



Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 8, at 5:00 p.m., via Zoom

Members Present: Jacob Nye, Rebecca Ruberg, Regina Matheson, Heather Halbrook, Carol Reynolds (late), and Andy Sokolovich (late)

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Miranda Swafford, Executive Director, Andrea Taylor, Associate Director, and Mandy Tripp, Executive Assistant

CEO Present: None

Equus Staff: Cherisa Price-Wells, Equus Regional Director, Kendra Schaapveld, Title One Director, Shannon Weaver, Title One Operations Manager, Tabytha Seigfried, Quality Assurance, and Dashawn Banks, Youth Outreach Specialist

One-stop Operator: Nick Clayton

CALLED TO ORDER

Nye called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

QUORUM

There was a quorum to conduct business.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

There were no excused absences.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Matheson made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Ruberg, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Matheson made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, seconded by Ruberg, and the motion carried.

EQUUS APRIL YOUTH REPORT

Schaapveld reported 8 out-of-school youth enrollments and 1 in-school youth enrollment for April and 5 entered into Occupational Skills Training. 37 stipends and 20 incentives were paid out in April. Schaapveld also reported outcomes for April: 1 CNA, 2 HISET, 7 measurable skill gains, 2 credentials, and 3 unsubsidized employments. The customer satisfaction survey was 93.98% in April. Schaapveld advised the challenge they are continuing to struggle against is follow through, she highlighted a participant and their challenges in the report. Kendra presented the predictive reports that were requested, and Nye was surprised that the data for those specific measures dates so far in the past.

VIRTUAL REALITY METRICS REPORT

Schaapveld stated they had 43 unique users, 47 SIMS started, and 138 sims completed. The most popular sims were First Responders, Robotics Specialist, Hotel Front Desk, and Auto Service Tech. The virtual training facility had 10 users with 86 sims completed.

***YOUTH WEP POLICY MODIFICATION**

Swafford advised the DOL provided new guidance that support services can now be used towards the 20% work experience expenditures. Matheson made a motion to modify the policy to include the new guidance, seconded by Ruberg, and the motion carried.

VR PRESET ONBOARDING

Schaapveld provided an overview of what the Basic Electrical Construction VR package looks like and that is being used by a Scott County 17-year-old Participant who is paired with an electrical company in Eldridge but is too young to test for the apprenticeship.

WORK-BASED LEARNING INTERMEDIARY

Swafford advised this is a grant opportunity funded through IWD to provide work-based learning activities to all school districts in a community college region. She advised it is a great opportunity to look at with the board being an allowed entity to apply. Matheson, Ruberg, and Nye were all very supportive of applying for the grant next year.

YOUTH TEGL

Swafford advised she wanted to go over the recent TEGL that was released that allows for food to be an allowable cost, however, a policy has to be put in place when it is appropriate to be utilized. Swafford advised she had not seen anywhere in the country yet that has implemented a policy on this change. Other changes she saw as opportunities are increasing mental health services to youth as well as mentoring, which is a struggle across the country. Swafford advised follow-up services are one of our youth program strengths, but felt mentoring could be a piece we find a way to add in. Price-Wells added that Equus is piloting a mentoring program in two other locations, and it could be something implemented here if it is successful.

FALL YOUTH FEST

Tripp advised after the last meeting she had the idea of some type of fall youth fest to reach the out-of-school youth who are socially disconnected in Clinton, Scott, or Lee counties as they have the highest number of socially disconnected youth. Tripp suggested piloting it in Clinton and if it is successful replicating it in the other counties. During the discussion, Sokolovich suggested the Erickson Center might be best since it has a lot of youth programs. He also suggested applying for the Clinton County Development Association grant. Schaapveld added an event that was successful in Burlington in 2016 that had Hawkeye College bringing in Simulators that was highly attended. It would be beneficial to have simulators and Nye suggested pairing with local trades to see if they have simulators they could also bring into the event.

OTHER BUSINESS

Taylor asked that everyone check their emails and respond to her earlier request on committee assignments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

Sokolovich made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Reynolds and the motion carried. Nye adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.