

STARK TUSCARAWAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
July 22, 2022
Zoom format

PRESENT:

D. Cole
A. Kerns
S. Marzano
J. Sekely
J. Creighton
K. Metzger

ABSENT:

S. Robinson
R. Harris

STWDB STAFF

J. Breedlove
R. Harris

FISCAL AGENT

C. Byrd
D. Sipe

BUSINESS MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary, **D. Cole** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (Attachment)

Cole called for a motion to approve the February 14, 2022, meeting minutes.

**MOTION: METZGER MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2022
MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MARZANO SECONDED.**

DIRECTOR UPDATES – J. Breedlove, STWDB Executive Director

• **PY20 Program Monitoring Reports (WIOA & CCMEP)**

There were 2 reports from PY20 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) during the pandemic-one from WIOA and the other was CCMEP. With the programmatic monitoring by Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, they will ask us to pull specific programmatic files to review and only give us a day or 2 notice. The WIOA report includes WIOA Adult / DLW program review. The CCMEP report includes youth programs funded through WIOA / TANF.

Breedlove noted there were some significant observations found by Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS) in the PY20 WIOA DLW. The first observation was around records and files that contained documentation from other individuals. Sipe noted this issue we received actually happened prior to the guidance we received on this matter. Once we received guidance, we made all the corrections going forward.

The second observation was recording some accurate and timely information. The third continuous improvement plan was missing some required signatures and dates. Sipe noted our PY20 monitoring is on any of our files on July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. All 5 instances were individuals who came in back in May 2019 which was a previous program year. With the timing of the state's monitoring were unaware of this issue. At that time, we had made all those corrections. All 5 of these files were PY19 files, there were no instances in PY20 files which verifies we have corrected the problem.

In the PY20 Program Monitoring Reports-CCMEP which is PY20 July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021. The Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program (CCMEP) is the Youth Young Adult program in Ohio. This program blends those federal TANF dollars and Federal WIOA youth dollars together to run this program. The significant observation was on the Individual Opportunity Plan (IOP) with the missing signatures and / or dates. Sipe noted signatures were obtained electronically and in the proper order; however, it was required to put a case note that you obtained it electronically which is the part that was missing. At this point and time, we are not doing electronic signatures since everything needs to be wet ink. We do not expect this to be an issue going forward.

- **Board Strategic Planning (Approval to Release RFQ)**

The intent / purpose of the strategic planning is to assess / establish / assert the board's strategic role in the community. The plan is to do a deep dive into looking at the mission and vision of the board, so the community and stakeholders understand our purpose and direction. Note, this is beyond WIOA requirements.

In WIOA legislation, boards have very specific roles and responsibilities they are required to fulfill; there are many compliance activities associated with their role as well. One of those requirements is that we were required to be a part of a region which we are in the East region, and as a region we need to create and submit a Regional / Local WIOA Plan every 4 years and the last one was submitted in 2021.

Breedlove has been assessing the board's perception / understanding in the community which it ranges from funder, running job fairs, being the OMJ center, a provider, to not really understanding what we do and what we can do. Breedlove said it is locally a good time to assess / establish / assert the board's strategic role in the community and create the strategic vision / plan. She noted we have budgeted for this in the budget, and it was recently approved by the COG board.

Kerns asked about what kind of budget we have. Breedlove said we have added funding in our budget for strategic planning in the "outreach" line item. However, the range can depend on the scope of the work for strategic planning. Byrd said we have an outreach line in the budget for \$105, 000, but it is not all to be used for strategic planning. Breedlove said the RFQ would be sent to the Executive Committee prior to be sending out.

MOTION: KERNS MOVED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE REQUEST FOR QUOTE (RFQ) BUT TO COME BACK TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF PRICE TO SET UP PARAMETERS OF COST. METZGER SECONDED.

- **ARIES Case Management System Update**

ARIES is the new case management system that replaces the Ohio Workforce Case Management System (OWCMS). The new system went live on April 25th, and there has been some training and releases of information/updates, a Help Desk, weekly Chat which has been helpful.

As with new systems, we have experienced issues with the transition as have all areas; data missing; information tracking on spreadsheets to be sent to the state to be proactive. Ohio Workforce Association (OWA) has submitted a letter to the state on behalf of the local areas to not SANCTION boards based on local WIOA performance.

Sipe noted you can only get a sanction if you fail the same performance standard in 2 consecutive years, and we have not failed any in 2 decades.

Breedlove gave the example of CCMEP clients that need to be exited. This system would send out a generated letter, and this functionality is not built into this system. We as local areas have to send physical letters to individuals being exited, and this is a significant challenge.

- **WIOA Reauthorization Legislation Updates**

The House passed a WIOA of 2022 reauthorization bill on May 17, 2022, and it was received in the Senate on May 18, 2022 and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP Committee). It is reauthorized through FY28 which expands programs with \$78 billion over 6 years. WIOA of 2014 included

\$19 billion, and one big change is the American Job Centers' infrastructure funding and changing board composition at the state and local level with more union representation.

- **Managed Care Organization (MCO) Possible Pilot**

The Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board is a member of Midwest Urban Strategies (MUS) for a few years. MUS is a consortium of 13 urban boards primarily in larger metro areas, and they provide opportunities for innovative funding opportunities. The consortium was created in 2015 with the blessing of Department of Labor (DOL) as a model for innovative practices.

MUS has entered into conversations with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). MCOs have contracts with the states for various insurance programs such as foster care, private health insurance, the marketplace, and Medicaid. MUS is also having conversations with boards in other representative states. Centene operates the Buckeye Health program in Ohio. Ohio has 4 programs.

MCOs look at the social determinants of health and the impacts of employment. They help individuals that are underemployed and likely the "working poor". Our system is already working with these individuals.

MUS is a pilot for a "Value-Based" payment system beginning January 2023. Referrals of the Buckeye Health plan participants would be referred to the local area for employment and training services. These are unrestricted funds the board will receive. The range is \$1500-\$2000 per participant with a cap of \$50,000 for the pilot. The intent is to pilot this demonstration project to implement a "best practices" model that could be taken to scale. We will begin further conversations on the referral process, payment point and possibility of reverse referrals in the next couple of weeks.

- **Board Officer / Member Updates**

- The Vice Chair role is vacant, and it needs to be filled by a business representative.
- The Business board member, Trice Black, recently retired, and her position is vacant.
- Terri Davis who is a small business board member submitted her resignation from the board, and we may have a strong representative from her organization.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:45 a.m.