

Workforce Development Board of Western Missouri, Inc.

Full Board Minutes

May 22, 2024

The Workforce Development Board of Western Missouri, Inc. met on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 via teleconference at 1:00 p.m.

Board members present were Gabe Jones, Jim Kilby, Kamber Fusco, Laura Wallen, April Godwin, Michael Murders, Robin McHugh, Chris Connell, Suzie Brodersen, Kim Kendrick, Chris Green, Joyce Furnell, Angy Littrell, Michael Schubach and James White. WDB staff present were Missy Eidson, Tara Colter-Lappat, Tammy Tankersley and Sarah Wilson.

Board members not in attendance were Jessica Craig, Cara Canon and James White.

It was determined quorum was present.

Chairperson Chris Connell called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. April Godwin made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Angy Littrell seconded. The motion carried.

Mr. Connell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2024 Full Board meeting. Mr. Chris Green made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Michael Schubach seconded. The motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance and Audit: Financial Reports were reviewed and the West Central Region is on track to meet the expenditure levels required. The financial monitoring of the region has been completed. The WDB is waiting for a copy of the draft report and information regarding a date and time for the exit interview. The office plans to begin the start electronic payments with the June 7th accounts payable batch. Missouri has received their funding allocations for the upcoming year at the state level. They over all took about a 10% funding reduction. West Central Region took approximately a 11% decrease in funding over all the WIOA categories.

The committee appointed Kim Kendrick to remain as chair for the upcoming term.

Planning and Operations: Since the last Planning and Operations Committee meeting there have been \$56,100 in exceptions for participant funding over the set amount. All exceptions met the requirements set forth by the Board.

The following programs have been added to the Local Eligible Training Provider list since the last Planning and Operations Committee meeting held in January:

Vernon County Ambulance District: EMT-B

Wells Spring of Allied Health: Massage Therapy Certificate, Master of Massage Therapy AOS Degree, Medical Assisting Certificate, Medical Assisting AOS Degree and Fitness and Nutrition AOS Degree.

The committee appointed Gabe Jones to chair for the PY24 term.

The committee reached a consensus to recommend the board vote to rescind the Local Training Criteria and Expenditure Rates Policy. Ms. Angy Littrell made a motion to rescind the policy, Ms. Kim Kendrick seconded the motion. Ms. Robin McHugh and Ms. Kamber Fusco abstained. The motion carried.

Clinton State Fair Community College / Job Center Partnership: Ms. Dara Bigler, Director of the State Fair Community College Campus gave an update on services offered through the location. She also spoke about the recent partnership with the Missouri Job Center and placing a full-time staff person at the site.

Job Center / One Stop Operator Updates: Ms. Kelly Vert and Ms. Laura Kempf gave updates on happenings in the West Central Region since the last Full Board meeting.

Job Center Success Stories: Ms. Kempf and Ms. Vert both shared a story from each of their centers.

Director's Report:

Job Center Survey Results: Ms. Tara Colter-Lappat reported on survey results that had been received since the last Full Board meeting. Results from both job seekers and employers were positive; many great comments.

Continuous Improvement Committee: Ms. Tammy Tankersly and Ms. Tara Colter-Lappat described a new Continue Improvement Committee developed by the board. This committee includes members of job center staff and addresses efforts that can be made for continuous improvement in the region. At this time the focus is how to take referrals to partner agencies one step further than a warm handoff.

PY25-PY28 Local Plan Update: The local plan was submitted to the Office of Workforce Development on April 1. Comments were received back from OWD on May 7. Issues were minimal and corrections and/or additional information was submitted on May 14. The WDB is currently awaiting further correspondence from OWD.

WDB Office Closure Update: The WDB is on track to have the office closed by the end of June. At this time the expectation is the shredding will be picked up on June 20th and keys will be returned to the landlord at that time.

Miscellaneous: Ms. Eidson stated the state sent out secret shoppers into the job centers. Both centers in the West Central Region were contacted by phone and did not have in person visits. Each center was rated positive for professionalism. A few small items were identified regarding customer service. The WDB will be providing some training to the staff to address them in the near future.

Mr. Chris Connell asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gabe Jones made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Chris Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.