

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES
Executive Committee Meeting
March 16, 2023
OhioMeansJobs Mahoning County

Committee Members Present: Kelly Darney, Deann Davis, Ed Emerick, Brian Eskridge, Rachel Ketterman, Susie Kooser, Audrey Morales, Mark Nicaastro, and Mark Ragozine
Committee Members Absent: None
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: Mark Ragozine
Seconded by: Mark Nicaastro
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Approval of Modifications for Youth Services Contracts

In compliance with WDB Administrative Policy 6 – *Monitoring and Oversight*, monitoring was conducted for all six youth services contractors, and the results were discussed at the March 2nd Youth Committee meeting.

At the Youth Committee meeting, modifications for four of the contractors were presented for recommendation to the Executive Committee. Since modifications for the remaining two contractors were still being determined, the Committee gave the WDB Director the authority to recommend these modifications if appropriate.

Currently, modifications for five youth services contractors are being recommended for approval; the modification for the remaining youth contractor is still being developed. The five modifications being presented extend the contracts through June 30, 2024; the modification for the Columbiana County Educational Service Center also allows services to be made available to Mahoning County residents.

Motion: To accept the recommendations from the Youth Committee and WDB Director and approve the youth contract modifications for Academy for Urban Scholars, Columbiana County Educational Service Center, Compass Family and Community Services, The Counseling Center of Columbiana County, and Junior Achievement Mahoning Valley as prepared and presented.
Motion made by: Mark Nicaastro
Seconded by: Ed Emerick
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

One-Stop Partner MOU

The new One-Stop Partner MOU and attachments were emailed to partners for review prior to last week’s One-Stop Committee meeting. The MOU will be effective for two years beginning July 1, 2023, until June 30, 2025. Separate budgets were prepared for each county, and costs increased slightly due to inflation. More than half of the costs charged to partners goes towards rent; costs charged to equal access partners only go toward the resources offered at the centers. The goal is to obtain all partner signatures by April 28th.

Motion: To accept the recommendation from the One-Stop Committee and approve the new One-Stop Partner MOU for a two-year period, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.

Motion made by: Rachel Ketterman

Seconded by: Brian Eskridge

Discussion: None

Motion approved.

Operations Update

CCMEP Process

The internal CCMEP process was recently reviewed. The method data must be entered into the ARIES and CFIS systems has negatively impacted the efficiency of submitting and processing paperwork in the fiscal department. A small group has been meeting on a regular basis to identify ways the process can be expedited while maintaining accuracy. A few updates have been incorporated into the process, and improvements will continue to be made if needed.

Meetings have been held with the marketing agency Clever to develop a video orientation for individuals referred to CCMEP. Given the high number of CCMEP referrals being received, this will streamline the orientation process and provide staff with time to perform other tasks.

Director's Update

Two-Year Review of Regional and Local Plans

The two-year review of the regional and local plans has been completed, and the modification will be available on the WDB's website for public comment through April 13, 2023. No significant changes in strategies were made; most changes involved updating initiatives that have ended or are beginning.

ODJFS-OWD Performance Audit

At the last meeting, it was reported that the Auditor of State's Office conducted a performance audit of the programs offered through the Office of Workforce Development, which is under the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The audit report contains recommendations to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of workforce development operations throughout Ohio. OWD asked for a few WDB Directors to participate in a group to review the recommendations and determine how they can be addressed. Area 17, along with two other areas, will be participating in the group.

Funding Levels

Due to a higher demand for training, Area 17 requested \$650,000 from the State at the end of January. The State provided \$487,500 and indicated that the remaining \$162,500 can be requested in March when funding is exchanged among areas. Although Area 17 does not have funding to offer in the exchange, the request can still be made. The State also plans to offer areas Dislocated Worker funding at a later date. Area 17 will remain in priority status during this time.

ARIES

State staff are beginning to conduct their first monitoring visits since ARIES has been implemented, however, there has been limited communication about the issues with ARIES between the monitoring and program staff at the state level. Although there are known issues with ARIES, the monitors are still documenting findings for local areas to provide an explanation. OWD Deputy Director Coretta Pettway will begin to participate in overseeing the monitoring process.

Good of the Order

No items reported.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.