

**LWDB Executive Committee Special Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021**

**Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85644509261>**

**10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

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- 1. Welcome:** Gabe Schlickau (10:00)
  
  - 2. Local Area Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Plan:** Keith Lawing (*pp. 2 - 4*)  
*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.*  
**Recommended Action:** *Approve the Regional Plan and Local Plan as presented and direct staff to release the draft Regional and Local Plans for public comment.*
  
  - 3. Adjourn:** Gabe Schlickau (10:30)
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*The next LWDB Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.*

**Item**

Local Area IV WIOA Plans

**Background**

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. The updated Regional Plan and Local Plan must be submitted to the Kansas Department of Commerce by April 30, 2021. Prior to submission to the Kansas Department of Commerce the Regional Plan and Local Plan must be approved by the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB) and Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and posted for public comment for 30 days.

**Analysis**

Workforce Alliance staff have drafted the updated Local Plan based on WIOA guidelines. The Regional Plan has been drafted with Local Areas I and V, and with technical assistance from a consultant. They are summarized below.

Regional Plan

- Formalize the convening of industry leaders, businesses, education, economic development, labor, and community-based organizations across the region to establish expectations, needs, and gaps
- Coordinate outreach efforts
- Retain talent in the region by focusing on work-based learning opportunities including Registered Apprenticeship
- Expand youth employment opportunities throughout the region
- Implement rural regional strategies

The Regional Plan identifies the following in-demand industry sectors or occupations:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Advanced Materials
- Aerospace
- Agriculture
- Data Services and Information Technology
- Healthcare
- Oil and Gas
- Transportation and Logistics

Additionally, the Local Areas in the region 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.

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Submitted By: Denise Houston

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### Local Plan

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 OSAC has developed cross program strategies customized to the local area. These strategies are developed for both employer services and job seeker services and include the following components:

- Enhanced customer referrals and release of information
- Effective communication among all partners
- Easy access to information for customers
- Collaborative case management and co-enrollment
- Outreach
- Cross training

The OSAC also reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding and Infrastructure Funding Agreements. The Memorandum of Understanding is incorporated in the Local Plan as an attachment.

Other key components of the Local Plan include the following:

#### *Strategic Elements*

This section includes an economic and workforce analysis from the Kansas Department of Labor. The analysis provides an overview of existing and emerging workforce demands, employment and unemployment rates, labor market trends, workforce education and skills level, and addresses the current skill gap in south central Kansas.

The mission, vision, and strategic goals of the Workforce Alliance are provided. A description of partnerships with economic development, Regional Growth Plan, Preparation for Advanced Career Systems (PACES), higher education, K-12 system, and WIOA Partners are discussed. An analysis of workforce development activities including strengths, weaknesses, and capacity is provided.

#### *Operational Planning Elements*

This section of the Local Plan includes employer and job seeker strategies that have been developed. It also includes the structure of the Local Workforce Development Board, the integration and co-enrollment plan for WIOA Title 1B programs and Wagner Peyser, and the functional management of the One Stop Centers. The integration and co-enrollment plan is written to encourage other Workforce Center partners to enter at any time.

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Continuous improvement, oversight, performance, program data, priority of service for veterans, and accessibility are described in this section. It also addresses current policies and procedures of the LWDB including both Administrative and Program policies.

The Regional Plan and Local Plan will be released for public comment on March 30, 2021. Comments will be accepted through April 29, 2021. Staff will review comments as they are filed and then respond to the comments and make appropriate changes as necessary. The plans will be reviewed by the full LWDB at its April 28, 2021 meeting. All comments provided will be attachments to the Regional and Local Plans. The Regional and Local Plans are due to the Kansas Department of Commerce on May 1, 2021.

**Strategic Goals Supported**

This activity supports the following Strategic goals of the Local Workforce Development Board:

- Meet or exceed the negotiated performance of WIOA Title I programs to maximize community impact
- Enhance youth employment opportunities by expanding partnerships with business, schools, and other community organizations
- Increase the awareness of workforce programs and services throughout South Central Kansas
- Expand the community impact of the Workforce Alliance through higher level of board member participation
- Continue to increase non-WIOA funding
- Proactively approach the employment and skills training challenges and opportunities of the future with energy and planning today

**Recommended Action**

Approve the Regional Plan and Local Plan as presented and direct staff to release the draft Regional and Local Plans for public comment.