



Southeastern Wisconsin Workforce Development Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 7, 2023
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, Dave Riley, Matt Waltz, Toni White, Aaron Williams

Members Awaiting Appointment: Sean Levitt

Members excused: Ron Frederick, Loretta Olsen, Tom Reiherzer, Cynthia Simonsen, Tessa Springer, Matt Stinebrink

Others present: Doug Bartz, Michelle Blanchard, David Cole, Rebecca Freund, Chris Isaacson, Beth Norris, David Rivera, Tami Rongstad, Tom Walsh

LEO’s present: Kenosha County Executive Samantha Kerkman, Walworth County Board Supervisor Brian Holt

Call to Order:

- Board Chair, Nicholas Galich, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Roll Call:

- Silent roll call completed by Rebecca Freund.

Citizen Comments:

- No citizen comments.

Approval of Minutes of August 1, 2023 Board meeting:

- Dave Riley made a motion to accept the August 1, 2023 meeting minutes as written.
- Matt Janison seconded that motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Board Membership Renewals:

- Doug Bartz said that each term on the Board is 3 years with unlimited terms.
- Those that are up for renewal have expressed their interest in continuing to serve and those Board members are: Aaron Williams; Loretta Olson; Tessa Springer; and Ron Frederick.
- Doug mentioned that we are down a couple of Board members but does have a couple potential; one joining us today is Sean Levitt from Remax Realty and Doug said he’s talking with Five Star Fabrication as a possible recruitment.
- Doug made mention that there are a few Conflict of Interest Forms still outstanding and a reminder email will go out this afternoon. These are required in order to recertify our Workforce Board.
- Motion to approve the Board Renewals was made by Matt Janison with Matt Waltz seconding.
- Motion passed unanimously.

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

- David said that Youth, Adult and Administrative funds for Program Year 21 have been fully utilized. Dislocated Worker had a balance of \$146,082 that was returned to the State due to not many participants.
- David and Michelle presented on WIOA funds and programmatic activities in depth with David noting that Program Year 23 funds have not been utilized yet:
 - Dislocated Worker Program – David said that PY22 had a budget of \$407,574; as of September 2023, \$72,617 has been spent. Michelle said that they had 8 new enrollments during 1st quarter (July – September 2023) with an average of 25 ongoing active cases monthly; 16 training services provided; 3 new employments entered, and 3 new credentials entered.
 - Adult Program – David said that as of September 2023, \$428,603 out of \$866,579 has been spent. Michelle stated that there has been 60 new enrollments with an average of 129 active cases; 46 training services, 26 new employments entered and 49 new credentials entered.
 - Youth Program – David said that the budget was \$993,593 and \$757,242 has been spent down. Michelle said there was 51 new enrollments with an average of 133 active ongoing cases; there were 13 youth placed into work experience opportunities.

- David said that Rapid Response – July 2023 through June 2024 – has a total budget of \$56,201 with a remaining balance of \$43,602. Michelle stated that there was no layoffs during quarter 1 but layoff aversion strategies have been provided to businesses.
- Windows to Work Program has a total budget of \$198,983 for the time period of July 2023 through June 2024- and David said that as of September 2023, \$37,833 has been expended.
- ARES (Adult Reentry Employment Strategies) – August 2022 through September 2023 has spent \$12,583 of the \$30,000 budget. Doug mentioned that this grant is going to get a no cost extension as the Department of Corrections would like for us to continue doing work in this area. Michelle commented that staff are being trained on use of DOC website to coordinate services between Community Partners.
- Worker Advancement Initiative (WAI) – October 2021 through September 2024 – David said that \$547,464 is the budget and \$492,412 has been utilized. Michelle said that some CNC cohorts were done with this grant and they are currently following up with previous graduates for support/retention.
- Winning with Wisconsin Workforce – January 2023 through December 2023 – The total budget was \$20,000; David said that \$8,326 has been utilized. Michelle said that the dollars are set aside for 4 events to be held and the last event was held in part with Waukesha, Ozaukee, Washington Workforce Board on September 28th. There was about 50 attendees and Doug said that he expects this grant to be spent down completely once all invoices are received.
- Workforce Innovation Grant (WIG) – January 2023 through June 2025 – David said the budget for this grant is \$743,784 and \$30,138 has been spent as of September 2023. Michelle said that they have reached out to 76 graduates, attended 10 virtual meetings with students and have begun planning a Job Fair for GED/HSED graduates in early 2024.
- QUEST National Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG) – January 2023 through September 2024 – David mentioned that this is a newer grant and that the budget is set at \$595,848; not much has been spent down just yet. Doug said that this grants goal is to help direct some quality workforce to quality childcare. Michelle said that it's helping employers to help their staffing but also to help individuals that are interested in childcare get their foot in the door in all 3 Counties.
- Paul Moeller made a motion to approve the Fiscal Report as given with Dave Riley seconding.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Derek D'Auria asked if they are applying for a grant or if it's been received. Michelle said it's already been received and if he has any connections in Walworth County, she'd be happy to talk further. Derek mentioned that a childcare report was done in 2021 and they had hoped to use that for future opportunities, and he said he'd be happy to share that. Michelle said she'd email him after the meeting.

Labor Market Information – Commuting – Tom Walsh – DWD:

- Tom discussed working outside of the county in which people live. Kenosha has 41.8% with 23.3% being out of State. Racine has 37.9% and Walworth has 35.9% of its population working outside of their county.
- Kenosha county residents that work outside of the county are working in Lake County, Illinois and Waukesha County. Racine county residents are traveling to Milwaukee, Waukesha, and Lake County. Walworth County residents are going to Waukesha, Milwaukee and Cook County.
- Tom commented that the number of where the residents work is higher than where workers live which means that there are more employed people than it has jobs.
- Tom said that he looked further into why people are leaving to work, and he found that people are slightly more educated, and they are making more money. Transportation is not an issue and they may find that cost of living is cheaper in one of our 3 counties compared to where they are working.

Derek D'Auria said that it would be interesting to see if those numbers play out across the State and Tom said he'd try to get that information prior to the end of the meeting.

Brooke Infusino asked when the data was pulled. Tom said that this from 2016 to 2020 so information lagged.

Transfr Virtual Reality Demo – DWFS:

- Michelle said that McKayla is joining us to give an example of how the Virtual Reality training works. There is over 160 careers within this product and it allows us to bring this opportunity to our participants.
- A virtual demo was done on an electrical lineman.

Other Items as Allowed by Law:

- No other times discussed.

Board Chair Comments:

- No comments at this time.

Local Elected Official Comments:

- No comments at this time.

Next meeting:

- Next meeting will be sent out via calendar invite.

Adjournment:

- Matt Janison made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Brooke Infusino seconding.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.