

**STARK TUSCARAWAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**

**January 8, 2020**

**(Stark County)**

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>	<b>STWDB STAFF</b>
T. Black	S. Carson	Commissioner Creighton	J. Meek Eells
T. Beauch	D. Forkas	M. Chastain	D. Sipe
J. Burley	P. Jones	R. Roland	M. Fuller
T. Davis	B. Larman	T. Ross	
H. Eadon	M. Locke		<b>ONE-STOP OPR/FISCAL AGENT</b>
K. Hannon	S. Meeks		K. Beckman
A. Kerns	D. Smith		S. Berardo
M. Manheim	R. Waltz		J. Breedlove
R. Moss	D. Wheeler		C. Byrd
S. Robinson			M. Falter
J. Sekely			M. Gwin
			A. Miller

**BUSINESS MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**T. Beauch, V. Chair** called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Welcomed Tim Ross from Congressman Gibbs office and Rob Roland, Legal Counsel  
Acknowledged the sad passing of two Board members recently, Mike Lewis and Dan Sciury  
Introduced new Board member Trice Black of dlhBowles, Inc.

**APPROVAL NOVEMBER 6, 2019, MEETING MINUTES – T. BEAUCH, V. Chair – (Attachment)**

**MOTION: SEKELY MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2019, MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOSS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**DIRECTOR’S UPDATE – J. Meek Eells**

**DOL ETA Asst. Secretary John Pallasch**

- Represented the Ohio Workforce Association for Ohio at a meeting in Washington D.C. November 20<sup>th</sup> with a group called the United States Workforce Association and Department of Labor Assistant Secretary with the Employment and Training Administration, John Pallasch. There were 12 from different states represented. Talked about local innovations, local workforce board ideas and WIOA reauthorization ideas.
- Had an opportunity to meet at the White House with a group that is doing workforce and economic initiatives.
- Also had a chance to meet in Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi’s Chambers, with some of her staff.

**Briefing on Impact Ohio event held December 12<sup>th</sup> at Stark State College**

- Impact Ohio is a non-partisan group that operates out of Columbus that looks at updating communities especially around election times. They do regional conferences 4-5 times a year. They were at Stark State College and **Meek Eells** was a panelist around a workforce discussion. Todd Pugh who owns Enviroscares a local landscape company near Alliance moderated the panel. Dave Kirven with the

building trades and Dr. Don Ball, Dean at Stark State College were also on the panel. The message was clear about trying to keep young talent here in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties in northeast Ohio. From a workforce perspective, we have to continue to look at innovative ways to outreach to our younger population.

**National Association of Workforce Boards meeting in D.C. on January 21st**

- Attending this collaborative meeting to talk more with groups from other workforce boards across the country about our local platform for WIOA reauthorization. Things that we have seen through the last five years with this workforce program and better communicating to Congress what we think would help that legislation moving forward when they reauthorize.

**US Conference of Mayors Workforce Development Council Meeting in D.C. on January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- Workforce Development Council meets this same time. **Meek Eells and Breedlove** will be attending this 2-day session.
- More discussion about WIOA reauthorization ideas; things that have been working and not working under WIOA and funding.

**TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 30, 2019 – C. Byrd – (Attachment)**

- Significant changes since last report, under the allocation column – in October of each year we receive our second increment of funding for some of our allocations. Some run July – June and others run October – September. PY19 Admin., PY19 Adult and PY19 DLW compared to previous report there is another \$1.2 million in allocations.
- PY18 is at 88% spent. We are in the second year of those funds. We have to have all of those funds spent by the end of this fiscal year – June. We are in good shape.
- PY19 we have started spending Youth and on track no issues.
- In the Workforce Initiative Association Programs – October is when we get the new TANF allocation. The TANF allocations don't run on a 2-year cycle like WIOA. As of the end of September we did fully spend FY19 CCMEP TANF grants are 100% spent.
- FY20 have just started to spend those funds.

