

Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER - Workforce Development Board Chair, Randall Hazelbaker, called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. at Glen Oaks Community College, Business Development Center, 62249 Shimmel Rd, Centreville, MI 49032.

INTRODUCTIONS – Chair Randall Hazelbaker welcomed everyone in attendance and requested that each person introduce themselves.

WDB Members Present:

Richard Anderson (Labor)	John Fiore (MRS)	Frank Tecumseh (PS)*
Morris Applebey (Labor)*	Shabaka Gibson, alternate (EconDev)	Eva Tobolic (PS)
Allen Balog (PS)	Lisa Godfrey (PS)*	Ken Willcutt (Labor)
Jamie Boss (PS)	Randall Hazelbaker (PS)*	Michael Wilson (CBO)
Kathi Cain-Babbitt, alternate (Labor)	Kris Jenkins (Educ)*	*Exec Committee
Karen Doubleday (DHHS)	David Maurer (PS)*	
Dan Dunn (PS)	Chantal Paxton (PS)	

WDB Members Absent:

Trevor Bidelman (Labor)	Derek King (PS)	Marcie Stowell (PS)
Jill Bland (EconDev)	Colleen Knight (CBO)*	David Sutherland (PS)
Jessica Eyster (PS)	Mark O'Connell (Educ)	Roger Tuinier (PS)
Lisa Johansen (DOC)	Windy Rea (Job Corps)	Patty Vanaman (WDA)

Other individuals in attendance at the meeting included:

Michigan Works! / Upjohn Institute Staff:

Jakki Bungart-Bibb	Ashley Iovieno	Kathy Olsen
Ben Damerow	Amy Meyers	Sarah Pohl
Michael Horrigan	Paula Nicolich-Kizer	Charlie Zigler

Michigan Works! Services / Program Staff Present:

Sam Dougherty (HRDI)	Dallas Oberlee (WEUI-PATH)
Curt Mastos (HRDI)	Eric Stewart (YOU/KRESA)

Other Guests in Attendance

Don Reed (Media) M

TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY OF WDB DECISIONS

Conflict of Interest and Disclosure – Sarah Pohl asked members present if there were any items on the agenda requiring a vote for which a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest exists; and if so, the conflict should be declared at this time. There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Exhibit A)

Motion made by Lisa Godfrey and supported by John Fiore to approve the Workforce Development Board Executive Committee meeting minutes of August 9, 2019. Motion carried.

CITIZENS' TIME

No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Veterans Community Action Team (VCAT) (Exhibit B) – Michael Wilson reported a flyer detailing the 3rd Annual Employer Summit was included in the agenda packet (*Exhibit B*). The event will take place on September 26, 2019 at Presidential Brewing and is expected to draw 45-70 employers to participate in a workshop highlighting employer strategies to attract, hire and train veterans, with a focus on utilizing an employee’s GI Bill to increase their skillset to grow within an organization.

STAFF REPORTS

Business Services / Talent Fund / LMI (Exhibit C) – Ashley Iovieno reported wage and benefit surveys have been sent to area employers. Responses are confidential and results will be sent out to those that participate. Ms. Iovieno requested those that have received the survey participate as a robust collection of responses is required to obtain meaningful results.

Ms. Iovieno also reported the 2020 Going PRO Talent Fund application period will run September 12 – October 2, 2019. Eight information sessions have been scheduled to provide details on the competitive grant, and one-on-one sessions are also available for those interested. Updates to the awards include the implementation of a new online submission system.

The website link to the labor market reports generated from Burning Glass Analytics and Real Time Jobs Data that identified the top detailed occupations, skills greatest in demand, and employers with the most job openings in Prosperity Region 8, Michigan Works! Southwest, and each of the four counties in the MW Southwest Area for the period July 1, 2019 – August 31, 2019 was included in the agenda packet (*Exhibit C*).

Dashboard Report (Exhibit D) – Jakki Bungart-Bibb reported a redesign of the Dashboard Report is currently taking place and feedback will be requested from members in the future. Due to the presentation taking place during the meeting, information on this month’s dashboard was condensed to avoid duplication.

Page one of the Dashboard Report (*Exhibit D*) included information specific to programs and the Michigan Works! Southwest Service Centers. Highlights include close to 13,000 visitors to the Service Centers in August, a PATH work participation rate of 66.7% and employment rate of 52.7%, and a slight increase in the average wage reported by PATH participants to \$10.71 per hour.

The final page of the Dashboard highlighted the Michigan Works! Association Employer of the Year award received by FireKeepers Casino Hotel during the Michigan Works! Annual Conference. FireKeepers was chosen by the Association for their generous contributions in the area, as well as their commitment to being a champion for workforce development. Frank Tecumseh gave an impactful speech during the award ceremony, and Michigan Works! Southwest is honored to have him as a member of Workforce Development Board.

Jennifer Klemppnow, a Michigan Works! Southwest staff member, also received an award during the conference. Ms. Klemppnow received the “Shining Star” award in recognition of her commitment to providing excellent customer service to both employers and job seekers, and her passion for assisting local Veterans in obtaining meaningful employment.

