

MICHIGAN WORKS! REGION 7B CONSORTIUM
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting
September 19, 2019

Chairman, Norm Fullmer of the Workforce Development Board called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. at Michigan Works! Service Center, West Branch, Michigan. Roll call was taken with results as follows:

WDB PRESENT: JLLJacobs and Associates - **Jay Jacobs**; Competitive Machine – **Laura Puzzuoli**; Soaring Eagle Casino – **Erik Rodrigues**; Mann Construction – **Kimberly Wood**; Melling Products North – **Jaclyn Heller (on line)**; Toms Wood Shop - **Thomas L. Winarski**; Saint Gobain – **Jennifer Perry (on line)**; T.G. Ferguson Consulting – **Thomas Ferguson**; Cooper Standard – **Clara Sherman (on line)**; CA Hanes Realty - **Larry Boyce**; Common Scents Consulting - **Norm Fullmer**; MRS – **Eric Bachmann**; Bureau of Services for Blind Persons – **Susan Root (on line)**; United Way of Roscommon – **Cherrie Benchley**; Labor – **George Yost, Frantt Whitehill**; Labor; Post-Secondary Education – **Scott Govitz**; K 12 Education – **Dan Belts**; MDOC – **Rick Mularz**.

WDB ABSENT: Harrison Do-It Center – **Roger Taylor**; Angel Melendez – **Kalitta Air**; Richard Castle – **Consumers Energy**; Ron Vittitow – **Wise Heating & Cooling**; Lear Corporation - **Joel Kato**; Dianne Love-Suvada – **Made UP NORTH**; Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency - **Jill Sutton**; Apprenticeship – **Jason Reed**; Adult Education – **Dana McGrew**; DHHS – **Kara Mulzar**; Economic Development – **James McBryde**.

GUESTS: **State of Michigan** - Evan Linski

STAFF: Barbara Hawkins, Natasha Allen; Bob Balzer, Pam O’Laughlin, Stephanie Buffman.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Introductions were made.

There was no Unfinished Business.

Ms. Allen presented the MiCareerQuest project, which partners with Great Lakes Bay to conduct an event at SVSU on October 30th. There are over 10,000 students and 101 employers participating from the 11 counties. There are four quadrants that students can find interactive career activities with employers to take part in. A 5th element (IT) will be featured throughout each quadrant since it is a part of everything we do.

As part of the Director's Report, Mr. Berdan stated, we have hired Paul Addy to cover the Clare, Isabella and Gratiot counties for Offender Success. We received \$30,000 in incentive funds for our performance. Going Pro applications are due by 10/2/2019. We applied for and received a MAICA grant to create new Registered Apprenticeship opportunities that will help address the skilled workforce talent gaps. Continuing, there are five businesses participating in "The Network". Bob Balzer received the Shining Star Award at the 2019 Michigan Works Annual Conference, for his exceptional services to our communities. Amber Davies has completed all of her required Apprenticeship hours and USDOL is printing her journeyman's certificate. She is the first to complete and receive her industry recognized credential. We received an additional \$30,000 in work based training dollars. With the new Governor in place changes in the Workforce Development Agency have occurred. Michigan Rehabilitation Services is looking to co-locate with Michigan Works again with their move to Local Economic Opportunities (LEO). Great job goes out to Arenac County for all their hard work in filling 85 jobs in the month of August.

As part of Executive Steering Committee meeting in July and August; Mr. Caillier presented.

Community Ventures Program "The Network" is a partnership between the Michigan works! Agencies and the Talent Investment Agency. The program is an initiative that promotes economic excellence and talent development by providing career pathways and wrap-around services to the structurally unemployed and the Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed (ALICE) population. ALICE participants are individuals who are working yet still struggling to make ends meet or one crisis away from poverty.

This initiative will utilize the Business Resource Network (BRN) model to deliver wrap-around services necessary to provide eligible participants with opportunities to long-term, meaningful employment. BRNs are locally driven private-public consortia whose purpose is to improve the employer's workforce retention through employee support and training. Through the BRN model services are directly delivered to eligible participants to offer long-term, sustainable employment options and deliver supportive services that reduce barriers to employment.

Benefits of this partnership include linking employers, community and faith-based organizations, other state and local agencies with eligible participants in order to assist those with the willingness to work, but who face barriers, with finding long-term, sustainable employment. Michigan Works! was allocated an additional \$22,481 for this program; bringing our total to \$168,971.

The WIOA, which supersedes the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, presents an extraordinary opportunity to improve job and career options for our nation's workers and jobseekers through an integrated, job-driven public workforce system that links diverse talent to businesses. The WIOA supports the development of strong, vibrant regional economies where businesses thrive and people want to live and work.

This revitalized workforce system will be characterized by three critical hallmarks of excellence:

- (1) The needs of business and workers drive workforce solutions;
- (2) One-Stop Centers provide excellent customer service to workers, jobseekers and employers, and focus on continuous improvement;
- (3) The workforce system support strong regional economies and plays an active role in community, economic and workforce development.

The workforce system supports strong regional economies and plays an active role in community, economic and workforce development. Region 7B Consortium was allocated an additional \$1,563 in Adult giving a total of \$625,533; and \$2,012 in Dislocated Worker giving a total \$649,114; and \$1,885 in Youth giving a total of \$525,700.

