

Area 8 Workforce Board
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2025 @ 2:30pm
JTDMH Board Room

Board President, Rob Radway at 2:33pm, due to IT issues, called the Executive Committee Meeting to order.

Roll Call: Present, Lesia Arnett, Rob Radway, Fred Rush, Anita Kremer, Dave Krendl, Carol Knapke (excused) and Amy Freymuth

Approval of Executive Committee minutes from the May 15, 2025, meeting approved unanimously without additions or corrections moved first by Lesia Arnett; second by Dave Krendl.

Amy Freymuth reported on the following:

Special Project – Drive on Responsibly; Mercer, Hardin and Auglaize Counties are showing expenditures to this grant but concerned that the entire grant may not be spent. DOR is primarily being used by Mercer County. Area 8 was granted permission to extend through 12/31/2025. Chairman Radway shared conversations he has had with elected officials regarding the impact this grant can have.

Board member training ideas are welcome. Chairman Radway suggested more discussion with the Committee Chairs so that those can become operational. Performance Measures could be the next topic.

Mercer County OMJ Amendment was submitted to the State for signature.

MOU is still waiting for signatures. There is mass confusion regarding the new law that states Federal funds cannot be used for illegal immigrants. Amy has followed up with all parties and hopes to have this submitted prior to her retirement from Auglaize County.

Statewide funding application submitted on 7/24/2025 for a total of \$221,100.00. Each Area 8 County provided their lists of needs with dollar amounts. We are waiting to hear back on approval, denial and/or dollar amount awarded.

2 Rapid Response events; 1 Mercer County and 1 Auglaize County. No lay off aversion was possible for Auglaize as we were notified after the lay off began.

Full Board meeting will need to be changed as Amy will be attending the OWA conference on September 18th. Chairman Radway made a motion to move the meeting to September 25, 2025, Fred Rush 2nd. Unanimously passed. Anita will send out the update to Board members and County staff.

OMJ Secret Shopper report will be shared with Mercer and Hardin counties. They passed with flying colors.

Area 8 website has been updated to include font change for accessibility and language options for non-English speaking customers.

Reviewed Amy's monthly invoice proposal. One revision request is for Amy to add the amount of time she is spending on each entry.

At-Large vs Voting Memberships was discussed. Additionally, why does Auglaize and Mercer counties have 3 voting members while Van Wert and Hardin have 2? Amy is to write up a proposal based on research and recommendations from other Areas.

Anita Kremer provided fiscal updates. She continues to work with the individual counties on making sure all funds are spent. She has been assisting the new Fiscal Officer for Van Wert county JFS.

Lesia Arnett inquired about adding an additional member to the Executive Committee since Joy needed to resign from the Board. It was decided to add someone; Jodi Knouff was suggested.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09pm, motioned by Lesia Arnett; Fred Rush 2nd. Motion approved unanimously.