

MEETING MINUTES

LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

December 2nd, 2020 @11:30am

Zoom

Executive Committee Roll Call

Eric Barbe, Terry Lazar, Mike Matoney, Matt Battiato, Carolyn O'Connor, Dan Massachio

Sam Delzoppo, Carrie Dotson, Rich Mears, Gretchen Skok-Disanto, Brian Bontempo, William Moore

Marty Gareau, Eric Wacho, Cindy Hutchison, Dan Findley, Karen Ralston, Scott Seaholm, Tim Flenner, Ryan Rogers

Others in Attendance:

Bob Dawson, LCWDB

Joel DiMare, Director, Lake County Administrative Services

Leslie Ryan, One-Stop Operator

Call to Order:

Chairman Robert Dawson called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM via Zoom

Business at hand:

Executive Director Patrick Mohorcic gave the board a rundown of the new initiatives the WDB has undertaken in the last 7 months.

Mohorcic discussed the launch of a new apprenticeship program with AWT for candidates interested in manufacturing. The programs include Tool & Die Maker, Mold Maker, Precision Machinist, and Tool Programmer/Numerical Control. Classes will begin in February and be held Monday and Wednesday nights at Auburn Career Center from 3 pm-5 pm.

The WDB, on the recommendation of the search committee consisting of executive committee members, the County, and WDB staff have hired Thomas P Miller and Associates to conduct the Lake County Workforce Study. Four proposals were received. This study will help provide some key demographic data to help us bridge our current workforce gaps as well as study how we can better provide our services to the community. This is funded through a Business Outreach Grant from the State of Ohio.

On November 16th and 17th, the WDB hosted a virtual job fair on our new software. 35 companies participated and 70 job seekers attended the two-day event.

Our online training platform, Coursera, has had over 136 people enrolled. This has been a huge success and participants will continue to finish their classes through 12/31. We are in the process of renewing

the software to provide it again in 2021. This purchase recommendation was sent to the Commissioners and is on the 12/29 meeting agenda for them to vote on. The software's purchase price was \$54,000.

Over the past six months, The WDB has paid over \$100,000 in training to job seekers out of our WIOA and BRN grant funds. We are excited that we have been able to help people retrain and re-tool during this time of the pandemic. We have been doing a very aggressive marketing push to job seekers on social media and radio, along with cold calling UI claimants. The WDB has hired Sarah Bals, of 440Marketing as an outreach consultant. She will be running our targeted Facebook outreach plan and creating outreach materials for us to share with businesses and job seekers.

The WDB also purchased 50 laptops through CARES Act funding to provide technology to our CCMEP providers. They have many students who lack computer access and this provides them an opportunity to fulfill CCMEP requirements while still being able to learn remotely.

We have also purchased LinkedIn RecruiterPro. This software will help us directly talk to candidates who are looking for jobs and connect them to employers in Lake County to fill their current positions as well as connect them to all the services OMJ Lake County offers. The WDB is also running a talent attraction campaign through LinkedIn to attract job seekers to Lake County companies and training providers. This is an effort to reverse Lake County's declining population.

The State of Ohio is restarting the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment Program (RESEA) and will be run by local WDBs and OMJ centers. This program requires people receiving UI benefits to enroll with their local OMJ center and participate in either job search activities or training programs. We have sent out an RFP to procure two individuals to run this program locally.

Finally, through a grant the County Commissioners received through the "Fund for Our Economic Future", we are providing free transportation for a year through Laketrans's new Transit Go program. We are excited to help break this transportation barrier and help people get to work with our manufacturing companies.

Robert Dawson, Special Projects Manager, updated the board on the WDB PY 19 Performance Measures. He stated the board is exceeding its negotiated standards in almost all categories except credential attainment. The board has taken steps to address this issue by continuing to hold the training providers accountable for the skills gained reports. Dawson discussed the new policies the board had adjusted due to the pandemic. This included the WDB appropriateness policy and ITA policy.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the Board moved to adjourn at 12:20 pm.