

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

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – 10:02 a.m.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **INTRODUCTIONS**

**WDB MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brian Klele  
Deb Larson  
Jason Campbell  
Doug Baum  
Sheryl Coyne  
Katrina Burtwell  
Julie Waldron  
Tony Ommani  
Seth Reichard  
Heidi Powers  
Lauren Ososki  
Suzanne Olsen

**WDB MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kathleen Fox  
Brooke Sprenger  
Eileen Tussey  
Jason Reed  
Courtney Ryan  
Mandy Daily

**STAFF PRESENT**

Marisue Moreau, Director  
Ashley Udell, Business & Youth Solutions Manager  
Tracy Bohl, Lead Career Advisor  
Tricia Selke, Quality Assurance Specialist

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

- May 24, 2023 meeting minutes
- Refugee Cash Assistance Plan
- Local Service Delivery Policy
- Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) Change in Membership

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as listed made by Doug Baum and seconded by Jason Campbell. Voted: All Ayes**

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

-Experiencing some staffing issues. There are quite a few positions that are open, but we are having a hard time finding the right candidate for the openings. This is a slower time so operating with a smaller staff is not affecting our efficiency.

-Received a new grant that allows us to keep the Apprenticeship Coordinator on staff.

-Working on incentives for employers to do apprenticeships.

-Childcare Apprenticeship Grant is designed to help navigate through all of the steps to get a facility open.

-Barrier Removal Employment Success (BRES)- The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workforce Development (LEO-WD) is providing funding to support employment and reemployment of at-risk individuals and the removal of barriers to employment. The funding can be utilized to support activities that are not eligible or feasible under another funding source or if there is insufficient funding to support those activities. Educational Scholarships are specifically prohibited.

-Michigan Learning & Education Program Advancement Program- Short term training provided at Alpena Community College and North Central Michigan Community College has been extended until June 30, 2024. We are very close to meeting the goal.

-Apprenticeship grant ended and will be deobligating some of the money. There are 26 participants.

-MiCareer Pathways that was started before COVID has been put on hold.

- Michigan Rural Enhanced Access to Careers in Healthcare (MiREACH) program is designed for participants in a healthcare related field and will provide funding for a portion of the tuition and support services.

**VI. CAREER & EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC) UPDATE**

No Update. Joyce McCoy was not in attendance.

**VII. YOUTH UPDATE**

Summer programs started on June 20, will be wrapping up this week. 10 kids

- YCAs have been working with BSPs for WE placements.
- Most kids should be able to be placed at a worksite, dependent on them
- IAI welding camp – 6 kids, 5 were registered on our programs and receiving a stipend (\$300)

Youth staff will be attending Jobs for Michigan's Graduates Summer Summit (training conference) in Mount Pleasant July 26-28

- Will be presenting with JMG at the MWA annual conference on Meaningful Employer Engagement for Youth and Young Adults

Working to set goals for the upcoming school year and look at how to best provide programming

## **VIII. BUSINESS SOLUTIONS UPDATE**

Continuing to hold Employer of the Day (EOD) events. Seeing higher and better turnout. Employers are able to make more job offers than they typically do. Yesterday in Alpena, 57 job interviews, employer estimates 20 offers will be made. Also holding interviews today and tomorrow.

Going PRO Talent Fund

- 7 independent applications submitted to LEO WD – still under reviews, hopefully awards announced by Friday
- Cycle 2 training is set to start on Monday. As of this morning the Talent Fund team has reported that awards will be announced by the end of the month.

Reached the end of our apprenticeship grant

- Successfully hit the grant goal and enrolled 26 apprentices
- Two more grants awarded for apprenticeship.
  - ASC / Intermediary status
  - MiSTAIRS - Michigan Statewide Targeted Apprenticeship Inclusive and Readiness System
    - Compliment to the ASC grants to serve underrepresented populations.
  - Also applied for a grant to support Early Childcare apprenticeship grant. Will help individuals to start daycare centers.

## **IX. SPECIAL INITIATIVES UPDATE**

The update was provided during the Director's Report.

## **X. FRONTLINE STAFF**

Tracy Bohl, Lead Career Advisor gave a brief overview of what a Career Advisor does in terms of Welfare Reform and gave a couple of examples of what types of services we can provide. Also spoke about classroom training and enrolling participants. Highlighted some of the more prevalent careers that we deal with such as nursing and CDL-A. Discussed how Career Advisors attend local community college new student orientations as well as program specific orientations to give presentations and discuss in detail what our programs can offer each student.

## **XI. GROUP DISCUSSION**

None

## **XII. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **XIV. ROUND TABLE**

-Doug Baum who is the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) Director introduced Heather Runyan. Heather is the Regional Economic and Business Development Specialist who is focusing on community development and local economic development working together on the competitive and complicated Federal Grants.

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

## **XV. ADJOURN- 11:10 a.m.**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Brian Klele and supported by Kathleen Fox. Voted: All Ayes.**

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