



Southeastern Wisconsin Workforce Development Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Virtual Meeting - Zoom
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Members present: Laura Cesar, Susan Chandek, Derek D’Auria, Edgard Delgado, Nicholas Galich, Alexa Haigh, Stephanie Henderson, Brooke Infusino, Matt Janison, Amy Mlot, Paul Moeller, Loretta Olsen, Tom Reiherzer, Dave Riley, Tessa Springer, Matt Stinebrink, Matt Waltz, Toni White, Aaron Williams

Members Awaiting Appointment: Sean Levitt, Matt Bieser

Members excused: Ron Frederick, Cynthia Simonsen

Others present: Doug Bartz, Michelle Blanchard, Rebecca Freund, Chris Isaacson, Beth Norris, David Rivera, Jill Rozzell, Tom Walsh

LEO’s present: Walworth County Board Supervisor Brian Holt

Call to Order:

- Board Chair, Nicholas Galich, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Roll Call:

- Silent roll call completed by Rebecca Freund.

Citizen Comments:

- No citizen comments.

Approval of Minutes of November 7, 2023 Board meeting:

- Motion to accept the November 7, 2023 minutes as written was made by Tom Reiherzer and seconded by Brooke Infusino.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Report / Programmatic Activities – Fiscal by David Rivera – Programmatic Activities by Chris Isaacson - DWFS:

- David discussed the Fiscal Report and Chris talked about Programmatic Activities as of December 2023:
 - **Dislocated Workers:**
 - Program Year (PY) 22 budget was set at \$407,574 and \$135,766 has been spent down. PY 23 budget is \$403,568 but will not be utilized until PY 22 funds are expended or expired.
 - There was average of 23 participants served monthly with 2 new enrollments; Chris noted that enrollments are low due to employer needs. 10 participants gained employment.
 - **Adults:**
 - PY 22 budget was \$866,579 and as of December 2023, \$768,851 has been spent. The training goal of \$303,303 has been exceeded by \$47,805. PY 23 budget is set as \$727,921.
 - 131 participants served on average each month with 70 new enrollments. 54 participants earned a credential and 35 have successfully gained employment.
 - **Youth:**
 - The \$993,593 PY 22 Youth funds have been fully expended and the work experience goal was set at \$198,719 but \$294,446 was spent. PY 23 budget is \$832,976 with a remaining balance of \$670,441.
 - An average of 120 participants served monthly with 80 new enrollments to date. 21 new enrollments entered training activities; 18 new work experiences have begun and 57 have successfully been exited.
 - **Rapid Response:**
 - This grant runs from July 2023 through June 2024 with a total budget of \$56,201 and so far, \$20,768 has been spent.
 - **Windows to Work:**
 - Budget was set at \$198,983 with a remaining balance of \$105,782. This grant goes through June 2024 and we are on track to fully utilize those funds.
 - **ARES (Adult Reentry Employment Strategies):**

- From August 2022 through September 2023, there was a budget of \$30,000 and we spent \$13,995. There is a no-cost grant extension in place to expend those funds.
 - 3 staff have been training in utilization of the Department of Corrections new WRAP website which allows those reentering society a 'One-Stop' location to find services that they may need. 2 customers from Racine have been referred and have learned how to use the site.
 - **Worker Advancement Initiative (WAI):**
 - The budget is set for \$547,464 and this grant runs through September 2024. There is a remaining balance of \$52,927.
 - **Winning with Wisconsin Workforce:**
 - Quarterly forums were held that covers a vast majority of topics. Budget was set at \$20,000 with a balance of \$8,800 as bills came in after presentation was created.
 - **Workforce Innovation Grant:**
 - As of December 2023, \$32,932 of the actual budget of \$743,784 has been spent and this grant runs through June 2025.
 - **QUEST National Dislocated Worker Grant:**
 - Budget has been set at \$595,848 from January 2023 through September 2024 and the first invoice was received in October. Remaining budget is \$519,949.
 - The goal is to work with 38 customers interested in the Childcare Industry. Currently there is 12 participants working in paid work experiences.
- Paul Moeller made a motion to accept the Fiscal report as given with Derek D'Auria seconding.
 - Motion passed unanimously.

One-Stop Operator Report – Beth Norris:

- Beth mentioned that she is the One-Stop Operator (OSO) for the 'Super Region' which is 7 Counties – Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth (WDA 1); Milwaukee (WDA 2); and Waukesha, Ozaukee, and Washington (WDA 3).
- Beth shared Job Center traffic for 2023 – Racine had 7,000+; Kenosha had 4,000+; Walworth had 1,500+; for a grand total of 12,500+ total foot traffic from Kiosk and Job Service points of reception.
- Regarding local web traffic (sewrks.com); there has been 16,000+ page views with 4,000+ unique visitors and an average session time of 5.45 minutes.
- DWD Dashboard for 2023-Quarter 4 was shared and Beth explained some of the information that it shows: UI Rate, WIOA Individuals service, Active Employers, Active Job Seekers and much more.

Labor Market Information – Tom Walsh – DWD:

- Tom said that the highest concentration of employment for Southeast focuses on Trade, Transportation & Utilities, Education & Health Services, Manufacturing, and Leisure & Hospitality.
- Tom discussed some of the largest increases and declines within the highest concentration industries.
- Industry & Occupation projections from 2020 to 2030 were shared.

Dave Riley asked where distribution lands, is it part of Manufacturing because technically, they are not manufacturing anything.....places like Amazon, Uline, etc.... Tom said that they would fall under the Trade, Transportation & Utilities.

Derek D'Auria asked Tom about the decline of information occupations – does AI have anything to do with it. Tom said that he does think that AI has one thing to do with it but not exactly sure what else.

WIOA Update – Doug Bartz:

- Doug discussed the monitoring process and over the last month, we've had two of our previous monitorings that were still open with the State. We just got notification in January that PY 21 has been closed; there was a lot of work marking documents confidential in the State system. We did just hear that PY 22 monitoring is closing and we should receive notification within the coming days.
- 3 Monitorings will be occurring at the same time – WIOA, QUEST Grant and the WAI Grant – so we've been quite busy working on the Desk Reviews and providing documentation as requested.
- WIG Grant – large sum of money left – GTC and the Board have been in discussion to make it a more meaningful experience for the participants. Some of that funding will be shifted away from the services that we were going to provide into providing boot camps for those individuals that receive their GED and want to continue their education.

- ARES Grant – Doug said that WRAP is an application that stands for Wisconsin Reentry Access for Providers. Providers that went through the training from DOC to better understand the needs of the person reentering out of the prison system and they can better serve that person.

Tom asked where the boot camps take place. Doug said that primarily, they take place at Gateway in Sturtevant – the IMET Center.

Other Items as Allowed by Law:

- No other items were discussed.

Board Chair Comments:

- No comments at this time.

Local Elected Official Comments:

- No comments at this time.

Next meeting:

- Next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment:

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave Riley with Brooke Infusion seconding.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.