



Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

Operations Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

Members Present: Mathew Nicol, Kirby Phillips, Ryan Drew, Carolyn Farley, Tim Gobble, Scott Schneider, Mandy Parchert, Stephani Smith

Members Absent: None

CEOs Present: Brinson Kinzer and Rick Larkin

Staff Present: Miranda Swafford, Executive Director and Phyllis Wood, Executive Assistant

Service Provider Staff Present: Kendra Schaapveld, Project Director, Cherisa Price-Wells, Regional Project Director, Tabytha Seigfried, Quality Assurance Specialist, and Shannon Weaver, Operations Supervisor

One-Stop Operator: Robert Ryan

Guest: None

CALLED TO ORDER

Nicol called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

No absences.

QUORUM

The committee had a quorum to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Drew made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Gobble, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Schneider made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, seconded by Farley, the motion carried.

INTRODUCTIONS

New committee members Mandy Parchert and Stephani Smith. Parchert is with HNI overseeing their campus to industry programs working with K-12 and the community to create workforce pipelines. Parchert also is the chair of the regional manufacturing sector board. Smith is a professor at the local community college as well as an entrepreneur operating two businesses: a consulting firm and a digital media production studio.

ADULT/DW/RR JANUARY REPORTS

Schaapveld reported that during the month of January there were 324 participants served. There was \$5,575 spent on support services, \$10,722 spent on TJB wages, and \$35,017 was written for ITA school tuition. Inventory purchased includes a RICOH network printer at \$1,009 to be put on the IWD network for youth center devices to print to. There were no WARN notices this month. There were 43 referrals made with enrollments for January at 12 Adults, 3 DW and 3 NDWG. The average caseload in January was 57 for Adult and 32 for DW. Of the fourteen exits, nine individuals were employed, four are unknown, and one is unemployed. Additional participant outcomes included four participants obtained unsubsidized employment, five earned credentials, and one completed an internship. Legacy in Action customer satisfaction rate was 91.82%. Drew asked about WARN notices as a company in West Burlington is closing. Farley stated there are only eight employees affected so a WARN would not be issued. Farley, Schaapveld, and the business services team could reach out to offer Rapid Response services. Larkin stated Siemens in Lee County announced a layoff of 125 individuals today (February 9, 2022) effective immediately. Gobble stated the employees will be paid their current wages for 60 days as well as the company continuing their health insurance benefits for that timeframe. Farley added Rapid Response is the first step in connecting individuals with workforce services. Nicol asked if any events are planned. Farley said it is usually something that is organized by the business services team as part of the response to a WARN notice but would take a few weeks to put together.

TITLE III REPORTS

Farley reviewed the Title III January report which listed December unemployment rates for the counties in MVWA with Des Moines County highest at 4.5% with slight uptick overall. The report also listed the numbers in the labor force and unemployed for the MVWA. Farley shared additional charts of what the numbers look like over the past few decades with every county except Scott losing 10-20%. Farley went on to report the Wagner-Peyser program enrolled 140 individuals for Davenport and 55 for Burlington. Farley shared the state Employee Council of Iowa (ECI) session on diversity and inclusion in the workplace was attended by 185 individuals and was well received. ECI will be offering another session with the Department of Labor's Wages and Hours Division on February 24, 2022. A flyer and registration information will go out early next week. Farley shared a success story from their corrections program of an individual wanting to complete barber training and how IWD staff worked with a mentor to setup an apprenticeship and employment upon release.

ONE-STOP OPERATOR REPORT

Ryan reported activity for January. The hiring events at the centers included 15 in Davenport with 41 visitors and 2 in Burlington with zero attendees. There are 21 planned for February in Davenport and 3 planned in Burlington. Burlington hosted workshops serving 21 participants and Davenport hosted workshops serving 171 participants. Burlington has served 611 individuals (~30.55/workday up from ~27/workday) and Davenport has served 1160 individuals (~58/workday up from ~47/workday). The business services teams assisted 146 employers providing 746 total services. Ryan reported on metrics for the IowaWORKS Facebook pages within the MVWA with Burlington having a total reach for the month of 1,485 unique

individuals, Davenport with 1,740, Muscatine with 75, Maquoketa with 66, Clinton with 37, Fort Madison with 34, and Keokuk with 1.

CITIBUS

Schaapveld presented two options for continuing the bus shelter and interior card outreach campaigns. Option one would be to remain with the current three shelters and 20 interior cards at a cost of \$9,995. Option two would be to add a shelter which would increase the overall impressions by over 2.3 million for a total cost of \$12,440. Nicol asked about metrics for the campaign and Schaapveld said there was no data gathered and they would be unable with the current design. Discussion by committee members addressed redesigning the poster/flyer and updating the QR code to something trackable/reportable. Farley made a motion to approve the option two with redesign to track metrics, seconded by Phillips, the motion carried.

TRANSITIONAL JOBS MODIFICATION

Nicol stated due to time this topic would be tabled until the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNED

Gobble made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Drew, motion carried, Nicol adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.