

**Area 8 Workforce Development Board Full Board Meeting
Minutes 04/18/2024 Thursday 2:30 pm-4 pm Auglaize County
Administration Building 2nd Floor Assembly Room**

Minutes:

I. Roll Call

Meeting called to Order by Lesia Arnett, at 2:30 pm. with Roll Call. Attendance (9 in-person +3 remote): Lesia Arnett, Tammy Eilerman, Carol Knapke®, Jeremy Knisley, Jodi Knouff, Dave Krendl, Julie Marchal*, Amanda Miller, Gary McPheron, Rob Radway, Fred Rush, Brad Wendel. (® designates attending remotely.)

II. New Business

A. . Chairman Radway announced his resignation as Board member and Chairman. This was done to allow him to serve as Interim Director of Region 8. Chairman Radway then nominated Lesia Arnett to serve as Interim Chair second by Fred Rush. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. New Board members were introduced. Jodi Knouff from OOD (Gov.) and Josh Bloomfield Auglaize Economic Development (Econ.) and Amanda Miller from Van Wert Economic Development (Econ.). These members were approved by the Board: motion by Fred Rush second by Brad Wendel. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Interim Chair Arnett gave a summary of the Executive Committee's process to hire a new Director. With no applicants, the decision to hire Rob Radway as Interim Director and Anita Kremer as Fiscal Specialist / Administrative Assistant was made. Dave Krendl moved to employee Rob Radway as Interim Director, second by Brad Wendel. Passed unanimously by voice vote. Brad Wendel moved for the Mercer County Commissioners to continue with the Fiscal agent duties as well as administrative assistance support with Anita Kremer serving to complete the duties of Fiscal Specialist / Administrative Assistant, second by Jeremy Knisley. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Chair Arnett announced that a new round of advertising will be running for a new Director. It will appear in a variety of venues. Board members were asked to help in the process of finding a qualified Director.

E. Chair Arnett explained the process occurring with Brand-It to develop a new website for Region 8 Workforce Board. Interim Director Radway asked board members for head shots

short bios. Each county JFS Director was asked to provide pictures and videos from the BRN projects.

F. Counties were reminded to complete their Data Sharing Agreements. When all are completed, they will be sent to the State Director for his signature.

G. Interim Director Radway informed the board that there are several opportunities for monies. One Ohio grant is available. Interim Director Radway said he would write the grant and asked for assistance from each county.

H. Interim Director Radway announced the passage of “Stronger Workforce for America” bill by the House of Representatives. This is the re-authorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

III Fiscal

A. The Board was informed of the potential next round of funding by the State. Interim Director Radway asked for the approval of the distribution of Funds. Moved by Fred Rush and second by Jeremy Kinsley. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. The renewal of the Board Liability Insurance was unanimously approved by the Board. Moved by Brad Wendel second by Jodi Knouff.

C. Fiscal Specialist Kremer announced the transfer of line item BRN funds from Hardin to Auglaize.

D. Fiscal Report to date was given by Fiscal Specialist Kremer. The need to report proper spending / accrual / obligations to the allocations was stressed, so that we can get a full picture of what Area 8’s needs are. Also, discussion on the option of being able to charge adult expenditures under the Dislocated Worker grant has been approved by the state for Area 8 and Counties will want to utilize that option. Asked that counties take a hard look at the financials and complete some projections so we can determine the dollar amount that we would like to seek from the state if possible.

IV. Conclusion

Future meeting date:

- A. Executive Committee – May 16, at 2:30 – JTDMH in St. Marys

B. Region 8 Board – June 27, at 2:30 - Auglaize Assembly Room