**MOTION: EADON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE NOVEMBER 30, 2019, TREASURER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOSS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**CCMEP UPDATE – J. Breedlove**

- Ohio's program to blend the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) funding as well as WIOA Federal funding for youth to provide more robust comprehensive services to young adults 14-24 years of age that are eligible for the services.
- Workforce Initiative Association is the lead agency for CCMEP in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties. We strongly encourage the young adults that are referred to our Centers mainly ages 18-24 to seek training because we know with training and possible credentials can make a huge difference in the lives of these young adults.
- Working very closely with our many wonderful vendors in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties that work with our youth and young adults providing various types of services to them. We encourage those opportunities to provide that career awareness and career exposure.
  - Shared examples of services offered by vendors.
    - Early Childhood Resource Center – Child Care Credential.
    - Other vendors provide career exposure and short-term skill building with exposure to retail, customer service, computer skill building, and fork lift training.
    - Vendors also provide volunteer and work experience opportunities. Also bring into the community through speakers about financial literacy, credit scores, budgeting, counseling services, parenting skills and soft skills.

## ONE-STOP OPERATOR UPDATE – J. Breedlove

- New Partner in the OhioMeansJobs Center Stark County – Job Corps. There is a contractor in this area that will be providing the Job Corps recruitment and services. The organization is called Management & Training Corporation. They began Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and we now have 17 Partners that make up our OhioMeansJobs Center partnership in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties.
- Job Corps is a DOL funded and administered program.
  - Free residential job training and education program for youth and young adults 16-24 years of age. There are three residential Job Corps Centers in Ohio – Cincinnati, Dayton and Cleveland. Each center has its own skill training programs with free tuition and free room and board.
  - The recruiter will be housed in Stark County and will be recruiting in a 6-county area. They have aligned their recruiting efforts based on the workforce board map.

**Meek Eells** added that when she first came to the Board in 2006 we had a relationship with Job Corps then and 4 years later they pulled out of our area. We found that very unfortunate because it is a great program for individuals that don't have a lot of supports because it is residential based. Very glad that there is a new management entity through DOL and they are housed here so we can better work with them.

## OPERATIONS REPORTS

### Public Relations – M. Gwin – (Attachment)

- December is traditionally a slow time for publicity for us, but this was not the case last month.
- Shared a Success Story.
- Impact Ohio, an organization dedicated to bipartisan conversations about politics and policy, recently held a conference and **Meek Eells** participated in the panel discussion that day and was widely quoted in the news article that covered this event and appeared in the December 13<sup>th</sup> edition of The Canton Repository.
  - One of the last questions that Todd Pugh, CEO of Envirosapes who was the moderator asked the panelists was:
  - If you were to talk to a freshmen class, what would you tell them the real world is like? **Meek Eells's** answer was "There's no place like home, and so I think that's another message that we really need to send our young talent. Northeast Ohio and Stark County has so much to offer and we do have good-wage paying jobs right here that are available.
- Another good article appeared December 8<sup>th</sup> in the Canton Repository:
  - The newest tool Strengthening Stark has introduced is a map created with the help of the Stark County Auditor's Office. It breaks down communities by census tract, and different layers highlight bus routes and bus stops, child care facilities, the population's education attainment and open jobs – all of which can be barriers to employment. The hope is the new map will show local leaders places where having more child care centers or transportation options might help connect unemployed or underemployed Stark County residents to open jobs.
- Ohio's unemployment rate held steady at 4.2% in November for the third month in a row. Stark County's unemployment rate was at 4.3% in November unchanged from October. Tuscarawas County's rate was at 4.2% unchanged from October.
- We are gearing up to host the VITA Tax Clinics January through April at both our Canton and New Philadelphia offices.
- Lastly, **Miller** was featured on WJER's Santa on Wheels segment December 6<sup>th</sup> at our New Philadelphia office. This is something that we do every year and it gives **Miller** a chance to promote our many services and activities happening at our Tusc. office.
  - In addition to **Miller's** weekly job search segments on Mix 94.1 she also made an appearance on WHBC's Kayleigh's Korner show that aired on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

### One Stop Resource Center Report through December 2019– A. Miller (Attachment)

- Year-to-date system-wide 11,182 visits; 1,787 system-wide visits for the month of December with a daily average of 89 per day; 62 in Stark County and 27 in Tusc. County.

