

WORKFORCE CENTERS
of South Central Kansas
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Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

2. Public Comment

No new public comment requests were received.

3. National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Board of Directors Meeting

The NAWB Board held their 3rd quarter meeting in Wichita July 17th through July 20. LWDB member Kathy Jewett is a member of the NAWB Board and reported that the meeting and visit went exceptionally well. A regional convening hosted by NAWB and NC3 (National Coalition of Certification Centers) was held at the Workforce Center. The convening was attended by approximately 60 people from workforce boards, partner organizations, stakeholders and business and industry from across the state with the purpose of discussing the current state of workforce in the region. Information collected at the convening will be shared with the board as soon as it is compiled. Members of the NAWB Board participated in tours of Spirit Aerosystems, Wichita Workforce Center, Wichita State University Innovation Campus and WSU Tech during their visit.

Report was received and filed.

4. Community Impact Review

The Workforce Alliance (WA) works to leverage resources and align services for greater community impact. The LWDB recognizes that relying on annual allocations of federal funding limits the community impact the WA wants to achieve. The WA has been able to leverage well over \$30 million from grants and special projects into the federal funds received from the Workforce Investment Act and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) since 2007. For the current program year, there are 18 different funding streams supporting WA operations. Given the fact the PY 2019 is the lowest annual allocation of federal funding over the past 15 years, the strategy of leveraging resources is helping to prevent a drastic reduction in services. Many of these funding sources will end in 2020, so WA staff are very focused on seeking new funding sources and opportunities. Examples of programs that successfully leverage WIOA resources and produce significant community impact include:

- Help Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE) is an umbrella youth employment network that includes core partners, Workforce Alliance (WA), City of Wichita, YMCA and USD 259. The brand was established in 2019. Each of the HYPE partners continue to operate their individual and unique programs. The WA operates the Youth Employment Project (YEP) and the final numbers of participants in workshops and job placements will be released in August. More outreach events, essential skills workshops and job fairs were attended by more young people than in previous years. Camp HYPE was organized to help address the number of 14-15 year olds seeking employment. In partnership with USD 259 and the City of Wichita, two camps were held for students from North High that included 20 students for each camp. Camp HYPE is designed to be treated as a job, and if participants met expectations they earn \$250. Plans for next year are underway and more funds will be needed for to continue the program.
- Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Expansion is funded through the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDC) provides incentives to employers to participate in RA programs and supports a full-time employee and provides training for apprentices and works with employers to expand the use of RA as a training tool to meet the need for skilled workers. There are currently 21 employer sponsors in the Local Area with more in the pipeline.

- The Fair Chance Partnership is a long-standing partnership between the WA, Kansas Department of Corrections and Sedgwick County to provide targeted employment services to individuals with criminal backgrounds. The first quarter report was presented, which shows a continued increase in wages and job retention. The WA has submitted a grant through Midwest Urban Strategies that could bring resources to provide employment and skills training services to individuals 19-24 age range with a criminal background.
- The Practice Makes Progress program was initiated to engage area employers in serving job seekers. The program uses volunteers from partner organizations to assist job seekers with resume review and mock interview services and has been very successful. Thus far, 19 organizations are providing volunteers and 32 mock interviews and 41 resume reviews have been completed. The program is looking to expand the number of days it is offered and more organizations are needed to ensure the success of the program.
- The WA was awarded the United Way's Spirit of Caring Award for 2018; this is the third time in the last four years that the WA has been chosen to receive this award.

Report was received and filed.

5. **Changing of the Guard**

Gabe Schlickau is completing his two-year term as chair of the LWDB. Jennifer Hughes is currently vice chair. Keith Lawing thanked Gabe for his exceptional service to the LWDB and presented him with an engraved clock. Mayor Longwell expressed his appreciation to Gabe for his outstanding service to the Board and to the community.

Kathy Jewett (Tony Naylor) moved to approve Jennifer Hughes serve a two-year term as Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board Chair.

6. **Bank of America Summer Intern Program**

The Workforce Alliance (WA) was selected to be part of the Bank of America Student Leaders program that provides an internship with a local non-profit through a very competitive process to young people with an interest in the community and that have demonstrated leadership. Aenya Richards and Laeh Dean were selected and placed with the WA for eight weeks this summer. A trip to Washington D.C. was also included in the internship. Aenya and Laeh prepared a presentation to the LWDB and discussed their experiences and what they have learned.

