapid response events with approximately 100 employees affected but all were offered services with all re-jobbed. The third cohort of manufacturing with Mantaline Corporation is concluding with a total of 11 interns through all three cohorts with seven individuals still there with a 64 percent success rate with individuals placed with Mantaline. Mantaline Corporation is also interested in the work release program.

OMJ Center Ashtabula County.

Ms. Grubke-Barnard reported business services for September had 11 employers with 20 job orders, October had 10 employers with 14 job orders and November had seven employers with 16 job orders with wages up to \$36.00 an hour. A total of approximately 50 applications to employers have been generated from the OMJ Center. Almost 13,000 individuals have come through OMJ Center since November. A total of 44 individuals were placed in unsubsidized jobs, 95 CCMEP youth mandated, and past three months approved training accounts for four CDLs and an LPN. The yO! program had 774 youth with 430 in follow-up and down to 55 WIOA youth, and TANF

had 249 youth. OOD/BVR are working with drug courts and OOD hired three individuals to work at the Lake Erie Recovery Center to work directly with drug court. The OMJ Center hopes to use opioid dollars with individuals who may not fit in with what OOD could provide on their side. The workforce team will do mock interviews at the high schools in the coming months. Ms. Grubke-Barnard and Ms. Nakoski will be attending a SHRM meeting to discuss OhioMeansJobs and if it works with Crome, focusing on holding employer seminars the first of year, and will invite employers to the OMJ Center to see if there is any interest in the new Bridges to Work program started by Catholic Charities.

OMJ Center Geauga County.

Ms. Brown with OhioGuidestone reported for September to November 62 CCMEP youth, 2 mandated individuals on cash assist one just moved to Lake County and the second as of January 1st will be off of cash assistance, 60% of youth are in high school, 30 individuals attended the Job Club, paid out a lot of supportive services, paid an individual's insurance premium for the month, and four seniors graduating in June with the Ohio Readiness Seal on their diplomas. Working with GCJFS social service division and over the past 6 months they've added 10 WIOA out-of-school and those 10 individuals are going through the national customer service class. Ms. Reda reported a second job fair with the U.S. Census will occur today at the OMJ, next year's Summer Manufacturing Camp topics and dates have been chosen, planning for next year's Auburn reverse job fair, continuing efforts with the Business Advisory Council, participating in the Citizen Circle, and OMJ is now part of the Senior Exploration Experience Project Pitch at iSTEM. OMJ helped put on a state of schools, took 30 teachers in October to three different businesses in the county, scheduling a Job fair possibly for April or early May to be held at Chardon High School, and partnered with Junior Achievement out of Cleveland who will assist the OMJ with an interactive seminar with the youth regarding social/professional skills prepping students for future careers.

Economic Development Reports

Portage County

Mr. Ehrhart reported 7 projects worked on with partners this year representing a total investment of \$22.6 billion retaining 247 jobs and creating over next three years 276 new jobs both retained and new jobs annual payroll \$23.4 million average is \$44,800 a year or \$21.55 an hour. Outreach retention program end of November up to 155 visits, and 32 active projects. Events held "Produced in Portage" had 22 companies participate, 8 school districts sign up plus STEM school, and over 425 youth attended. In November held an event with MAGNET on cyber security for manufacturing companies with up to six companies participating.

Geauga County

Mr. Favorite reported Tarkett Flooring is completing their expansion which will add close to 75 new jobs in Auburn Twp., Great Lakes Cheese expansion will add close to 400 jobs additionally will build their new world headquarters on the same campus in Troy Twp. adding another 60 jobs as well, UHHS Geauga is adding a pharmacy and will be redeveloping the former JFS building, Advance Cardiovascular is opening a new facility in Chardon, Holly Hill Assisted Living expansion is near completion, three new libraries under construction, and Community Improve Corporation 49 Annual Salute to Business and Industry event held in early October. Through November had a total of 1600 development permits, Truline located in Chesterland is moving to Lake County and Shank in Russell Twp. is closing its domestic operations.

Ashtabula County.

Mr. Jackson reported the Petmin Project for the Pig Iron plant is moving forward, First Energy purchased equipment for the transformers and Pinney Dock will put on 30 individuals to support that industry as well.

Old Business

Mr. Sernik presented the Area 19 Unadjusted WIOA Annual Common Performance Report.

Mr. Sernik asked the Board what it is that they wish to see on a quarterly basis going forward that would better tell the story of what we're doing and are we successful. The Board responded, 1) What potential leading indicators would begin to show if individuals will succeed or not; 2) Look at three quarter back to show trends; 3) Maybe subdivide into groups for internal use; and 4) Show how and where dollars were spent.

New Business

Discussion commenced regarding the TechCred Incumbent Worker Training ("IWT") roll-out and Area 19's planned IWT rollout. Discussion concluded. The Board suggested part of the application should be how does this advance the employees and look to have trainers go to the employers so individuals they have get certificate right on the job. Mr. Sernik stated if the Board had any ideas regarding any particular type of training that would support an industry to let him know.

Discussion regarding RFP for Geauga Business Services. Mr. Sernik stated the RFP has been completed and will be released sometime this week.

Discussion regarding RFQ for Business Management Software. Mr. Sernik stated the RFQ is in its finalization phase.

Public Comment Period.

None.

Mr. Ringer moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ehrhart seconded the motion which was approved by all members present.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Denise Gehring.