**Workforce Development Board of Trumbull County**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 @ 8:30 a.m.**

**TCTC**

**Members Present Members Absent**

William Ayres

Rodney Bartlett

Angelica Brewer

Herbert Caldwell, Jr

Melissa Capple

Laura Carey

Thomas S. Conley

Arthur Daly or Delegate

Eric Davis

Sara Daughety

Donald Emerson, Jr

Brian Eskridge

Dale Foerster

John R Gargano

Koula Glaros Ross

Linsey A Gray

Michael Hanshaw

Tyler Harden

Gary Hartman

Thomas Harvey

Gerri Jenkins

LaTasha Johnson (Saulsberry)

Pete Kefalas

Michael D Keys

Erin Konicek

Teri Lacy

David Macek

Melissa Maiorano

John Moliterno

William E Moore

Patricia Nichols

Dawn Ochman

Brett Powell

Brian Pritchard

Mark Ragozine

Wiley Runnestand

Russell H Sewell

John Sofranko

Rashad Terry

Rich Tice

Tia Toles

Daniel Vodhanel

**Guests Present**

William Turner, WDB Executive Director

Kim Barrell, OMJ Administrator

Dimitri Liogas, Executive Assistant

William Cummings, TCJFS Fiscal Administrator

Tara Stanyard, OMJ Supervisor

Sarah Marino, Mercy Health

BJ Knutson, WOTC/OWD

Alex Hertzer, MVMC

Mr. Moliterno, Board Chair, welcomed all Board members and called the meeting to order, WDB attendance was taken with quorum in attendance.

Mr. Moliterno welcomed the newest Board members… Wiley Runnestrand, Gerri Jenkins, John Sofranko, and Sara Daugherty.

Mr. Moliterno requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2023 meeting as submitted to the Board via email.

MOTION: By Mr. Emerson to approve the August 17, 2023 WDB minutes, as written and submitted.

Seconded: By Mr. Keys

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

Mr. Moliterno requested reports from the Board’s Standing Committees.

**OhioMeansJobs Committee**

Committee Chair, Mr. Michael Keys reported the last meeting was held November 7, 2023. The committee discussed some items on today’s agenda. No action items to bring to the Board. The next scheduled meeting will be announced.

**Youth Committee**

Mr. Conley, committee chair, reported that the committee met on October 10, 2023 and discussed various items on today’s agenda. The committee received reports from both youth services providers. The next meeting will be announced. The Committee has no action items to bring to the Board.

**Planning & Monitoring Committee**

Mr. Davis, Committee Chair, reported that the last meeting was held October 26, 2023. The committee reviewed WIOA expenditures and enrollments among other agenda items discussed today. The next meeting will be announced. The Committee had no action items to bring to the Board.

**By-Laws Committee**

Mr. Emerson reported the last meeting was held August 3, 2023. The next By Laws meeting will be held August 8, 2024.

**Executive Ad-Hoc Committee**

Mr. Moliterno reported that the executive committee last met on 6/20/2023. Ad Hoc meetings are scheduled as needed.

**Guest Speaker**- BJ Knutson, WOTC and Bonding Representative for the State provided a brief presentation of the benefits of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program. She also introduced the bonding program for at risk employees.

**Guest Speaker**- Alex Hertzer, MVMC Mgr., gave a brief update of the activities and programs MVMC is facilitating.

**Old Business**

**RETAIN-** Mr. Liogas provided an update concerning the RETAIN program activities. Mr. Liogas announced that the RETAIN annual convening was held on September 20, 2023. Mr. Weber, State Program Manager, attended the convening of the five states that received phase II funding with the DOL/ODEP. Each state presented their program progress, best practices, lessons learned, success stories and sustainability strategies. In addition, the program is expanding to include Southeast Ohio (Pike County) with a new health system (Valley View Health System).

**Regional Workforce Coalition-**  Ms. Maiorano updated the Board on the Regional Workforce Coalition. She stated that the coalition has procured a technical assistance consultant. The group continues to meet monthly. The group is moving forward with strategic activities to benefit the region to entice immigration to the area and address the workforce needs of the new emerging markets.

**RESEA:** Mrs. Stanyard provided an update of the RESEA unemployment program. OMJ is meeting its performance measures. Mrs. Stanyard reported that year to date, 303 participants have been selected for the program. 205 initial meetings were conducted and 152 subsequent meetings were completed.

**TEAM**- Mr. Liogas briefed the Board on the current activities the TEAM consortium is conducting. TEAM meetings continue. The current ARC power grant, public private industry sector partnership, which focuses on oil and gas industry activities continue. The consortium has partnered with multi state group that applied and received a $925 million dollar grant to create a regional Hydrogen Hub. Under this new grant, TEAM is the education/workforce partner. TEAM is evolving to include oil/gas, EV battery production, hydrogen, and advanced manufacturing in these industry sectors.

**Fresh Start Grant:** Mrs. Barrell provided an update on Fresh Start Grant activities. Mrs. Barrell reports that they have received a lead to possible disaster relief employment with our partner Flying High and we are currently working towards a work experience contract.

**State of Ohio BRN Grant:** Ms. Stanyard updated the Board on the BRN grant. It is a thirteen-month grant. Mr. Rieser continues to do a good job for OMJ. Positive connections between Mr. Rieser and the Business Services team are bringing opportunities to OMJ for job postings, OJTs, and IWTP.

**Outreach-** Mrs. Barrell stated that OMJ continues to explore opportunities for outreach to enroll more participants. OMJ continues to actively post on all social media platforms and any and all outreach methods including attending community events.

**New Business**

**Financial Report & Expenditures:** Mr. Cummings provided the Board with the WIOA expenditure report as of 9/30/2023. Mr. Cummings provided, and reviewed a report, which showed the allocations, obligations, accruals, and expenditures for WIOA Adult, Dislocated, Youth/CCMEP, Opioid, BRN and other Special Grants.

**Enrollments :** Mrs. Barrell reported that there has been an increase in applications recently and staff are busy processing those enrollments.

**Performance**: Mrs. Barrell reported on the performance metrics from the state. OMJ is meeting all performance goals set by the state. Mr. Turner concurred that the staff was doing a great job.

**OWA Conference:**  Mr. Liogas reported that the Director’s Association held a Workforce Conference on September 21 and 22, held in Columbus Ohio. The event was a success with over 200 participants throughout Ohio attending. Mr. Turner, Mr. Liogas, and Mrs. Barrell presented at the conference. OMJ was also able to send 4 additional staff for professional development and networking.

**CFIS Conference-** Mr. Cummings provided a summary of the CFIS (County/ State Financial System) conference in October. OMJ fiscal sent representatives to attend the conference. Staff received updates on the system and received technical assistance training on various programs and how to interface with CFIS.

**Financial / Programmatic Monitoring**: Mr. Turner reported that the state conducted programmatic and financial monitor visits. Mr. Turner was happy to report that very minor areas of improvement were identified.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

Mr. Liogas reviewed the information packets distributed to the Board. The 2024 tentative meeting schedule has been set and are awaiting confirmation of locations. Also, the updated 2023 Acronym list was included. The Workforce Board Staff provided a grants and collaborations reference guide to the board for reference as programs and collaboration updates are brought forward.

With no other business to discuss Mr. Moliterno adjourned the meeting

~~2023 Meeting Schedule – February 16, 2023, May 18, 2023, August 17, 2023, November 16, 2023~~

Respectfully submitted by: Dimitri Liogas- WDB Executive Assistant