

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.**  
**OF**  
**MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
May 16, 2024  
OhioMeansJobs Mahoning County

Committee Members Present: Kelly Darney, Deann Davis, Ed Emerick, Brian Eskridge, Audrey Morales, and Susie Wickline  
Committee Members Absent: Rachel Ketterman, Mark Nicastro, and Mark Ragozine  
Board Staff Present: Mary Ann Kochalko and Sharlene Senediak

Deann Davis, WDB Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00pm after verification of a quorum.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Item**

Motion: To approve the consent agenda item as prepared.  
Motion made by: Ed Emerick  
Seconded by: Brian Eskridge  
Discussion: None  
Motion approved.

**PY24 OMJ Partner Budget**

At the March 14<sup>th</sup> One-Stop Committee meeting, a reduced PY24 budget for Mahoning County was presented to sustain operations, given the decrease in partners. By reducing the budget, this prevented increasing costs to the remaining partners. Although rent is scheduled to increase in June, the following line items were reduced: janitorial maintenance, computers, computer maintenance, general office supplies, dues and subscriptions, postage, telephone, and incidental operating expenses. Reductions total \$18,568.64, and the One-Stop Committee recommended the budget to the Executive Committee for approval.

Motion: To approve the reduced budget in Mahoning County as recommended by the One-Stop Committee.  
Motion made by: Brian Eskridge  
Seconded by: Ed Emerick  
Discussion: Operations are sustainable with these changes. The PY24 budget is the second- year budget to the MOU. The next two-year budget will be renegotiated next year when the new MOU begins.  
Motion approved.

Since the March 14<sup>th</sup> One-Stop Committee meeting, Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC) indicated that it will no longer be a partner in Area 17 moving forward but intends to pay the amount that is due for this past year.

With EGCC leaving, budgets in both counties were reviewed for additional budget reductions. For Mahoning County, the budget was reduced by \$2,800 under the computer and meeting expense line items; for Columbiana County, the budget was reduced by \$3,800 under repairs, janitorial, and meeting expense line items. The decrease in the meeting expense line items can only be accomplished if One-Stop Committee meetings start being held at the OMJ centers.

Motion: To approve the additional budget reductions in both Mahoning and Columbiana counties due to EGCC no longer being a partner.  
Motion made by: Kelly Darney  
Seconded by: Brian Eskridge  
Discussion: In PY24, the September and March One-Stop Committee meetings will be held at the Mahoning County OMJ center; the December and June meetings will be held at the Columbiana County OMJ center.

Motion approved.

### **Operator's Update**

#### *Summer TANF Youth Program*

MCTA is operating the Summer TANF Youth Program for the Mahoning County Department of Job and Family Services (MCDJFS). As of last week, all the summer aides have started to review applications and worksites for appropriate placements. Nesco is the employer of record for the summer program supervisor and summer aides. The request for bids will close this Friday for the employer of record for youth participants. Applications for the program were collected May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and approximately 400 were received. Based on the current budget, 300 participants can be placed. Four orientation sessions will be held the first week of June at Oakhill, where OSU Extension Office will also present a budgeting workshop.

#### *OMJ Rebranding*

The OMJ center rebranding is almost complete, and all signage is expected to be in place by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

#### *Program Monitoring*

A PY23 WIOA/CCMEP program monitoring for Mahoning County will be conducted onsite May 28<sup>th</sup>. An entrance conference has already been completed, and the State will inform the area what files will be reviewed 3 days prior to the monitoring visit.

#### *Grant Update*

A second application will be submitted for the Justice Involved Individuals (JII) grant. The State initially awarded Area 17 \$184,500 to serve justice-involved individuals, and the second application will seek to build on the progress already made.

#### *MOU Addendum*

As stated previously, EGCC is no longer able to remain an OMJ partner. Once a letter is received from EGCC stating this, an addendum will be prepared to officially end their partnership.

### **WDB Meeting Attendance and Evaluation Summary**

The 4.16.24 WDB meeting attendance summary was reviewed. Dave Deibel has resigned from the Board, and Tyler Chaboudy from 1Coat Powder Coating has expressed interest in joining. Dominic Donofrio from Enertech will be replaced on the Board by Marion Sweely, CFO at Enertech. RJ Fryan was contacted to determine his interest to remain on the Board, however, no response has been received yet. Matt Golladay will try to attend or send a proxy, so follow-up will be made after the next meeting, if needed. Melissa Maiorano left the Regional Chamber and will be replaced by Brenda Linert from the Regional Chamber. Art Daly will remain on the Board until the new Aspire provider has been selected. Marilyn Montes has retired from MYCAP, and they are no longer interested in having a representative on the Board. Tom Andrews from

Columbiana County Community Action Agency has been contacted to fill her vacancy, and he seems interested.

An inquiry was also submitted from the Homebuilders and Remodelers Association asking how they can become involved with the Board. Since the association does not meet an appropriate category to serve on the Board, information about participating on a subcommittee will be shared.

The 4.16.24 WDB meeting evaluation was reviewed, and scores remain high. A suggestion was made to change the Operator's Report to show a comparison to the previous year and quarter. The Operator's Report was provided to discuss changes. Only the current quarter and previous year's corresponding quarter will be provided for comparison. One average cost per participant will be included, and the number of total visits will be consolidated. A revised draft will be provided at the June meeting for review.

## **Director's Update**

### *Funding Levels Update*

The State recently issued a new PY24/FY25 planning budget for local areas, and it is based on last year's funding levels. If there are any changes to the budget, further adjustments to spending will be made later. Currently, the PY24/SFY25 WIOA allocation for Area 17 is \$3,244,674, which is a 1% increase from last year. The State did enact the hold harmless provision which limits the amount of funds an area can lose in each funding stream relative to the amount of money the State received. This allocation does not reflect the CCMEP TANF funding that Area 17 receives in October, which is expected to remain at \$3 million.

### *Monitoring*

As mentioned previously, ODJFS will be conducting a PY23 WIOA-CCMEP programmatic monitoring. An ODJFS fiscal monitoring will also be conducted around the same time.

### *Letter of Support*

Jobs for Ohio Graduates, which is a non-profit that helps youth complete their education and successfully transition to employment, is applying for a regional grant supported by USDOL's Good Jobs Initiative. They are requesting a letter of support from the Board, and no financial or service obligations are required from the Board. Without any objections, a letter of support will be provided.

### *WDB Meeting Location*

Since attendance at WDB meetings have become smaller, the suggestion was made to hold the meetings in the Legacy Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor rather than the downstairs banquet room at the Best Western Plus - Dutch Haus Inn and Suites. This would provide cost savings of approximately \$1,000 for the year. After some discussion, the July 16<sup>th</sup> WDB meeting will be held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Legacy Room.

## **Good of the Order**

### *Scheduling for Services*

Eligibility appointments for individuals seeking ITA services will be scheduled out to July 1<sup>st</sup> when new PY funding will be available. Customers seeking OJT and CCMEP services will be scheduled as usual. Depending on their eligibility, they may be served immediately or at least be placed higher on the wait list.

*RETAIN Grant*

The RETAIN Grant will be coming to an end. If employers would like information about RETAIN, policy information can be shared with employers to develop their own return-to-work/stay-at-work program.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.