Both John Fiore and Frank Tecumseh remarked that they enjoyed their experience at this year’s Michigan Works! Annual Conference. Ben Damerow reported the Association has received lots of positive feedback regarding the conference and the opening reception that was held at the Air Zoo. The conference brought over 700 individuals to Kalamazoo. Mr. Damerow further reported that in Mayor Bobby Hopewell’s opening remarks, he spoke highly of our work and partnership with the City of Kalamazoo.

Director’s Report – Members viewed a video detailing the Vision for Prosperity Apprenticeship Readiness Training which took place in Kalamazoo during the Spring of 2019. Mr. Damerow reported recruitment for a cohort in Battle Creek will begin in October of 2019 with a start date of early 2020. Conversations are also underway to have a second Kalamazoo cohort take place sometime next year. Sam Dougherty also commented on the training, stating it was an incredible experience to be a part of and thanking everyone for their support. He also reported one participant from the Spring 2019 cohort recently reported they gained employment within the trades starting at \$20.71 per hour.

Members were then referred to a copy of the Director’s Report dated September 13, 2019 that had been distributed prior to the meeting.

FY2020 Federal Budget - Mr. Damerow reported the House and Senate passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 which increases the spending by \$320 billion over levels set in 2011, resulting in an increase in discretionary spending and removal of the possibility of budget sequestration. Though total levels of appropriations for discretionary and defense were agreed upon, individual appropriation bills will need to be completed prior to October 1, 2019.

The House also passed the Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS) appropriations which provided flat funding for WIOA and an increase in RESEA and apprenticeship funding. Though the Senate subcommittee markup was postponed, there is still optimism that a deal will be reached before the October 1st deadline.

FY2020 State Budget– Mr. Damerow reported on September 9, 2019, Governor Whitmer and legislative leaders announced they had reached an agreement on the 2019-2020 fiscal year budget; however, on the 11th it was announced that negotiations had broken down and legislative leaders would be moving forward with budget bills.

Workforce fund sources for the state are currently at \$37.9 million for the Going PRO Talent Fund, flat funding of \$75 million for Partnership.Accountability.Training.Hope. (PATH), flat funding of \$3 million for Jobs for Michigan Graduates (JMG), \$36.2 million for the Healthy Michigan Plan (Medicaid Work Requirements) with an additional \$10 million for supportive services, and the elimination of the Regional Prosperity Initiative. Education will see an increase in funding of .9% for higher education, 1.6% for community colleges, and 2.4% for K-12.

Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo – Mr. Damerow reported Dr. Light and the City of Kalamazoo provided funding for a group of individuals from Kalamazoo to visit Austin, Texas the week of August 26th. The purpose of the site visit was to learn about the solutions organizations are implementing to address problems created by generational poverty, and understand the data, metrics and tracking system being utilized by the community to address these issues.

The Kalamazoo team met with a variety of organizations, including University Texas Ray Marshall Center and the Austin United Way to discuss multigenerational support initiatives and their creation and use of a comprehensive plan that addresses the needs of the city.

PROGRAM: Remembering the Forgotten Half: A Focus on Those with Less than a College Degree

The program, presented by Dr. Michael Horrigan, President of the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, detailed local labor market participation as it relates to educational attainment.

The presentation began with data on educational attainment broken down by both sex and race for individuals age 25 and older. Comparisons of median weekly earnings broken down by educational attainment were also provided, supporting the belief that earnings tend to rise with educational attainment.

Dr. Horrigan reported since the Great Recession, there has been a significant shift in the makeup of individual occupations toward those with a bachelor’s degree or higher and away from those with high school or less has taken place. Diagrams depicting this shift were reviewed and discussed with those present. Dr. Horrigan also noted

that data shows a wage premium is also earned by individuals with either a license or a certificate, a premium that exists for all levels of educational attainment

Data on labor force participation rates, including annual averages for the Michigan Works! Southwest area was also provided during the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

CITIZENS' TIME

None.

MEMBERS' TIME

None.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Future meetings were highlighted.

The next meeting of the **Full Workforce Development Board** is scheduled for Friday, November 8, 2019 from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI.

The next **Executive Committee** is scheduled for Friday, October 11, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The next **Monitoring and Evaluation Committee** is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. at Michigan Works! Southwest Service Center, 1601 S. Burdick St, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The next **Disability Awareness Resource Team (DART)** meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2019 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The next **Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)** meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2019 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA), 1819 E. Milham Rd, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Veterans Committee

The next VCAT Region 8 quarterly meeting is TBD; the VCAT Employment Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Upjohn Institute; the VCAT Education Committee is scheduled for September 16, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Upjohn Institute; and the VCAT Region 8 Employer Summit is scheduled for September 26, 2019 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. at Presidential Brewing (*Exhibit B*).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Sarah Pohl

Date

Randall Hazelbaker, Chair

Date