And the federal Wagner Peyser Act of 1933 provides for the establishment of a nationwide labor exchange system with Employment Service Offices that provide job matching at no cost to all employers and job seekers, known as the Employer Services. Wagner Peyser was recently amended by the WIOA in 2014, which call for stronger partnerships with ES to seek new avenues to enhance the seamless delivery of services in the One-Stop system. Michigan Works! Region 7B was allocated \$166,383 (this allocation is up \$35,847.00 from last year).

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The Workforce Development Agency has initially identified \$2,649,000 in Wagner Peyser ES funds to be used in support of the MWSC operations. Service center funds may be used in support of all activities to improve customer service, inform and educate the public about the service centers, and upgrade facilities. Region 7B was allocated \$71,847 which will be used to help fund our Wide Area Network; marketing and promotion; and upgrade our facilities

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The workforce system supports strong regional economies and plays an active role in community, economic and workforce development. Region 7B Consortium was allocated \$671,970 in Adult (up \$148,000); \$673,747 in Dislocated Worker (up \$26,645); and \$672,649 in Youth (up \$148,834).

Continuing TIA previously identified \$500,000 in AY 2019 WIA Statewide Activity funds to be used in support of Capacity Building and Professional Development activities, Michigan Works! Region 7B will receive \$10,153 of these funds. These funds are provided to the MW Association for the training provided to staff and WDB and LEO members.

In accordance with WIOA Section 129(b)(1)(F), the Michigan Talent Investment Agency/Workforce Development Agency is allocating WIOA Statewide Activity funding to provide additional assistance to local areas that have a high concentration of WIOA eligible youth. Region 7B Consortium received \$1,708.00; this is down \$189 from 2018.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Subsequent and New Discretionary Designation of Local Workforce Development Areas per PI 19-25 was presented. The WIOA, was signed into law on July 22, 2014 and emphasizes a broad vision of workforce development programs that respond to the needs of employers by preparing workers with the skills and resources needed to compete for in-demand jobs. The WIOA also stresses the importance of alignment of the workforce investment, education and economic development systems and promotes improvement in the structure and delivery of services. The WIOA provides Michigan with new opportunities to enhance service delivery systems, enrich services to customers, and advance partner linkages.

Local workforce development areas are designated for the purpose of implementing the WIOA and administering workforce development programs through the MWA's. Under the federal legislation, the Governor, in consultation with the local CEOs is required to designate local workforce areas. The definition of CEO is the chief elected executive officer of a unit of general local government in local area.

To implement the WIOA, the CEO has the responsibility to request local workforce development designation.

Michigan Works! Region 7B Consortium is requesting the subsequent designation for PY 2019 – 2023. After discussion action was as follows:

Mr. Jacobs moved to approve the request for Local Designation for Michigan Works! Region 7B Consortium local area as presented. Mr. Rodriguez supported the motion; a roll call vote was taken. Results as follows:

Jay Jacobs – Yes	Laura Puzzuoli – Yes	Erik Rodriguez – Yes
Kim Wood – Yes	Jaclyn Heller – Yes	Thomas Winarski – Yes
Jennifer Perry – Yes	Larry Boyce – Yes	Thomas Ferguson – Yes
Clara Sherman – Yes	Norm Fullmer – Yes	Cherri Benchley – Yes
Eric Bachman – Yes	Susan Root – Yes	George Yost – Yes
Frantt Whitehall – Yes	Scott Govitz – Yes	Rick Mularz – Yes
Dan Beltz - Yes		

Motion Carried.

Completing ESC business, the Memorandums have been sent to additional partners; and include enough detail to tell about the partnership from beginning to end regarding the WIOA Youth. Alpena Community College, Delta College, Big Brother/Big Sisters, Listening Ear, Blue Sky Counseling, Blooming Consultants, MSU Extension, AuSable Valley Community Mental Health, Junior Achievement, SBDC, Gladwin Alternative Ed, Gladwin Adult Ed, Standish Sterling High, and Timberland High.

The Individual Training Account list has been modified to include Apprenticeships.

As part of New Business, The PATH program is a partnership between the MWAs, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Talent Investment Agency. PATH features a 21-day Applicant Eligibility Period (AE) during which the Family Independence Program (FIP) participants work one-on-one with DHHS and MWA case managers to identify barriers to employment and connect the participant to resources addressing those challenges. Benefits of this partnership include linking employers, community, and faith-based solutions with the human service, education and training systems. Region 7B Consortium was allocated an additional \$24,563 in TANF funding giving a total of \$1,372,830 in funding. After discussion action was as follows:

Ms. Puzzuoli moved to recommend the LEO approve the PATH Plan Modification as presented. Mr. Jacobs supported the motion.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Hawkins stated a letter of Resignation was received from Ms. Ivey with Members First Credit Union. A letter of Resignation was received from Ms. Sharday Lawrence which included Ms. Susa Root as her replacement for Commission of Blind Persons.

Ms. Stephanie Buffman, Business Service Professional for Arenac County; updated members on services provided in the last six months.

Mr. Bob Balzer, Director of Business Services for Gladwin County; updated members on services provided in the last six months.

Ms. Pam O'Laughlin, Director of Business Services for Clare County; updated members on services provided in the last six months.

The next Joint WDB meeting is scheduled for **Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Willow Tree, West Branch, Michigan.**

Dan Belts informed members that they are looking for input on the Perkins V plan for Career and Technical Education. Scott Govitz stated enrollment is up at the Harrison Campus.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Norm Fullmer – Chairperson
Michigan Works! Region 7B Consortium
Workforce Development Board

Recording Secretary: Barbara Hawkins/bjh