- Customer First-Time Demographics, these are all the new customers coming in; **Miller** pointed out that the County of Residence of the people coming through the centers 71% are from Stark County, 18% are from Tusc. County but a full 11% are coming from other counties.
- Workshops – Had 511 year-to-date attend in Stark County and 56 attended for the month of December. In Tusc. County had 86 attend year-to-date with 17 attended in the month of December.
- Made 1,842 referrals to our Partner Agencies.
- The OW referrals program we do in conjunction with Stark and Tuscarawas County Job and Family Services, that number has not changed on any of the reports received this year. The state has put that program on hold, but we expect that the next report we will see a lot more participation and placements.

### **Workshops**

#### Tuscarawas County

- In Tuscarawas County we have fairly low attendance in some of the workshops. Decided to change how we are offering the workshops and offer them on a cycle instead of every other week.

#### Stark County

- Eliminated “Ready, Set, Work” workshop due to poor attendance. This workshop focused on people who are getting jobs and how to keep that job. Created a new workshop called “Employable Me.” This workshop will continue to focus on some of the same information but also focus on eliminating roadblocks to employment and job retention.

### **Rapid Response**

#### Tuscarawas County

- Crane Carrier – Located in New Philadelphia – impacting 30 workers. Layoff on 12/31/19.
  - Completed 12 resume appointments in November.
  - Held rapid response session on 12/12/19 – 16 attended.
- Carbo Ceramics – Oil and Gas contractor in Uhrichsville – Laid off 8 individuals on 11/30/2019 – Took packets.
- Kitchen Collection – Store in New Towne Mall – closed on 12/31/19. Dropped off packets.

#### Stark County

- Sears – Canton – Impacting 78 workers between the store and the auto center. Store will close to the public on 1/12/20. Some workers will continue for a short time to complete the closure but the majority will be done on 1/12/20.
  - Held 3 rapid response employee meetings on 11/22/19 – 30 attended.
  - Offered resume appointments for two weeks after and held interview workshops – 15 people used these services.
- TeknipleX – Alliance – impacting 37 employees – Layoff in waves – first group was done 12/2/19 and the second group will be done in February 2020.
  - Held rapid response meeting on 12/2/19 – 25 attended.
- Timkensteel – Laid off an additional 38 individuals on 12/8/2019.
  - The company provides us a list of names/addresses of the impacted employees. We do a mailing to them about services at the OMJ center.
- Rue21 – Alliance – impacting 8 people. Store closed on 12/31/19 but did not want rapid response services or packets as the impacted employees had new positions lined up.
- Shaheen Carpet – Canton – Impacting 5 people. Did not want to receive any rapid response services.
- Comdoc – North Canton – They will be laying off 30 people on March 2. We will be doing rapid response employee meetings on 1/22 and 1/23.

### **Outreach**

- Gave a presentation on 11/19 to community health workers through the Bridges to Wellness program in Tuscarawas County on using the OhioMeansJobs centers and OhioMeansJobs.com.

**Meek Eells** commented that in trying to retool our workshops if anyone has any suggestions to put into our workshops please communicate that to us to include in our workshop discussions.

### **One Stop Business Services Report December 2019– Kristen Beckman – (Attachment)**

- 7 new employers in Stark County and 1 in Tuscarawas County.
- On-site recruitments

- Canton Police Recruitment Team contacted us Nov. 19th. Their position was posted on our website and promoted using Facebook and in our center. Had a recruitment Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> with 20 attendees and of those that attended a couple were veterans, 14 were first time visitors to our center and out of the 19 attendees the Canton Police are certain that at least 2 of the applicants if they complete the process will get hired and possibly up to 3-4 applicants. They felt that the hiring event was a success and scheduled an additional hiring event at the Tuscarawas Center as well. As of December 27th the job posting for the Canton Police Officer on the OhioMeansJobs website had been viewed 580 times. The posting expires on January 15<sup>th</sup> and they hope to hire 15 officers with a start date in March.
- Had a third less job postings than we normally do with 36, average wage was \$13.25 for both Stark and Tusc. The 36 job postings lead to 304 job openings because some of those employers might be hiring 28 people for the same position so it was over 300 job postings. Had 6 recruitments on site. Processed 57 paper applications, 243 referrals and submitted 108 of those to employers. Heard back from employers about 17 placements at an average wage of \$12.79.
- Current end of month had 175 different active postings that would lead to 1,132 actual openings based on how many positions they had for each one of those jobs.

