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Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB)
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
ZOOM Only Meeting
November 8, 2023 – 11:30 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Workforce Alliance (WA) LWDB Executive Committee assembled via ZOOM. Chair Jeff Longwell welcomed Committee members, asked for self-introductions and called the meeting to order.

2. Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Policy Modification

A modification is being made to the Registered Apprenticeship (RA) policy. Through the MeadowLARK grant, the WA is able to support the expansion of RA by serving as a Sponsor/Intermediary. The WA Executive Committee approved an RA policy at its meeting on October 11, 2023. The modification better describes the role and the potential for future projects, by adding the term “sponsor” to the policy. A redline version of revised documents was provided to the Committee. Currently, the policy is written such that the WA can only serve as the administrative entity for a program for multiple employers as an intermediary and by being a sponsor the WA can serve as the administrative entity for one employer under one program. The new policy would allow the WA to be either entity.

Alana McNary (Kathy Jewett) moved to approve the modification to the Registered Apprenticeship policy. Motion adopted.

3. Registered Apprenticeship Standards Submission to the Kansas Apprenticeship Council (KAC)

In partnership with CD&H Inc. in El Dorado, the WA is submitting standards to the Kansas Apprenticeship Council (KAC) to create a RA for Construction Craft Labor. CD&H is an industrial contractor specializing in services for the civil, petrochemical, chemical and refining industries. The Workforce Alliance Board reviewed this item on October 25, 2023 and recommended that the Executive Committee approve the CD&H RA standards submission to the KAC. The standards have been approved by the KAC. Per local policy, the Board and or Executive Committee will continue to review and approve standards before submission to KAC.

Rod Blackburn (Michele Gifford) moved to approve that the Workforce Alliance submit RA standards to the KAC on behalf of CD&H. Motion adopted.

4. Appointments to the LWDB Youth Employment Committee and Funding Strategy Task Force

New members are being appointed to the Youth Employment Committee and a Funding Strategy Task Force. The membership of committees is reviewed annually by the Board Chair and updates made as needed. The membership of committees is not limited to Board members, and leaders from community partners and area businesses are eligible to serve upon request. Proposed appointments to the Youth Employment Committee are Jakobe Davidson, Spirit AeroSystems replacing Amy Williams on the committee and Jordan Buxton, Circle Public Schools Board of Education.

One of the primary strategic goals for the WA is to generate funds to leverage and align with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) resources to create significant community impact. Non-WIOA revenues comprise approximately 60 percent of the current budget, but a number of the funding streams will come to an end after 2024. A Funding Strategy Task Force is being created and given the assignment of identifying additional funding opportunities. Task Force recommendations will be made to the Board at the January 24 meeting. WA Board Vice Chair Alana McNary will lead the Task Force of Michele Gifford, Textron Aviation; Kevin Hunt, Spirit AeroSystems; Russ Kennedy, IBEW; John Rolfe, Wichita Chamber; Gabe Schlickau, CoBank; Kris Langrehr, Ascension Via Christi; Cheryl

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Childers, Cox Machine and Erica Ramos, Kansas Department of Commerce. The LWDB met on October 25, 2023 and the members present recommended that the Executive Committee approve the committee and task force assignments as presented.

Rod Blackburn (Alana McNary) moved to approve Youth Committee and Task Force appointments as presented. Motion adopted.

5. Consent Agenda

Approval of meeting minutes for October 11, 2023, Executive Committee meetings for 2024 and an on-the-job (OJT) contract for Spirit AeroSystems were presented to the Committee for review and approval. Longwell asked if Spirit AeroSystems already had an OJT contract with Spirit and Amanda Duncan replied that this is a renewal of a current contract.

Kathy Jewett (Gabe Schlickau) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Amy Williams, Spirit AeroSystems abstained from the vote. Motion adopted.

6. Announcements

- Workforce Alliance (WA) Youth Employment Project (YEP) staff will be making a presentation to El Dorado Schools on November 9, 2023.
- A site demo for Trnsfr Virtual Reality platform is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 4:00 at the Wichita Workforce Center.
- WA staff and Registered Apprenticeship partners were present at the Sedgwick County Commission meeting on November 8, 2023 for a Registered Apprenticeship Week (November 13 - November 17) proclamation reading.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 PM.

Attendees:

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Rod Blackburn
Michele Gifford
Commissioner Jim Howell
Kathy Jewett
Pat Jonas
Jeff Longwell
Alana McNary
Gabe Schlickau
Amy Williams

Staff/Guests

Amanda Duncan
Denise Houston
Shirley Lindhorst
George Marko
Chad Pettera
Will Dorr, Eckerd Connects
Erica Ramos, LWDB