



MINUTES
WESTMORELAND-FAYETTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018 – 1:00 P.M.
PA CAREERLINK® FAYETTE COUNTY
112 COMMONWEALTH DRIVE
LEMONT FURNACE, PA 15456

Present: Brian Edmiston, Chair; Jim Stark, Treasurer; Doug Decker, Board Secretary; Steve Columbus, Charlie Datz, Dan Dunmeyer, Marge Duranko, Vicki Loucks, Muriel Nuttall, Ron Ott, George Rattay, Jason Rigone, Faye Rosatti, Jim Rugh, Phil Savini, Joe Segilia, Kelly Scott, Frankie Staszko, Ed Yankovich, Tim Yurcisin

Absent: Lori Albright, Lauri Aston, Terri Knupp, Bill Magda, Ralph Resnick, Tuesday Stanley, Tay Waltenbaugh, Bill Yant

Present: Solicitor Lee Demosky

Guests: Fayette County Commissioner Dave Lohr, Fayette County Commissioner Angela Zimmerlink; Chief of Staff to Fayette County Commissioner Vince Vicites, Joe Ambrose; Chief of Staff for Westmoreland County Commissioner Chuck Anderson, Sean Kertes; Carol Hull, BWPO-Rapid Response, Diane Fox, in lieu of Lauri Aston; Troy Collier, Assistant Principal, Middle School, Coordinator, College and Career Pathways, Norwin School District

Staff: Bill Thompson, Donna Casterwiler, Melissa Keys, Janet Ward

I. Public Comments – None

II. Roll Call – A quorum was present; official business could be conducted.

Introduction of new board member Vicki Loucks from Redstone Highlands.

III. Vote on Consent Agenda Items

- December 11, 2017 - Full Board Minutes
- Statement of Financial Position

Budget Year July 2017 – December 2017

July 2017 – January 2018

July 2017 - February 2018

- Implementation Report Card – Bill Thompson – The PA Department of Labor and Industry has approved the Local WIOA Plan for Westmoreland-Fayette and are in effect from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.
- “Experience Works” – Janet Ward, Youth Programs Manager

“Experience Works” is WDB’s name of its Summer Work Experience Program geared toward to youth aged 16-18 using TANF funds. The program providers are the Private Industry Council and Fayette County Community Action. This grant opportunity provides the youth opportunities to work with local businesses in both Westmoreland and Fayette Counties making \$9.00/hour. The payroll and Worker’s Compensation for the youth is paid through the providers. The grant funding is a fixed amount with the youth aged 16-18 having to be connected to public assistance, i.e., food stamps.

Charlie Datz made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. Doug Decker seconded the motion; motion carried.

IV. Finance Committee – Jim Stark

Review of the Audit for year ending June 2017– Kim Turnley, CPA

Ms. Turnley presented the audit for year ending 6/30/2017. The audit report stated, “no findings with compliance”, and/or “internal controls”.

George Rattay made the motion to approve the audit for the year ending June 2017. Tim Yurcisin seconded the motion; motion carried.

V. Old Business – Bill Thompson

This is the first year of operation for the One-Stop Operator. The performance for the CareerLink’s are measured by the following standards.

Westmoreland CareerLink’ goal is to reach 62 for the # of hires; and 25 for the # of job seekers entering into training. Fayette CareerLink’s goal is to reach 45 for the # of hires; and 25 for the # of job seekers entering into training. Alle-Kiski CareerLink’s goal is to reach 35 for the # of hires; and 25 for the # of job seekers entering into training.

Cross training is also being done with the different agencies and funding streams within the CareerLink system.

Questions: Are the One Stops matching people to available jobs and are we assisting people who don’t have the skills? Are we helping them get the training to get them on a career path?

Commissioner Zimmerlink said we need to look at the workforce and see what positions are out there, find the disconnect, and reach the unskilled who don’t have jobs.

The presentation of “Where is the Talent” at a previous Board meeting answered many questions on how our Board sees its role and how it can meet the current needs of the employers. We are actively interacting with employers and educators on the value of vocational training, and pre-apprenticeship training.

The Fayette Business Partnership, The Westmoreland County Forum and the Chambers from both counties are doing a good job reaching parents and young people. We need a ready supply of workers to meet the needs of the manufacturers which takes knowledge, skills and the opportunities that have become available in both counties.

Commissioner Zimmerlink asked if we have asked the manufacturers what their particular needs are. We need to sit down with employers and ask if it is a lack of education, skills, length of work week? Identify these issues and really concentrate on tracking those issues.

Chairman Edmiston said people are coming in for jobs, they stay one day, quit. What is the answer? We don’t know why? The system of today is creating a culture of people who don’t want to work, don’t have to work. We can teach them, but we have to take steps for them to come to work.

Doug Decker said we need to bridge the transitional period for those leaving assistance, needing child care, transportation etc.

The Board could invite the state legislators to a meeting to discuss bridging the transitional period.

Muriel Nuttall said all of these conversations are taken to the school districts, and workforce providers. We are bridging that gap by enforcing job training and identifying the high priority occupations working hand in hand with our schools, students and parents.

Charlie Datz suggested having a Legislative Forum to meet with local officials, and educators to speak on the employer and workforce concerns we are facing.

VI. Youth Council – Approved Activities

The Youth Council approved additional funding for Career Awareness focusing on career and educational training.

Central Westmoreland CTC - Student ambassadors will present in career events, speaker series, and do hands-on-activities for both elementary and middle schools. Also, a Parent and Me Career Awareness Program will be an after school/evening program designed for 7th & 8th graders and families to explore different career pathways at the CTC. 25 students will be served at a cost of \$13,000.

Connellsville CTC – Heavy equipment after-school program for middle school students. And, a PEC Basic/10 Safeland USA & OSHA 10 training for high-school students. This program trains youth in heavy equipment after school, plus OSHA training. 22 students will be served at a cost of \$6,850.

Eastern Westmoreland CTC – Student Ambassador Leadership Development activities – EWCTC school counselors will train student ambassadors to do presentations focusing on STEAM related careers to 3rd and 5th graders. 5 Students will be served at a cost of \$4,590.

Fayette CTC – Manufacturing Engineering Pathways Career Exploration Program. 12-week after school program for 8th graders. 43 students will be served at a cost of \$30,087.

These endeavors will operate during the school year and continue into the summer months.

Doug Decker made the motion to approve the Youth Council activities; George Rattay seconded the motion; motion carried.

VII. Open Forum: Comments

Discussion on the STEM Program - Troy A. Collier, STEM Ambassador

The 2018 Pennsylvania STEM ambassadors will advance policy goals through outreach, education, targeted relationships with policymakers and building a coalition of local and regional support. They are leaders within their organizations, interested and committed to sharing their experiences and content knowledge with influential stakeholders. They also serve as role models to inspire and encourage youth to pursue opportunities for STEM exploration in both formal and informal learning environments.

VIII. Old Business

IX. Good of the Order

Tim Yurcisin asked if funds had been released by the Governor for tornado relief for the Uniontown area and if WIOA funds could be used to hire a crew to help with cleanup.

X. Adjournment

Next Meeting June 11, 2018

Minutes: Donna Casterwiler