

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 11:30 AM**

**Board Roll Call**

Eric Barbe  
Ryan Rogers (P)  
Hugh Scott Seaholm  
Suzanne Casar  
Terry Lazar

Robert J. Dawson  
Carrie Dotson  
William Moore  
Dan Findley  
Rich Mears

Carolyn O'Connor (P)  
Gretchen Skok-DiSanto  
Tim Flenner  
Patrick Mohorcic  
Sara Spence

**Others in Attendance**

Cory Vojack, Ex Director, LCWDB  
Mindy Hughes, LCDJFS  
Richard J. Regovich, CEO  
Matthew Myers, ODJFS, OWD

Joel Dimare, LC Commissioners  
Leslie Ryan, LCDJFS  
John R. Hamercheck, CEO

Shawn Douglas, LCDJFS  
Dr. Joe Glavan, Mentor Schools

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Seaholm called the meeting to order at 11:33 AM.

**Minutes:**

Patrick Mohorcic moved for the approval of the minutes of the November 7th, 2022, meeting. Dan Findley seconded the motion. All were in Favor; Motion Carried without abstentions.

**Introductions:**

Cory Vojack introduced New WDB member Sara Spence, and Lake County Commissioners John Hamercheck and Richard J. Regovich. Cory Vojack then introduced Dr. Joe Glavan, Director of Business Partnerships and CTE for Mentor Public Schools for the Spotlight Presentation.

**Spotlight Presentation:**

Dr. Joe Glavan provided the WDB with a slide deck covering this presentation. Glavan covered who the Lake Shore Compact is and what they do, along with providing insightful information on the 21 CTE programs students in the Lake Shore compact are eligible to receive college credit tuition upon successful completion of their program. Dr. Glavan discussed their experimental learning model that has kept graduation rates high and tracks the Post-Program Outcomes as it relates to the proportion of students who are employed, in an apprenticeship, join the military, or are enrolled in postsecondary education. Dr. Glavan proposed to Create, Collaborate, and Communicate a model for how we as agencies can continue to expand in career technical education while meeting the increased workforce needs of northeast Ohio. Glavan elaborated on Mentor Public schools to create by expanding options of creative solutions through adjustment and flexibility of classes to new electives to prepare students for careers in high demand. To collaborate by working together with other partners like Auburn Career Center, Lakeland Community College, AWT, and local government to ensure that workforce demands are being met and resources are being maximized. And to Communicate by expanding communication channels with community partners like the K-12 real-world learning, Business Advisory

councils, Cardinal Connect, the Lake County Workforce Development Board, and Opportunity Lake County.

### **Workforce Director's Report:**

Cory presented and reviewed several performance reports including the WIOA Adult/Dislocated Worker Common Measures and the CCMEP Measures for PY 22 ending June 30, 2023. Cory explained that program numbers through quarter two have held strong with our 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter after-exit measures. Credential attainment and Measurable gains gain have increased. These areas of improvement were noticed in two CCMEP WIOA Youth measures. Cory mentioned to the board that measures in all areas of concern have improved since reviewing the weekly report received by the Office of Workforce Development, and our continued outreach efforts for volunteer participants in the program have been going well.

Cory reviewed the quarter two PY22 Return on Investment Analysis showing the program had 29 exits with an average wage at placement at \$23.63 per hour, with a taxpayer payback of 6.4 months which tracked well below the goal of 12 months or less. Cory reiterated his satisfaction with the employer payback final number given the climate of the workforce coming into higher inflation quarters with the economy.

Cory Mentioned to the board the NOW regional and Local workforce plan 2<sup>nd</sup> year modifications are being published this week for public comment. These plans are a required component of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Mr. Vojack has been working through the planning process with our regional partners since November of last year. The new version of the regional plan has been refined slightly since the earlier version from 2021 to reflect the changes coming out of the pandemic, updated statistics, and the addition of a comprehensive and inciteful workforce study named, "Where are the Workers?", conducted by our partnering directors. The Plans will be posted for public comment for four weeks through the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. Cory informed the board to view the plan in its entirety or make comments on the plan, that they may do so at the county website under the OhioMeansJobs tab.

Finally, Cory reviewed and discussed a suggested motion brought forth from the executive committee meeting regarding a recommendation to increase the Area 5 WIOA Self-Sufficiency Standard from 200% of the Lower Living Standard to 250% of the Lower Living Standard. A look back to 2019 when this was last raised from 150%, 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 chart represents an income limit of 225%, 250%, 275%, and 300% of the Lower Living Standard. The levels go up slightly each year based on the cost of living updated by the Department of Labor. In an attempt to write more scholarships, Mr. Vojack recommends to the board to raise the Self-Sufficiency Standard to the 250% level. Cory did a 3-year look back at our client registrations and estimates show that the program would have written an additional 36 scholarships if the higher number of 250% had been in place. The market committee will discuss our recent efforts to promote these scholarships. Most of the workforce areas around us have raised their eligibility standard to between 200% and 300%. We have sufficient funds to cover any anticipated spending increase in this area. The training programs have openings, and the employers need the personnel.

