

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES
Executive Committee Meeting
May 18, 2023
OhioMeansJobs Mahoning County

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

Approval of Modification for Youth Services Contract

At the March 16th Executive Committee meeting, five of the six modifications for the current youth services contracts were approved. At the time, MCTA and WDB staff were still working with Utica Shale Academy to resolve some process issues, which have since been addressed through additional training. Given the completion of additional training, the contract modification to extend the youth services contract with Utica Shale Academy for another year is being recommended.

Motion: To accept the recommendation from the WDB Director and approve the youth contract modification for Utica Shale Academy as presented.
Motion made by: Ed Emerick
Seconded by: Mark Nicaastro
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Approval of CCMEP Plan

The State developed a new, simplified CCMEP plan template for areas to utilize, and the proposed Area 17 CCMEP plan was reviewed. Information requested on the CCMEP plan template includes contact information, collaboration and program strategies, program entry and engagement, participant eligibility, adherence to policies, and performance.

Motion: To accept the PY23 Area 17 CCMEP plan as presented.
Motion made by: Rachel Ketterman
Seconded by: Brian Eskridge
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Operations Update

OMJ Website

Data is being entered into the new local OMJ website. Currently, links to partners' pages are being added, language for local and regional initiatives is being updated, and a referral form for each program offered is being incorporated to streamline the referral process. The website will also have links to the OMJ centers' pages for Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

OH|ID System

A video orientation for CCMEP has been delayed due to the State's rollout of its OH|ID system, which is an online user account for Ohioans to access multiple state agency programs and services. The OhioMeansJobs website will be under the OH|ID system, and once the system has gone live, the orientation steps can be finalized for the video. Participant forms are also being updated due to the new OH|ID system.

State Visits

On Monday, May 22nd, the CCMEP Technical Assistance Team will be visiting Area 17 to discuss how CCMEP has grown and changed, what works well, and what may need to be improved. The team plans to reach out to all local workforce areas to gain feedback.

On Tuesday, May 23rd, representatives from the State and Monster.com will be visiting Area 17 to discuss the issues and concerns with the ARIES and CFIS systems.

PY23 WIOA Allocations

At the April WDB meeting, it was reported that Area 17 received a sizeable amount of funding in State special grant funds to help make up for the higher demand in people seeking training. \$650,000 was initially requested, and the State provided \$687,500.

A summary of PY23 WIOA formula allocations, with a comparison of PY22 allocations, was provided. For PY23, Area 17 experienced a 16.4% decrease in funds, which equates to \$629,181. Overall, the State experienced a 9% decrease in WIOA funding. Given the significant decrease in funding, the State is offering Area 17 another \$369,242 in current year funds, which can provide MCTA with the opportunity to increase carry-in funds to offset the decrease in next year's allocation. Policies will be reviewed over the next couple of weeks to recommend any policy adjustments for the new program year at the June meeting.

WDB Meeting Evaluation and Attendance Summary

WDB Meeting Evaluation

Comments submitted on the 4.18.23 WDB meeting evaluation were reviewed. A comment suggested presentations be streamlined at the end. Members will be reminded that presentations are scheduled at the end of meetings to allow attendees the opportunity to leave if needed.

Labor market information will be collected to address the impact of regional population shifts.

A question about how the electric battery/vehicle supply chain will impact in-demand jobs was submitted. If the new BRN funding request is successful, existing employers will be asked how the increase in demand will impact the supply chain and what types of jobs they feel will be needed.

Another question submitted asked if a survey has been conducted with the current workforce in the region about their plans for the future. The only employers that can be surveyed are the ones that utilize OMJ services, and it would not be representative of the entire area. Employers that are not aware of the OMJ centers may not be receptive to completing a survey. The Regional Chamber may have information to share.

WDB Attendance Summary

The 4.18.23 WDB attendance summary was also reviewed. The attendance rate for April is lower than usual. Many business members have indicated it is difficult for them to leave their worksite to attend meetings, and they do not have extra staff to attend as a proxy.

Additional WDB business members are needed from Mahoning and Columbiana Counties. At the last Executive Council meeting, the Mahoning and Columbiana County Commissioners indicated they would like to be notified when open seats are available on the WDB to make potential recommendations. They have been informed of the current openings, however, recommendations have not been received yet.

Business member criteria was highlighted, and committee members were asked to share any recommendations they may have. Follow-up will also be made with members who have low attendance to determine their intentions in staying on the Board.

Director's Update

Data Validation and Single Audit Results

The State recently conducted a data validation review for Area 17 on PY20 data. The review ensures accuracy of performance reports, safeguards data integrity, and promotes timely resolution of data inaccuracies. The State reviewed 120 common data fields among 45 files, and only 5 errors were found. The State was very pleased with the results, and no corrective action plan is needed.

A Single Audit was recently completed for the past year, and there were no findings.

Letter of Support

A letter of support was provided to Columbiana County Career and Technical Center for its Career and Tech Construction Grant Project application. The application seeks to expand facilities and programming in the eco-energy sector. A decision is expected in July.

Good of the Order

No items were reported.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm.