

WORKFORCE CENTERS

of South Central Kansas

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Local Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2018

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Gabe Schlickau welcomed Board members, asked for self-introductions and called the meeting to order.

2. **Public Comment**

No new public comment requests were received.

3. **National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum Report**

The Forum is a national conversation around workforce development that convenes leaders, advocates, and change makers in business, government, labor, and education. LWDB Board Chair Gabe Schlickau, LWDB Vice Chair Jennifer Hughes and Keith Lawing attended this year's Forum, which was held in Washington, DC from March 24th through March 27th. Along with staff and board members from Local Areas II and III, they also visited with the legislative staff of Senator Pat Roberts, Senator Jerry Moran and Representative Ron Estes, which provided the opportunity to educate legislators about the workforce system, share successes and discuss issues and challenges. Keith Lawing was a presenter at three of the sessions during the Forum. Schlickau stated a takeaway for him was to have the Workforce Alliance (WA) engage with Midwest Urban Strategies Consortium, a group of 10 workforce boards that work together on grant funding and related regional strategies. Board members interested in attending next year's Forum were asked to contact Keith Lawing.

4. **Youth Employment Project (YEP) Report**

The Youth Employment Project (YEP) is a community-wide collaborative to connect young adults to a first job experience or work experience opportunity. The goal for YEP is to place 1000 young adults in first jobs or work experience opportunities in 2018. To date, six Essential Skills Workshops covering workplace etiquette, financial literacy, and keys to employment success have been conducted with 125 ESC awarded. The Wichita Business Journal and the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce are hosting meetings in April to engage business leaders to help promote youth employment opportunities. There have been 29 total placements in 2018; 28 are currently active and one has been completed. Placements have been made with 18 employers, representing nine industries across LAIV. To date, there are 89 employers that are committed to hiring 256 youth for the summer and it is expected that more employers will become involved. Manufacturing Interview Day was held on April 7, 2018 at the Wichita Workforce Center. Cox Machine, Spirit AeroSystems, and Textron Aviation attended and provided on site interviews for 117 young adults for 75 job openings. Harper County held a job fair on April 12, 2018 at Chapparral Jr/Sr High School. 20 employers attended and provided employment opportunities to 71 young adults. Outreach events have been held at 10 high schools with 47 individual separate classroom visits providing information on YEP. Outreach efforts have reached over 626 young adults and additional outreach sessions are planned.

5. **Project Wichita**

Project Wichita is a 10-year regional community vision initiative. It is a collaboration of business, education and government leaders in the region with a goal to learn what residents think about their communities and where they want it to be in 10 years. The WA has contributed \$5,000 to be involved in Project Wichita. Wichita State University's (WSU) Public Policy and Management Center team will work with Project Wichita to gather input across the region by holding focus groups with individuals

and organizations, gathering feedback at diverse community events and town hall meetings, online surveys and social media engagement. The Project Wichita process will feature three main steps: Listen, Focus and Share, which will result in a report to the community on results and recommendations that includes regional vision and priorities and production of an action plan focused on the next 10 years by late fall 2018. Misty Brucker, WSU facilitated a focus group of Board members and workforce center partners and recorded their responses. Participants were urged to access the online focus group questions at <https://www.projectwichita.org/focusgroups> and share with family, friends, business contacts and co-workers.

6. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports

January 24, 2018 meeting minutes, budget report, A-133 Audit, LWDB Committee reports, Workforce Center operations report, Kansas Advanced Manufacturing Program (KAMP) report and Performance Reports were distributed to the Committee for review with no changes requested. The audit is available by request and will be posted to the website.

Kathy Jewett (Robyn Heinz) moved to approve the recommendations as presented in the consent agenda. Motion Adopted.

7. Additional Topics/Community Updates

- A. The annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, April 26th
- B. The Wichita Workforce Center will host an Employer Forum: Accessing a Skilled Labor Pool Utilizing Fair Chance Hiring Practices on Friday, May 4th from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM. LWDB members and partners are invited to attend. (Attached is the flyer and draft agenda)
- C. Keith Lawing is a member of Governor Colyer’s Education Council and will co-chair a subcommittee on Workforce Development. The Council will meet quarterly and Keith will keep the Board updated on the Council’s actions.
- D. A report on Adult Education for FY17 from the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) was distributed to the Board. A panel discussion on this subject is being planned for the next Board meeting on July 25th.

8. Adjourn (11:30)

Present LWDB Members

Gabe Schlickau, Chair
David Alfaro
Rod Blackburn
Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade
Robert Giesen
Michele Gifford
Laura Hands
Robyn Heinz
Kathy Jewett
Jeff McCausland, LWDB Community Impact Committee
B.J. Moore
Gary Plummer
Erica Ramos
Suzanne Scott
Dr. Sherry Utash
John Waltner, LWDB Community Impact Committee

Guests & Staff

Peter Bodyk
Misty Bruckner
Tisha Cannizzo
Craig Crossette
Lashonda Garnes
Gayle Goetz
Janet Grace
Tina Grillot
Keith Lawing
Shirley Lindhorst
Kimberly Moore
Chad Pettera
Sherry Watkins