

Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 18, 2023

Location: OMJ|CC 1910 Carnegie Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115

Attendees:

CCWDB Members			
Camille Ali	A	William Moore	P(v)
Cathy Belk	P	Dan O’Malley	A
Marquez Brown	A	Joshua Perkins McHamm	A
Marzell Brown	P	Jason Shank	A
Senayt Fekadu	A	Kim Shelnick	P(v)
Grace Gallucci	P	LaToya Smith	P
Paul Herdeg	P	Kim Thomas	P
Pam Jankowski	P(v)	Felton Thomas Jr.	P
Ethan Karp	P	Holly Trifiro	P
Shana Marbury	P	James Vaughan III	P
David Merriman	P	Sheila Wright	A

P = present (v = virtual) A = absent

WDB Staff	
Michelle Rose	DeShaun Matthews
Laura Chalker	Bryan Metlesitz
Mary Kelly,	Sheree Carroll
Rachel Bender	Amanda Collins
Lauren Carey	Joelita Patterson
Salena Hibbitt	Elaine Freeman
Terrah Morrison	Nancy Sidell
Mary Kelley	

Guests	
Kiara Higgins, DWS	Maura Gaul, ULA
Vaughn Johnson, CCDOD (v)	Darrick McDaniel, DWS
Anthony Mattox, DWS	Alyse Mitcham, DWS
Dave Megenhardt, ULA	Chermia Bodie
Tim Peyton, ULA	

Call to Order:

Chair Karp called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

- **Welcome**
 - a. Chair Karp motions to approve the minutes from **May 19, 2023**. Mr. Thomas seconds. The minutes are approved.

- b. Board meeting housekeeping:
 - Future Board meeting invitations will come from Terrah Morrison.
 - There may be changes within the five committees in the future. Chair Karp states that more participation is still needed.
- c. Mission Moment: Voice of the Customer:
 - Maura Gaul presents Chermia Bodie who was laid off from JP Morgan after being employed there for 23 years. Ms. Bodie states OMJCC exceeded her expectations, and all of her needs were met. OMJCC “knocked it out of the park”. Ms. Bodie is currently attending a “Cleveland Builds” class.
- d. Recognition of recent accomplishments and awards for Board members:
 - Mr. Thomas received the Cleveland Foundation’s Homer C. Wadsworth Award for his exceptional community leadership.
 - Ms. Marbury was recently on the cover of Phenomenal Woman Magazine.
 - Mayor Thomas received the Mayor Richard M. Daley Water Equity Community Award for her work in Richmond Heights.
 - Ms. Trifiro is leaving her role as the City of Cleveland Chief of Education, but will remain on the CCWDB. She is going to be working on approaches to engage kids and expand high-quality learning opportunities.
- e. New CCWDB Staff:
 - Terrah Morrison is introduced as the new Executive Assistant & Scheduler for Executive Director Michelle Rose & Deputy Director Laura Chalker.
 - Salena Hibbitt is introduced as the new Accountant.
- **Director’s Report**
 - Director Rose provided a summary and status update on new and ongoing initiatives. Director Rose highlighted:
 - **Midwestern Urban Strategies** OJMCC will host MUS October 25-26 which will be a great opportunity for board members to learn how the workforce ecosystem functions in other areas. MUS will visit OMJCC, MAGNET, and Rid-All.
 - **Built Environment** is designed to meet many high-demand occupations and forthcoming investments. Director Rose tells the Board that we will start seeing impact and enrollment soon.
 - **Broadband and 5G Regional Node Grant** will work with 18 counties to raise awareness and connect workers to training and broadband jobs.
 - **Sprint Task Force** OMJCC hosted stakeholders, Mayor Justin Bibb, and County Executive Ronayne for a discussion to address workforce shortages that impacts access to mental healthcare for school-aged youth.
 - Shana Marbury requested that Tri-C be included in the conversations about CDLs.

- There was Board interest in future learning sessions about Cleveland Talent Alliance and Built Environment Supportive Services / Trainee Fund.
- **Performance and Budget**
 - Deputy Director Chalker walked through the PY22 performance report.
 - Provided services to over 9,650 unique individuals
 - 6,404 new individuals were enrolled
 - 1,062 individuals were placed in employment during the program year
 - 733 individual training agreements were approved; 53% were in the healthcare sector
 - The results from PY22 were used as the baseline for the PY23 goals.
 - There has been an increase in ITA agreements, with more individuals using the full amount and more people are being placed-payment points are being met. Mr. Herdeg wants to learn more about how we can keep the trend going in that direction.
 - Ms. Belk would like to know more about the occupations of the 1,062 and how that connects to the ITA; more details are needed regarding what the jobs are and who the employers are. Deputy Director Chalker will provide that breakdown on future reports.
 - Deputy Director Chalker reviewed the financial results for PY22.
 - \$15.1 million was spent
 - The approved budget for next year is \$19.3 million
 - Deputy Director Chalker explained that funding available and how we draw on a first in first out basis. There are \$21.2 million of funds currently available.
 - Mr. Herdeg notes that the occupational training for in-demand industries was underspent by 1.6 million. He shared that the County's SkillUp program will be transitioning to OMJCC and as a result there will be a need for more WIOA dollars to be used for training previously funded with SkillUp money.
 - The funding sources have many rules on what the money can/cannot be spent on. Ms. Belk asked for clarification on what those restrictions are so that we can work to possibly eliminate them. She would like the barriers to be addressed and wants to ensure all of the money for supportive services is accessible and used.
 - Mr. Vaughn and Deputy Director Chalker note that RESEA money is not being spent. The Re-employment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program provides intensive re-employment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming re-employed. It was explained that RESEA participants are assigned to each workforce area. The local area has no control over the number of individuals assigned for services. Our costs are for five staff members who work with those referred individuals.
- **Nonprofit Transition/Implementation Workplan**
 - Director Rose walked through the workplan for the transition. The next step is for both City and County Councils to approve an ordinance that dissolves the current

intergovernmental agreement, which can then be signed by Mayor Bibb and County Executive Ronayne. The goal is for this phase to be completed by November 2023.

- Director Rose and Deputy Director Chalker are currently seeking legislative language from the City and County lawyers that will give flexibility to procure consultants and clarify the process for hiring and transitioning staff. Stakeholders and Board members can show support by attending hearings or making a call before hearings to members of council that they have good relationships with. Mayor Thomas recommends sending letters to Chairs of the relevant committees.
- The executive committee and strategic functions committee will continue to work through the process and continue to share information at the Board meetings; special meetings may need to be held.
- A Navigator to help employees decide if they would like to transition with the nonprofit or stay with the city or county will be made available to all employees. The second round of meetings are being held throughout the next two weeks to touch base with each employee.
- **Strategic Functions Update**
 - Ms. Belk and Ms. Shelnick are working with community and Board members to make sure to receive input on key decision points.
 - Ms. Belk explained that we will be extending the current strategic plan, which otherwise would expire at the end of 2023, to guide our work as a new plan will be finalized in coordination with the nonprofit transition and new code of regulations.
 - WIOA also has specific guidelines that will still need to be adhered to.
 - Ms. Gallucci believes all Board members should participate in this important process. Chair Karp suggest an open invitation for participation at Strategic Functions meetings along with other stakeholders.

Reminders and adjourn

- Opt-in Learning Session: Ohio National Guard Pay for Success Project, presented by David Merriman on 8/25/2023 at 12:00 p.m.
- Save the Date: Midwest Urban Strategies annual convention October 25-26, 2023
- Next CCWDB meeting: November 17, 2023

Meeting adjourns at 9:39 a.m.