

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE
LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB)
January 31, 2023 – 11:00 AM
Via Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Committee Members Attendance

Scott Seaholm Mindy Hughes
Robert J. Dawson Tim Flenner
Eric Barbe Carrie Dotson
Gretchen Skok-DiSanto

Staff Attendance

Cory Vojack

Call to Order:

Chairman Scott Seaholm called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

Approval of Minutes:

Carrie Dotson moved to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2020, meeting. Eric Barbe Seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

New Business:

Cory Vojack gave a report on five action items for the committee's review. During our area's annual CCMEP program review, we were recommended by the States' Office of Workforce Development program managers to update our incentive policy to remain in compliance with the DOL. Policy change is that we cannot offer incentives for single workshops and meetings. We updated the two incentives from the policy in question to reflect these requirements. First was the Workshop incentive that states: "The participant has participated in a minimum of two in-person or virtual workshops. The participant must be an active participant in the workshop to receive this incentive." Second was in relation to the in-person appointment. New policies states: "The participant achieves perfect attendance for one calendar month for in-person appointments. (Minimum of 5 meetings)." Gretchen motioned to approve the CCMEP Incentive Policy update. Eric Barbe Seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried

Paid and unpaid Work Experience is one of the fourteen (14) required youth elements under WIOA and one of the allowable activities of CCMEP. Work Experience components of CCMEP are be made available to all participants throughout the program year. The primary intent of work experience is to help youth understand proper workplace behavior and to attain and retain basic skills that can help the youth attain, retain, and advance in employment. The current work experience amount is \$10.00/hr. Cory requested we raise this to \$12.00/hr. based on other current work experience amounts in other workforce areas in Ohio. Cory felt this would help with participation in the program with our service providers. Carrie Dotson moved to approve raising the CCMEP Work Experience amount from \$10.00/hr. to 12.00/hr. Robert J. Dawson seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Cindy Hutchinson's board term expiring on March 14,2023. Mr. Vojack requested recommending appointing Sara Spence of Spence Technologies to replace Cindy Hutchinson for

a 3-year term. Cory obtained Private sector nomination by AWT (Alliance for Working Together) that is required to place a private business on the board. Tim Flenner moved to approve recommending to the Lake County Board of Commissioners Sara Spence of Spence Technologies to the Lake County Workforce Development Board. Eric Barbe seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Marketing Committee last met on October 13, 2022. In those discussions, the committee suggested expanding the marketing committee from 3 to 5 members that will report to the WDB's regularly scheduled meetings. The committee is small and can use more members to present and discuss current workforce initiatives with the OhioMeansJobs Lake County team. With approval to expand the committee, Cory Vojack will begin the search for two contributing members. Tim Flenner moved to approve expanding the Marketing Committee from three to five members. Gretchen Skok-DiSanto Seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

The Income Eligibility for funding training under WIOA is defined as the "Local Self-Sufficiency Standard". That number is set by the board and under the current income limit is 200% of the Lower Living Standard. The proposed income limit would be raised to 225% of the Lower Living Standard which is up for consideration. In 2019, we raised the local self-sufficiency standard from 150% to 200%. This standard was set at the beginning of WIA in 1999. These levels go up and down slightly each year based on the cost of living, but no other changes have been made to the formula. To write more scholarships, Mr. Vojack is recommending that the board raise the Self-Sufficiency Standard to the 225% level. Committee agreed to have Mr. Vojack present more data on the local self-sufficiency levels before bringing the motion to vote at the next WDB meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Seaholm adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM by Call of the Chair.