

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Business Majority: Kevin Whirley–Chair, Carolyn Battles, John Frederick, Elliot Henry, Lee Metcalf, Gwen Mizell,

Required Representative: Jason Archer, Mary Grott, Elizabeth Perkins, Jeffrey Taylor

Labor & Workforce Reps: John Gaal, Michael McMillan, Frederick Searcy, Carolyn Seward

Optional Members: Cenia Bosman, Don Willey

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Business Majority: Melissa Miller, Pat Murphy, Vanessa Parker-Lewis, Reginald Scott

Required Representatives: Lydia Mitchell, David Overfelt,

Labor & Workforce Reps: Mark Bethell,

Optional Members:

ST. LOUIS COUNTY EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE

Andrea Jackson-Jennings, Director of Human Services

ST. LOUIS COUNTY STAFF MEMBERS

Adriann Adams-Gulley, Karen Brown, Alicia Buchanan, Derrick Collins, Jon Hild, Robert Lee, Marva McJoy, Michelle Smart, Loris Williams, Michele Williams

GUESTS PRESENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kevin Whirley called the meeting to order at 7:32.

II. ROLL CALL – Roll call was conducted. There was a quorum present

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 26, 2018 minutes as written. The motion carried and the minutes were approved with no changes or revisions.

IV. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chair opened the meeting with announcements. Announcing the Dr. John Gaal, a member of the St. Louis County WDB would be retiring from his position with the UAW, but would remain an active and engaged member of the Board. A new Board member, Mr. Ron Tierney was being put forth as a potential Board member. The Chair also announced a change in his position. His new position will still allow him the honor of being on the Board.

The Chair acknowledged the presence of Mr. Mardy Leathers, Director of the Missouri State Division of Workforce Development.

V. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Director made a formal introduction of Mr. Mardy Leathers to the Board and guests.

Director Leathers reported that the Hawthorn Foundation, along with Missouri's Departments of Economic Development and Higher Education, launched the Talent for Tomorrow and the Best in Midwest initiatives to fundamentally reset Missouri's workforce needs. Meetings across the State offered a forum for local business, education, economic development, and workforce development leaders to provide tangible workforce insights.

Director Leathers made a formal presentation that covered the results of the initiatives. The data revealed our public workforce ranked 10th out of 14th States across our full spectrum of metrics:

- 12th among our peers in labor productivity
- 10th among our peers in job growth
- Missouri is above National average in high school graduations but below students making the transitions into college and graduating from college.
- Missouri adult population is less educated than the national average
- The percentage of Missourian in the workforce is shrinking

What became really clear was our public workforce system needs a new focus and we must clearly connect and prioritize performance, delivery and funding to:

- 1.) Increase the number of Missourians in the workforce
- 2.) Increase the productivity of Missourians in the workforce
- 3.) Compete to win

To find more information on the data collected and the initiative visit

www.bestinthemidwest.com

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Report – Adriann Adams-Gulley

The Director of Financial Services and Information Systems (FSIS) reported that as of December 5, 2018, the PY17/FY18 WIOA Formula Funds were 92.5% expended for Adults, 89.4% expended for Youth, and 56.25% for Dislocated Workers. At this time, the concern lies with the Dislocated Workers funds, which like the other program funds, must be fully expended by June 30, 2019. There was a reported balance of \$896,026, with \$565,901 of that being Dislocated Workers funds. The Director explained that the Dislocated Workers funds could be completely transferred to the Adult programs, but only after 100% of Adult program funding had been expended. When asked about the process for transferring the funds, the Director explained that any transfer would now require State and County Council approval.

The Director agreed that the Subrecipients are now expending funds at a more appropriate rate. However, while the needs of the region have changed, the formula for determining the funding for each program has not changed since 2008, resulting in the allocation of too many funds for Dislocated Workers at the onset. The Board was informed that none of PY18/FY19 funds have yet been expended, but it is anticipated that those funds should begin being expended in February.

There were several funding issued presented that required Board approval:

- a) Accept a \$3,024 increase for Adult (\$1,853) and Dislocated Worker (\$1,171) funding for FY19 WIOA formula funds. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the formula funding in the amount and allocations stated. Vote taken – Unanimously approved.**
- b) Allocate the \$24,197 additional funding that was accepted for PY17 WIOA as \$9,251 to the Urban League for the PY17 In-School Youth program and \$14,946 for general funding needs. The Director stated that the additional funds would be fully expended by March 31, 2019, to which the Urban League President/CEO agreed. **A motion was made and seconded to allocate the funding in the amount and allocations stated. Vote taken – 14 approved; 1 abstention**
- c) Accept PY18 TANF funding of \$231,010 for the purpose of conducting a Skill Up program. **A motion was made to accept the TANF funds for a SkillUp program. Vote taken – 13 approved; 2 abstentions**
- d) Accept PY18 WIOA funding in the amount of \$25,000 for Equal Opportunity activities for a period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018. This is the second portion of a total \$50,000 allocation. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the Equal Opportunity funding grant in the amount and allocations stated. Vote taken – Unanimously approved.**

Disability Resource Committee

No Committee meeting was held; no report given

Career Pathway Committee

No Committee meeting was held; no report given

Youth Council

No Committee meeting was held; no report given

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. WFD assessment of NGA Support Business Talent initiative – The Deputy Director explained the issue of identifying support businesses and local resources which will be impacted by the relocation of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to North City. According to the report, there are tremendous workforce development involvement that will come with this relocation. The NGA and surrounding businesses in the area will require skilled workers, a cache of employees from which to draw, and the support of workforce development community to sustain effective operations at the facility. A number of Board members were aware of the matter and able to contribute to the scope of the issue. **A motion was made and seconded that St. Louis County Workforce Development move forward in assessing ways in which the LWDA**

would be involved in and contribute to the initiative. A vote taken by show of hands – unanimously approved

- b. Revised Incentive Policy – the St. Louis County Workforce Development’s Incentive Policy was revised to amend the incentive rates for some activities and to prohibit the reimbursement of activation fees on gift cards given as incentives. A copy of the policy was provided to all Board members. A copy of the policy will be posted online for 30 days for public review and comment. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the new Incentive Policy. Vote taken – unanimously approved.**
- c. Change of date for March WDB meeting – the need to change the meeting date for the regularly scheduled March meeting was discussed to accommodate the timeline of the contract renewal process. Should the WDB decide to renew existing program contracts, requests must be submitted to St. Louis County Government no less than four (4) months prior to the contract expiration. The current program contracts are due to expire 6/30/19. **A decision was made to move the March meeting to February. All members were in agreement.**

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Establishment of a Nominating Committee – Cenia Bosman announced four nominations: Cenia Bosman and Jason Archer become full members of the Executive Committee; Jason Archer serve as Treasurer and Fred Searcy to serve as Parliamentarian. Voting will be conducted at the next meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered

- X. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:20a.

THE NEXT MEETING:

February 20, 2019
7:30 am (Doors open at 7:00)
715 Northwest Plaza Drive
St. Ann, MO 63074

Minutes prepared by Loris M. Williams