



# Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

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## Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m., via Zoom

**Members Present:** Jacob Nye, Rebecca Ruberg, Regina Matheson, Heather Halbbrook, Charlene Fitzgerald

**Members Absent:** Carol Reynolds, Andy Sokolovich, Martha Bell

**Staff Present:** Tyler Lanz, Strategic Partnership Specialist, Miranda Swafford, Executive Director, Mandy Tripp, Compliance Officer and Louise Butherus, Communications Assistant

**CEO Present:** Shane McCampbell

**Equus Staff:** Cherisa Price-Wells, Regional Director, Taylor Longstreth, Title I Operations Manager, and Shannon Weaver, Project Director

**One-Stop Operator:**

### CALLED TO ORDER

Nye called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

### QUORUM

There was a quorum to conduct business.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included approval of the agenda, excused absences, and approval of previous meeting minutes. Matheson made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Halbbrook, and motion carried.

### EQUUS JANUARY YOUTH REPORT

Weaver reviewed current outreach strategies and highlighted recent events including SCC Stem Fest in Burlington, Lee County Economic Development Group Career Expo and New London's College and Career Fair and several other school outreach activities. Weaver noted a busy month for February outreach which also included the Quad Cities Youth Conference Career Fair, the Always Safer Foundation and the Center for Behavioral Health in Davenport. Weaver noted a steady stream of youth referrals and was interested to see 5 Promise Jobs which is higher than normally received. Weaver reported 8 out-of-school youth enrollments, which is 80% of the deliverable 0 in-school youth enrollments, 0 entered Occupational Skills Training, and 2 entered Work-Based Learning. Weaver mentioned the Caseload at 105 Active, 72 Follow up for 35.4 average caseload. Weaver noted the customer satisfaction rate was 99.02% with 17 surveys completed. Weaver reviewed the Youth elements activities and commented that the elements not showing services for the program year, there are some grey areas about what goes in what, further noting some conflicting information from the State. Weaver noted 12 stipends and 32 incentives were paid out in February. Weaver also reported outcomes: 4 HiSET, and 9 unsubsidized employments 1 Personal Lines Insurance License and 4 measurable skills gains Weaver shared the participant highlights including a Des Moines County individual with a

disability and no previous employment who received his AA Degree was referred by Iowa Vocational Rehab. The participant was placed on work experience with a local store and after finishing his work experience a position at the store opened and he was hired. Nye commented he has been watching the Youth elements numbers and for the ones that are not doing well he requested to select 1 element each month for a focused review with hopes that the committee can help have some impact to help turn some numbers around.

### **VIRTUAL REALITY METRICS REPORT**

Weaver presented the VR metrics report and noted February was a much busier month, utilizing the headsets a lot for Career exploration.

### **REVIEW Q2 PERFORMANCE**

Tripp presented the Q2 performance and reported that we missed the Employment and Credential goal for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, further noting that the Credential attainment percentages have stayed the same and should go up based on those being reached last month. Weaver commented that the participants that received their high school diploma will not show up for another 6-24 months. So measurable skills gain is the only real time and that one we met. Nye asked about Future Holds, Weaver commented that Q3 employment rates are getting better and anticipates employment as well as Credential in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter going up.

### **YOUTH ON YOUTH COMMITTEE**

Lanz reviewed the Youth-on-Youth Committee approach that was also briefly discussed in the January Youth Committee meeting. Lanz mentioned bringing youth in to attend the Youth Committee meetings as an advisory capacity further noting they would not vote nor be counted in quorum, but they would be able to offer their perspective on the activities and the services that are being provided for the youth program. Lanz further noted that other non-profits have various approaches to including the youth in their meetings and next steps would be to decide what format we would want the youth attendee to participate in. Lanz commented that we would then have Weaver and Longstreth identify a youth that could offer that perspective, following up with training to explain the process. Nye commented it would be credited to their FEO and his preference would be to invite them to every meeting. Lanz inquired as to whether this should be a voting item and Swafford noted that it should be approved by the Executive committee and recommended that the youth committee also vote. Matheson made a motion to approve moving forward with the Youth Member on Youth Committee and Ruberg 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURN**

Nye requested a motion to adjourn. Matheson made a motion to adjourn Ruberg seconded. Nye adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.