After a discussion with the board, Chairman Scott Seaholm directed the board to the resolution page and resolution #4. Eric Barbe made a motion to change the Area #5 Self-Sufficiency Standard from 200% of the Lower Living Standard to 250% of the Lower Living Standard effective April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Dan Findley seconded the motion. All were in favor; the Motion carried.

## **Youth Committee:**

Mindy Hughes, Chairman of the Youth Committee gave their report. The Youth Committee last met on February 28<sup>th</sup>. CCMEP Supervisor, Bridgid Corbett presented the committee with an overview of the status of our Youth programming. Bridgid went into detail on the status of the program being operated by Catholic Charities and then did the same for the program being run by OhioGuidestone. Each provider has spots for 60 participants so we can serve a total of 120 participants. Each is contracted to provide 14 CCMEP services such as paid work experience, financial management, and leadership development. Bridgid also brought the committee up to date on the "GOAL4it!" case management model that has clients create a large goal with smaller goals and action steps to reach them. Both providers have been doing a great job working with participants and keeping them active and engaged in achieving self-sufficiency.

Mindy informed the board we had performed a formal procurement for providers last year which allows us to offer 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contracts to providers subject to available funding and satisfactory performance. The Youth Committee is recommending that both Catholic Charities and OhioGuidestone be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contracts for program year PY2023 beginning on July 1, 2023. These two recommendations are included on today's list of suggested motions. The required resolutions were listed as #1 & #2 in the meeting handouts. After a brief discussion, Chairman Scott Seaholm read the requested resolution out loud. Patrick Mohorcic moved for a resolution to the Lake County Commissioners approving the establishment of 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contracts with Catholic Charities Corporation and OhioGuidestone, Inc., to provide CCMEP services during Program Year 2023 as provided for in the PY 22 Youth Services Procurement and the RFP dated March 9, 2022, in the amount of \$504,484.68 (Catholic Charities) and \$569,473 (OhioGuidestone). The 2nd year contracts will receive no increase in their per unit cost per the terms of the original procurement. Contracts to both providers are applicable to 60 slots as needed for the successful operation of the program but with no increase from their current contract amounts. Eric Barbe seconded the motion. All were in favor; the Motion carried. There were no abstentions

## **Planning and Programs Committee:**

Eric Barbe, Chairman of the Planning & Programs Committee, gave their report. The Planning and Programs Committee last met on March 8th. At that meeting, the committee reviewed the performance of the United Labor Agency which currently holds the One-Stop staffing contract. This contract provides for four full-time staff and was awarded last year following a competitive procurement. That procurement process allows us to award a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contract (with no increase in contract rate) subject to satisfactory performance. ULA has had excellent performance and the Planning & Programs committee is recommending they be awarded a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contract for the program year 2023 beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. This recommendation was shown as resolution #3 in the meeting handouts.

Chairman Scott Seaholm directed board members to the resolution page and resolution #3. Eric Barbe moved for a resolution to the Lake County Commissioners approving the establishment of a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year contract with the United Labor Agency (ULA) to provide OMJ Lake Staffing Services during Program Year 2023, in the amount of \$412,080.00. Dan Findley seconded the motion. All were in favor; the Motion carried. There were no abstentions

## **Marketing Committee:**

Shawn Douglas reported for the Marketing committee. Shawn reported that the OhioMeansJobs team's Recruitment/job fairs, Employer visits, Planning sessions, and outreach with community partners were in the meeting packet for the past six months. OMJ staff are attending the Auburn Reverse Job Fair on April 20<sup>th</sup> from that will have over 200 employer representatives interacting and recruiting with all the students from Auburn Career Center.

Staff is also holding a Healthcare Career Expo and May 4<sup>th</sup> to promote rewarding careers in healthcare and to celebrate In-Demand Jobs Week during the first week of May. The event will be held at the Mentor Civic Center from 1 PM – 3 PM on May 4th. We continue to focus efforts on promoting training opportunities in the area of manufacturing and healthcare. Our efforts include running new radio commercials specific to training, on Mix 97.1. Eighty (80) commercials run each month, plus two (2) additional commercials during each Guardians game that run on 99.9 WZOO, as well as ads running on WKKY 104.7 throughout lake county. Shawn also mentioned that a county-wide postcard mailer will be going out to every lake county resident detailing the services the OMJ staff can provide for job seekers and businesses, while also providing information on the Programs current initiatives like Opportunity Lake County and the new workforce podcast North Cast Careers.

Matthew Myers of OWD gave a brief update on the OMJ team's newest initiative, a workforce podcast called, "North Coast Careers – Lake County's Workforce Beacon" Started in September, the podcast has over 14 episodes set to be an innovative platform to educate and inspire local residents, job seekers, and business owners through open dialogue with community leaders, subject matter experts, and local industry specialists from the private sector while focusing on workforce issues, career services, and local information that matters to the people of lake county.

## **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Suzanne Casar moved for adjournment at 12:54 PM. The motion was seconded by Dan Findley, and all were in favor.