

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES
Executive Committee Meeting
September 15, 2022
OhioMeansJobs Mahoning County

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

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: Mark Nicastro
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

WDB Policy Updates

WDB Program Policy 3 – Individual Training Accounts (ITAs): More courses are being offered online and discussions were held with the State to ensure online courses can be funded. Language was changed to indicate that online courses can only be taken at an approved training institution within the 50-mile radius of either the Mahoning or Columbiana OhioMeansJobs center, and self-paced online courses will not be eligible for funding.

WDB Program Policy 6 – Supportive Services Attachment 1: Various supplies and fees not previously covered are coming up more frequently and becoming the norm. Examples include Chromebooks, graduation fees, and calculators. Language was added to state that the Director’s approval is needed if the total exceeds \$500 lifetime; PRC will cover appropriate expenses first if the participant is PRC-eligible; an IEP, IOP, or letter from the instructor is needed to state the rationale for the supplies/fees; and a signed receipt is required to show the participant received the supplies.

Motion: To approve the revisions to WDB Program Policy 3 and WDB Program Policy 6 – Attachment 1 as discussed.
Motion made by: Mark Nicastro
Seconded by: Rachel Ketterman
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

OhioMeansJobs Partner MOU

The Way Station has expressed interest in becoming an equal access partner at the OhioMeansJobs center in Columbiana County. There is no difference in cost for any of the partners, and the One-Stop Committee approved to recommend this change as MOU Addendum B to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Motion: To accept the recommendation from the One-Stop Committee and approve MOU Addendum B as presented.
Motion made by: Mark Ragozine
Seconded by: Ed Emerick
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Operations Update

Meetings have been held with Empyra, the company that provides OneFlow and website services, to review and modernize the local OMJ website. Website updates will include a mobile-friendly version of the site, QR codes, and artwork designs developed by the marketing firm Clever will be incorporated to maintain a connection with the outreach materials. A new domain name that is more aligned with the current OMJ branding has been reserved for the website. Additional details about the programs offered at the OMJ centers will also be included.

Since the outreach campaign for youth began, there has been an increase in youth referrals. In Mahoning County, the majority of referral have been for mandated participants, however, since July 1st, Mahoning County has received 56 non-mandated referrals and 22 mandated referrals.

The OMJ satellite located in the Oakhill Renaissance Center will reopen on October 4th. The satellite will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-4pm.

Youth Committee Member Appointment

Julie Needs, the Executive Director of the Sustainable Opportunity Development (SOD) Center and WDB member, has expressed interest in becoming a member of the Youth Committee. Julie attended the Youth Committee meeting held earlier this month, however, a quorum was not established at the meeting. Her appointment to the Youth Committee was presented to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

Motion: To appoint Julie Needs as a member to the Youth Committee.
Motion made by: Ed Emerick
Seconded by: Mark Ragozine
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Director's Update

A-117 Performance Audit

Back in March, the Auditor of State began an A-117 audit to evaluate the performance of ODJFS reemployment programs. Since many of the programs are offered locally through the OMJ centers, local areas became involved and provided information about partners and services available. A final report is expected to be issued next quarter, and it is likely that recommendations for local areas will be included in the report.

Standards for Performance Measures

Every two years, local areas negotiate new federal performance standards with the State. The performance standards proposed by the State for Program Years 2022-2023 were reviewed, and staff felt they were acceptable, and no additional negotiations were needed.

MCTA Relocation

The MCTA Youngstown administrative office will be relocating to 721 Boardman-Poland Rd., Boardman, OH 44512.

Good of the Order

No items to report.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:25pm.