

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES
One-Stop Committee Meeting
December 12, 2024
8:30 am
OhioMeansJobs – Columbiana County

Attendees: Courtney Amendola, Shirley Bowald, Cyndy Bresnahan, Jennifer Campbell, Tyler Chaboudy, Shari Chick, Kathleen Clarke, Kelly Darney, John Dilling, Lynn Esposito, Andy Frost, Alex Hertzner, Bryan Higgins, Lindsay Hildreth, Jack Hile, David Janofa, Mary Ann Kochalko, Joe Paloski, Carol Ramsay-Loomis, Sharlene Senediak, Jodi Snyder, Puella Stoddard, Brianna Sullivan, Susie Wickline, Megan Wine, and Tammy Wolfe.

Call to Order/Introductions

Kelly Darney, One-Stop Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30am. Kelly also announced her retirement, and this will be her last meeting. Introductions of attendees took place.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda items as presented.
Motion made by:	Bryan Higgins
Seconded by:	Shirley Bowald
Discussion:	None
Motion approved.	

Presentation: CARTS

Shari Chick, CARTS Transportation Director presented information about the changes and updates to the CARTS system based on the Transportation Development Plan completed this year. Based on input from the community, strengths and weaknesses of the current transportation system were identified, and recommendations for improvements were made. Recommendations include: replacing the Connection Shuttle with micro-transit service, expanding the CARTS Connex Micro-transit Program, scheduling shopper shuttles, continuing public advance reservation service, offering contracted services based on fully allocated cost, investing in technology upgrades, updating fare structures, increasing operator wages, conducting marketing and outreach campaigns, and participating in NEORide EZ Connect. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented or will be implemented in 2025 or 2026.

Old Business

Budget to Actual Report

The PY24 income statements for Area 17 OhioMeansJobs centers were provided for review.

Mahoning County has approximately \$29,500 left to spend until June 30, 2025, with \$9,800 left to spend until December 31, 2024.

Columbiana County has \$10,000 left to spend until June 30, 2025, with \$3,300 left to spend until December 31, 2024.

In Mahoning County, funds will be used for furnace repairs and to replace more office chairs. In Columbiana County, funds will be used to install a new security system on the main door of the OMJ center. The cost will be split across two quarters.

Both Mahoning and Columbiana County OMJ centers are on track to spend 100% of their current budgets by the end of the program year. At this time of year, budgets are reviewed to determine if funds between line items need to be transferred to meet the needs of the OMJ centers. A request to allow these transfers was made to the partners of each county.

Mahoning County

Motion: To allow the transfer of funds between budget line items within the Mahoning County budget, without exceeding the current budget.
Motion made by: Puella Stoddard
Seconded by: Jennifer Pancake
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Columbiana County

Motion: To allow the transfer of funds between budget line items within the Columbiana County budget, without exceeding the current budget.
Motion made by: Shirley Bowald
Seconded by: John Dilling
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

New Business

OMJ Website (Self-Assessment) Update

Since the OneFlow system is no longer utilized, a new self-assessment form has been developed and posted to the OMJ website's homepage. The form is comprised of basic questions that can help a staff member start a conversation with individuals and understand what types of services can be beneficial for them. Another form is available on the website for partners to refer customers to the OMJ centers.

MOU Draft

The draft MOU, as well as Attachment A (Local Area 17 Career Services) and Attachment B (Area 17 Customer Workflow) were emailed to partners before the meeting. Attachment B has been updated to reflect the changes made over the past couple of years regarding the state system and staffing. Except for Job Corps (Equus), all partners have confirmed they will remain OMJ partners. Tentative changes have been received from ODJFS and OOD regarding their FTEs. Discussions have been held with two other agencies that may become equal access partners.

Draft budgets were prepared and provided for review. Two draft budgets were prepared for Mahoning County – one with Equus and one without. The rent and internet are two line items that have increased. ODJFS has decreased by .5 FTE, and RESEA has been added as an MOU partner. If partners are added, costs will be reduced.

In Columbiana County, ODJFS decreased by .5 FTE, and no line items have increased. An increase in rent is not projected, however, if an increase does happen, this would lead to an increase for partners. RESEA is also a partner in Columbiana County.

On the signature page, the annual cost will be entered on the signatory line. Addendums will be implemented if changes happen after the MOU has been approved. The current MOU budgets are available on the website www.omjworkforce.com for comparison.

Questions about the MOU can be emailed to Susie at swickline@mctaworkforce.org.

OMJ Center Updates

Since the last meeting, most of the focus has been on drafting the new MOU documents, preparing information for the upcoming One-Stop Operator evaluation, and reviewing the RFP for the Area 17 One-Stop Operator. Partners were reminded that cross-trainings can be scheduled virtually or in-person to share new information among partner agencies.

WDB Update

WIOA Reauthorization

WIOA reauthorization is still pending. Congress must make a decision about on the FY25 budget, which is under a continuing resolution, by December 20th. Based on information received, the continuing resolution will most likely be extended until March.

Area 17 One-Stop Operator RFP

The Area 17 One-Stop Operator RFP was released on December 9th, and it is available on the Board's website www.wdbinc.org. The contract will begin July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, with the option for three renewals. The notice for the RFP was emailed to partners and other stakeholders. The RFP closes on January 31, 2025 at 3:00pm EST.

OMJ Certification

OMJ (One-Stop) certification is required under WIOA, and the State establishes the standards and criteria that OMJs must meet to be in compliance. The State will issue the certification information early next year, and it is scheduled to be due in October 2025. Due to other items that must be completed, the Ohio WDB Directors are requesting to extend the deadline to December.

Regional Plans

The State has developed a workforce plan, which was submitted to the US Department of Labor. Area 17 is in the East Ohio Region with Area 6 (Stark and Tuscarawas Counties) and Area 18 (Trumbull County). Regional plans must be aligned with the basic strategies identified in the State's plan, and each workforce area will develop its own local plan based on its respective regional plan. The regional and local plans are also due next year.

Meeting Evaluation

Partners were asked to complete the meeting evaluation form provided.

Partner Updates

No partner updates were reported.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:35am.