

MEETING MINUTES
LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
June 11, 2020 @ 11:30 AM
Via Zoom

Board Roll Call:

Eric Barbe
Matt Battiato
Sam Delzoppo
Gretchen Skok-
Robert J Dawson

Terry Lazar
Carolyn O'Connor
Carrie Dotson(P)
Disanto Dan Findley
Karen Ralston

William Moore
Dan Massachio (P)
Scott Seaholm
Ryan Rogers
Eric Wachob

Others in Attendance:

Leslie Ryan, LCDJFS
Shawn Douglas, LCDJFS
Mindy Hughes, LCDJFS
Bridgid Corbett, LCDJFS

Bob Dawson, LCWDB,
Joel Dimare, LC Commissioners
Patrick Mohorcic, LCWDB Director

Call to Order:

Chairman Sam Delzoppo called the meeting to order at 11:31 AM via ZOOM. Roll Call was taken.

Approval of Minutes:

Eric Barbe moved for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of April 16, 2020. Matt Battiato seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried with no abstentions.

Introductions:

Bob Dawson thanked the board for allowing him to manage Lake County's public workforce system for the past sixteen and a half years. Bob stated that he came here with intentions to utilize his private sector experience and private sector skills to "make a difference" and he hoped he had done that and that the outcomes met or exceeded the board's expectations.

He went on by saying he and Patrick had been working together for approximately six weeks and that he could tell the Board with confidence that they had made an excellent selection in Patrick. He is a man with high energy, he brings fresh and exciting ideas to the position, and he has a ton of contacts from his time with the LC Port Authority.

Director's Report:

Patrick Mohorcic presented several timely items. Patrick shared a recent letter received from the Ohio Office of Workforce Development advising that our workforce board had been recertified for two years through April 2022. He shared a flyer and explained the upcoming OH ZONE Lake County Virtual Career Fair scheduled for the week of June 22 – 26. This is the first of its kind for Lake County and will use a very new software platform. Partners for this event are Team Neo, HOLA, AWT and News 5. Currently 24 employers and 30 job seekers are registered

to participate. Patrick reported on the OMJ Center upgrade which has started. Included will be new computers, monitors and software programs. New chairs are on order along with plexiglass dividers for the workstations. A new copier is also in the plans. The upgrades will be paid for by a special allocation purposed for resource room improvements. Patrick explained the SFY 21 WIOA allocations, which are very similar to our current funding. He also explained a grant application he submitted to CDBG, which we hope will provide for the purchase of fifty (50) work tablets to provide internet connectivity that will help participants meet their work activity requirements and perform online job search.

County Perspective

Joel Dimare announced and explained two business assistance programs that the Lake County Commissioners have authorized to assist small for-profit businesses that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program will distribute \$700,000 which was provided through the federal CARES Act. Interested businesses should contact Betsy Figgie at (216) 570-9085.

Job and Family Services

Matt Battiato explained the procedures that the agency has been operating under through the COVID pandemic. Most staff have been working remotely from their homes. Beginning June 15, most staff involved in the delivery of workforce services will be back in the office and shortly thereafter they will begin to provide in-person services by appointment.

CCMEP

Brigid Corbett performs several duties at JFS including serving as the CCMEP Quality Control Reviewer. Brigid gave a very detailed overview of our CCMEP program and our status. We are serving approximately 120 participants in this program which is funded by our WIOA youth allocation and special TANF funds. All participants are young adults ages 16-24 and most of our clients are mandatory participants connected in some way to a public assistance case. OhioGuideston and Catholic Charities are each providing case management services to approximately 60 participants. Both providers are giving excellent service and our performance is among the best in the State.

Nominating Committee:

Gretchen Skok-Disanto announced that the Nominating Committee was made up of herself as the chair, along with Marty Gareau and Terry Lazar. The committee is recommending Robert J. Dawson from Middlefield Bank as WDB Chair and Eric Wachob as Vice-Chair. The terms are for two years per the WDB Bylaws. Matt Battiato moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the candidates as recommended by the Nominating Committee. All were in favor: Motion carried with no abstentions.

Other Business:

Eric Barbe moved for the Resolution authorizing the Director to apply for special COVID - 19 CARES funds through CDBG. Terry Lazar seconded the motion. The motion carried with no abstentions.

Special Presentation:

Bob Dawson addressed Sam Delzoppo: “It is truly my honor on behalf of the board, the staff and all of the people you have helped by saying thank you for your service and leadership the past several years. Anytime you were needed you made yourself available. And your support was a huge thing for me, personally. You will never know how many lives you have changed for the better, but we hope you think about that when you look at your recognition award. Your award will be presented live when we are in-person...hopefully soon. Thank you, Sam.”

Adjournment:

Bob Dawson announced that the next meeting will be in the fall and that next year’s meetings will be announced after he, Patrick, WDB Chair Robert Dawson and Vice-Chair Eric Wachob get a chance to meet in July. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at the call of the Chair at 12:05 PM.