7. **Budget for Program Year 2019-2020**

Funding for the WIOA programs at the federal level will have a \$3.5-million-dollar increase for PY19. WIOA funding for the State of Kansas for Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs are decreasing across all funding streams based on the WIOA allocation formula. The WA will receive a \$408,000 decrease in funding from the previous year. A draft budget was presented to the Board. Staff is projecting to transfer approximately \$130,000 from the Adult to Dislocated Worker program to maintain the current caseload allocation. Carryover funding in the Adult program is significant, and is very important to the budget for PY19. WIOA funding next year is approximately 3.461 million or 45% of the total budget, the lowest in many years. While WA is maintaining a 37% allocation in direct client services, those funds will largely come from specific grants, and not WIOA. Internal operations are being reviewed to see what changes can be made. Most of the Kansas Local Areas received a decrease in their funding with the exception of LAIII in the Kansas City area, which received an increase. The WA will release a Request For Information (RFI) targeting the Cowley and Sumner areas to determine possible partnerships to reduce costs; results will be reported to the LWDB. The LWDB Finance Committee and LWDB Executive Committee have review and approved the proposed budget and recommend it for adoption by the Board.

Tony Naylor (Suzanne Scott) moved to recommend budget to the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB), with authorization to staff to make final changes one carryover funding is known. Motion adopted.

8. Demand Occupations List for Program Year 2019

It is an annual function for the Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) to review and update the Demand Occupation List. This list identifies occupations that are in demand and are eligible for WA training funds. Staff has researched current labor market trends, surveyed staff, employers, Board members, and reviewed regional initiatives to determine occupations in demand in Local Area IV. For Program Year 2019 (PY 19), staff recommends retaining all the current occupations on the approved training list. Staff also recommends adding Supply Chain Managers, Software Developers, Chefs and Head Cooks, and Emergency Medical Technicians/Paramedics to the list. These recommendations are based on the staff, employer, and Board surveys and a review of labor market information. This list as well as the results of the surveys, Sector Career Pathways, a recent report on individuals in training was presented to the LWDB Program Operations and Performance (POP) Committee and the LWDB Executive Committee and both recommended adoption by the Board. The POP Committee suggested adding a Supply Chain/Logistics Analyst/Specialist. Staff is reviewing and will follow up with details needed for inclusion. The occupations proposed all have increasing growth projections through 2026. The results of the surveys indicates the majority would like to keep the occupations currently on the list.

Kathy Jewett (Matt Peterson) moved to approve the Demand Occupation List for Program Year 2019. Motion Adopted.

9. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports

April 24, 2019 meeting minutes, Governor’s Education Council update, LWDB committee meeting reports, One-Stop Operator report, Workforce Center Operations report, Performance Reports and on-the-job training contracts for Wolfe Electric/XLT Ovens and RoadSafe Traffic Systems were distributed to the Committee for review. LWDB member Kathy Jewett, XLT Ovens abstained from the vote.

Rod Blackburn (Tony Naylor) moved to approve the recommendations as presented in the consent agenda. Motion Adopted.

10. Additional Topics/Community Updates

Keith Lawing is a member of the Governor’s Education Council and is the chair of the Workforce Development Systems Subcommittee. The next meeting of the Council is in Wichita on July 25th. Lawing will be presenting a draft definition of “Workforce Development Systems” to the Council at this meeting and shared the draft with the LWDB. The final definition will help guide the future work of the Council and state policy. The goal is to have some policy recommendation to present to the Governor by the end of the year.

Adjourn (11:15)

Present LWDB Members

Dave Alfaro
Jennifer Anderson
Rod Blackburn
John Clark
Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade
Robert Giesen
Kathy Jewett
Gay Kimble
Tony Naylor
Matt Peterson
Erica Ramos
Gabe Schlickau
Suzanne Scott
Jeff Townsend
Mayor Jeff Longwell, CEOB

Guests & Staff

Amy Williams, LWDB Community Impact Committee
Laeh Dean, Bank of America Intern
Amanda Duncan
Rocky Genz, Bank of America
Aliex Kofoed
Keith Lawing
Shirley Lindhorst
Cassidy Nolan
Chad Pettera
Laura Rainwater
Aanya Richards, Bank of America Intern