

WORKFORCE CENTERS

of South Central Kansas

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Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB)

Executive Committee Special Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2021 – 10:00 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions

The LWDB Executive Committee assembled via ZOOM. Chair Gabe Schlickau welcomed Committee members and called the meeting to order.

2. Local Area IV Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Plans

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires each Local Area to have an approved Regional Plan and Local Plan. These plans must be reviewed and updated every four years. The State of Kansas has divided Kansas into two planning regions. Local Area IV is part of planning region II with Local Areas I and V. Updated plans must be submitted to the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDC) by April 30, 2021. Prior to submission to KDC, the Regional Plan and Local Plan must be approved by the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB) and Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and be posted for public comment for 30 days.

The Regional Plan has been drafted with Local Areas I and V and all will work together to implement it; this includes formalizing the convening of industry leaders, businesses, education, economic development, labor, and community-based organizations across the region to establish expectations, needs, and gaps, coordinating outreach efforts, retaining talent in the region by focusing on work-based learning opportunities including Work Based Learning and Registered Apprenticeship, expanding youth employment opportunities throughout the region and implementing rural regional strategies. The Regional Plan identifies in-demand industry sectors or occupations in region, which are advanced manufacturing, advanced materials, aerospace, agriculture, data services and information technology, healthcare, oil / gas and transportation / logistics. The Local Areas in the region have and will continue to work collaboratively to develop and implement regional service strategies, focus on business services, meet or exceed performance measures, and collaborate on regional projects.

Workforce Alliance (WA) staff have drafted the updated Local Plan based on WIOA guidelines. The draft Local Plan includes goals, strategies, service delivery plans, policies and management of the One Stop Workforce System in Local Area IV. The One Stop Advisory Council (OSAC) has worked since the original plan was developed in 2016 to develop and enhance cooperation and collaboration between local partners.

The Regional Plan and Local Plan will be released for public comment on March 30, 2021 and comments will be accepted through April 29, 2021. A link to access the plans will be sent to all LWDB members and partners encouraging their review of the plan and providing comments. Staff will review all comments as they are filed and then respond to the comments and make appropriate changes as necessary in order for the plans to be reviewed by the full LWDB at its April 28, 2021 meeting. All comments received will be attachments to the Regional and Local Plans. Once approved, the plans will begin implementation July 1, 2021.

Rod Blackburn asked why construction is not listed as one of the in-demand industry sectors for the regional plan. This issue is an example of the type of information that can be submitted for public comment.

Rod Blackburn (Michele Gifford) moved to approve the Regional Plan and Local Plan as presented and direct staff to release the draft Regional and Local Plans for public comment. Motion adopted.

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3. **Other Discussion/Announcements**

There was no further business or announcements.

4. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 AM.

Attendees:

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Rod Blackburn
Michele Gifford
Commissioner Jim Howell
Pat Jonas
Tony Naylor
Matt Peterson
Gabe Schlickau
Amy Williams

Staff/Guests

Denise Houston
Keith Lawing
Shirley Lindhorst
George Marko
Chad Pettera
Laura Rainwater
Jennie Heersche, Cowley College
Maria Oyler, KS Dept. of Children and Families
Cherie Wenderott, Senior Services