

Workforce Development Board (WDB)
Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Otsego County Library, Gaylord

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – 10:04 a.m.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **INTRODUCTIONS**

WDB MEMBERS PRESENT

Brian Klele
Jason Campbell
Doug Baum
Sheryl Coyne
Katrina Burtwell
Whitney Dettmer
Jason Reed
Courtney Ryan
Kathleen Fox
Brooke Sprenger

WDB MEMBERS ABSENT

Mandy Daily
Deb Larson
Julie Waldron
Tony Ommani
Seth Reichard

STAFF PRESENT

Marisue Moreau, Director
Jessica Topp, Planning and Program Manager
Tricia Selke, Quality Assurance Specialist
Erin O'Rourke, Lead Youth Career Advisor

GUEST

Heather Runyan, Regional Economic and Business Development Specialist

IV. **HANDOUTS**

- Summary of Action Items
- October Manager's Report
- Updated Acronyms

V. **WDB ACTION ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA**

- July 12, 2023 meeting minutes
- Local Barrier Removal Employment Success (BRES) Policy
- Electric Vehicles Jobs Academy (EV Jobs Academy) and Talent Action Team (TAT) Plan

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as listed made by Brian Klele and seconded by Courtney Ryan. Voted: All Ayes

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Marisue expressed appreciation to the board for quorum.
- She spoke about the Electric Vehicles Job Academy and informed on how a college needs to have a certain curriculum in place to be able to help the students that are interested. Right now, the closest college is in Southern Michigan. The BSP's are informing our employers.
- Marisue said that the government shut down was pushed until November and is surprised that there was a resolution. She assured that our funding is secure. We are still waiting on the 10/1/23 funding, but we are planning accordingly and have other funding if need be.
- She discussed the childcare apprenticeship grant and the apprenticeship coordinator grant. More detail is provided in the BSP update.
- Marisue touched on the Michigan Education and Training Voucher program which would allow Michigan to provide up to \$5000.00 per year to a student in an accredited program such as College, Trade School or University. This has been proposed by congress and our federal lobbyist has reached out to the Michigan Works! agencies for input.

VII. CAREER & EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC) UPDATE

No Update. Joyce McCoy was not in attendance.

VIII. YOUTH UPDATE

- Attended JMG Leadership Days at Camp Daggett with 10 youth
- Manufacturing Day was last Friday, 10/6. 57 kids from 3 schools toured 4 businesses. Due to a variety of reasons 10/6 did not work for the schools and some businesses but we have 7 additional talent tours set up for the month of October.
- YCAs working with the apprenticeship specialist to set up apprenticeship 101s and guest speakers for National Apprenticeship Week in November. The 13th -19th
- Attended college and career fairs at KCC and ACC.

IX. BUSINESS SOLUTIONS UPDATE

- Working with YCAs to set up talent tours. Have connected and are in the beginning stages of setting up a career fair with Rogers City school in the spring
- Employer of the day events continue to be popular, especially in Alpena area
- Going PRO Talent Fund
 - 2023 Cycle 2: 7 independent applications were submitted to LEO WD, 5 companies were awarded for a total award amount of \$38,961.91
 - 2024 Cycle 1 application period opened on Monday. We held in-person info sessions throughout the region and a virtual info session
- Keeping in contact with area businesses that supply the big 3 to stay informed on how they are being impacted and if they are looking at layoffs.
- Received the childcare apprenticeship grant through Early Childhood Investment Corporation to develop a childcare apprenticeship program. Will be meeting with NEMSCA this week to work on the Appendix A.
- Partnered with Oscoda county economic development to fill their Director of Business and Economic Services position. Alayne Hansen, BSP for Crawford and Oscoda county, will be working with the county on economic

development efforts while still performing BSP duties. Much of what they were looking for is already being done by our BSP team.

- We have also been in discussion with Target Alpena on potentially supporting economic development the same way.

X. CAREER NAVIGATOR/JOB SEEKER UPDATE

Jessica informed the board of the local companies that are laying off employees due to the UAW strike and the impact it's having on our region and offices. She also discussed the potential dislocated worker federal grant the state is applying for and that if received it will be put out in formula funding. Jessica explained that the offices are currently preparing for unemployment season. There has been an increase in the number of claimants coming in to file and register for work. Lastly, she discussed the special initiative grant, Barrier Removal Employment Success (BRES), and what the top three needs are in our region. The top three are mileage reimbursement, work clothes and car repairs.

XI. SPECIAL INITIATIVES UPDATE

The update was provided during the Director's Report.

XII. FRONTLINE STAFF

Erin O'Rourke, Lead Youth Career Advisor, spoke about what the Youth Program has to offer our communities. She spoke about the specific services we offer such as talent tours of local colleges and businesses, work experience placements, leadership development events (including the recent Leadership Day at Camp Daggett), and financial assistance available to help the youth achieve their educational and career goals.

XIII. GROUP DISCUSSION

None

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XVI. ROUND TABLE

A few of the members spoke about things that are taking place within their business or organization.

XVII. ADJOURN- 11:27 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Brian Klele and supported by Jason Campbell. Voted: All Ayes.

Next meeting scheduled for December 4, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m., Location: Otsego County Library