#### **BRN – Matt Falter – (Attachment)**

- BRN is a model that was started about 10 years ago in Area 17 & 18 in Youngstown Warren area. Expanded that through DOL grant in 2012 as well as an Interstate Initiative. It basically provides a single point of contact to businesses to access a multitude of programs and services. Why it works is because of the follow up with the business and has accountability.
- Shared a Success Story that was in *The Source*.
- Year-to-date have talked to 36 companies, delivered 34 formal proposals to those businesses, Leveraged Resources of \$105,145 this year and as of the last board meeting, helped a company connect with the BWC to get a \$40,000 safety grant.
- Middle of December, Department of Job and Family Services assigned us a Workforce Specialist, Laura Kopfstein, to assist with BRN administrative work.
- Received a Foundation grant from the Benedum Foundation based out of Pittsburgh and focus on the northern panhandle of West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania to help offset some of our technical assistance costs for setting up new areas. Two areas in West Virginia up and running, still working on a couple of areas in Pennsylvania on doing some pilots this year. Just extended this grant through the end of this year.
- Mid-Ohio Valley Workforce Board in Parkersburg is Podcasting on their website and asked **Falter** to do a Podcast with their BRN Manager/Business Services Manager. Wdbmov.com
- Based on discussions after presenting at the National Conference last year there are other areas in Oklahoma and California that are interested in establishing this model. Looking to us to be the technical assistance. In 2020 we are going to be looking at how we can establish a fee for service.
- Have a new Partner in the network – Kent State Main Campus, Employer Ownership Center.
- Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation in conjunction with Development Services Agency just announced a Round 2 of the Ohio TechCred Initiative. Companies that are interested can apply through the end of the month at techcred.ohio.gov

#### **WIOA Program Report – December 2019 – S. Berardo (Attachment)**

- PY19 started July 1<sup>st</sup> and will run through June 30, 2020, 146 scholarships, 12 pending (will be starting this month), 10 carry-ins from previous year, 113 actively enrolled in training, 75 still in job search between last year and this year. Average wage \$15.29.
- PY18 through June 2019 still had 165 people enrolled in training.

#### **Youth & CCMEP – November 2019**

- PY19 263 referred by Job and Family Services, 65 volunteers referred, 36 enrolled in skill training.
- Assisted people in Apprenticeship Programs this year with initial costs.
  - 5 in Electrical and 1 Ironworker.
  - Happy to report that from the Directors of their programs they have reported all of them are thriving and doing well. **Moss** thanked the Board for making this opportunity available it has opened the door to more employment.

- Partnered with Stark Mental Health & Recovery Board to help assist with funding for individuals trying to become licensed social workers because of the need for them due to the opioid crises. Have 4 enrolled that we assisted with some of their tuition and paid for their books. They are now starting their second semester towards getting their masters. They are all working full time and all are doing well. Classes are through Akron University but are held locally in Stark County.
- Looked at our total funding and did pick up more LPN students who had already enrolled in Canton City Schools but did not qualify for scholarships at that time. These too will be adding to the statistics.

**Kerns** commented on the youth report, especially Tuscarawas County representatives; they are struggling to recruit out-of-school youth. Goodwill and Harcatus run some really great programs that these youth could benefit from. There are “0” year-to-date in Tuscarawas County. Asked for help to spread the word and send them to the OhioMeansJobs One-Stop in Tuscarawas County and they will refer them to the vendors. **Gwin** mentioned that plans are in the works to set up an interview with a reporter at The Times Reporter to talk about this program.

**MOTION: HANNON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER 2019 OPERATIONS REPORTS AS PRESENTED. MANHEIM SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEXT MEETING: March 4, 2020 – Stark County at 12 noon

Adjourned 1:09 p.m.