

AREA 8 WORKFORCE BOARD MINUTES

Location: Auglaize County
Administrative
Building
Date: 1/30/2025
Time: 2:30 pm

Chairman Rob Radway called meeting to order at 2:34pm.

Board Members Present: Josh Bloomfield, Carol Knapke, Nathan Strange, Jodi Knouff, Dave Krendl, Stacey Pickens-Smith, Rob Radway, Fred Rush, Troy Suchland, Justin Blumhorst, Lesia Arnett, Amanda Miller, Tara Shepard, Logan O'Neill and Tammy Eilerman

Board Members Absent: Joy Bischoff, Julie Marchal and Gary McPheron

Brad Wendel moved to accept the 11/21/2024 as presented; Dave Wendel 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Standing Committees:

Dave Krendl volunteered to Chair **Goal #1: Nurturing Flexible Work Environments**. All three goals now have Chairs. Meetings will progress once the Area 8 WIB Member training is complete.

Area 8 WIB Member Training:

Training was completed earlier today 10:00am – 1:30pm as a working lunch. Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Director of Franklin County Workforce, provided the in-person training. All but 2 Board members were in attendance, everyone found the training informational and beneficial. Another training will be scheduled to cover Performance Measures and Budgets.

Policies: Policies still being reviewed by Amy Freymuth. There are known changes coming that will be presented at the next Executive Meeting.

Fiscal:

Anita Kremer presented the Area 8 fiscal report. She will continue her efforts of working with the individual counties to ensure that Formula Funds are spent timely and offer coordination of unspent funds to other Area 8 counties.

Amy reported the addition of \$40,000.00 to Hardin County for Rapid Response that was previously denied.

Legislative Updates: WIOA State fiscal staff are reporting a loss of \$7million dollars to Ohio. No Areas have been given an allocation but hopes to have that out in March 2025. MOU negotiation meeting will be scheduled in April and is due 6/30/2024. OMJ recertification deadline has been extended to 12/31/2025.

Area 8 Website: Amy Freymuth reported she needs to make a change to the website but is waiting for the next Executive Committee meeting to set the June 2025 meeting date as the original was schedule for Juneteenth.

It was discovered after the last Board meeting that there was an appointment of a Van Wert County representative, Amanda Miller! Amanda was able to attend today's Board training. Website will be updated from all of the pictures that Brand It! took of all the Board members today.

Ongoing Projects: Drive on Responsibly funds have been received and distributed to the Auglaize, Hardin and Mercer counties. Mercer and Hardin Counties are finding that case management time is where most of the grant funds are spent as the client fees are not as high as expected.

Angela Nickell provided a very informative overview of Mercer County's OMJ services and provided very telling stories of how lives can change when services are given. Thank you, Angela!

Q1 & Q2 Goals: Efforts of securing additional funding by collecting relevant data and provide facts to the State staff. Counties are to be reporting to Amy Freymuth monthly how many WIOA applications received, approved, denied and why or pending due to no available funding. State fiscal staff report a surplus of funds in RESEA; Auglaize, Hardin and Van Wert Counties are working more of these claims when they are available. They also report a surplus in WIOA Statewide Funding, Amy will continue to watch for opportunities to request these funds.

Adjournment: Fred Rush motioned to adjourn at 4:23PM, Dave Krendl 2nd. Motion approved unanimously.