

**Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board Meeting
Via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting
June 10, 2021**

Minutes

Members Present: Kelly Williams, Marcia Keeth, Patti Meszaros, Marcia Chase, Stacey Cook, Alan Crawley, Pennie Drinkard, Seth Erlin, Elaine T. Hardee, Tracy Latham, Christy Lombardi, Brian Miller, Cindy Rauner, Mike Scott, Doris Cammack-Spencer, Michelle Stewart, Stephanie Witte, Therese Wolf, Michael Young

Members Absent: Michelle Nicholson, Robin Cullers, Carrie Akins, Michael Ghosh, Dr. Maureen Murphy

Guests Present: Ken Lemberg-Governor's Workforce Development Board

Staff Present: Ruthy Davis, Melinda Bowling, Belinda Denton, Sandy Fauchaux, John Hartline, Greg Holtz, Ashley Raley, Daryl Rice, Yvette Turner

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Kelly Williams, Vice Chair.

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Kelly opened the meeting with a warm welcome and acknowledgement of attendees.

MISSION MOMENT

Daryl Rice introduced a success story provided by a participant from the Calvert County Youth Spring Employment program. A video testimony from the participant who successfully completed the program was shared.

BUSINESS

- A quorum was established.
- A motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2021, meeting was made by Marcia Keeth, seconded by Doris Cammack-Spencer, and carried.
- A motion to approve the consent agenda documents was made by Christy Lombardi, seconded by Stacey Cook, and carried.

EPIC MED CERTS PROGRAM

Sandy Mead, National Director of Workforce Development, MedCerts, provided a presentation on the new program being launched for individuals pursuing IT Careers. SkillUp Coalition is funding the program, offering \$1,000 (paid by incentives when benchmarks are obtained) toward every student successful in the program. There are program requirements such as; WIOA eligible, 18 years old or older, no bachelor's degree, current salary less than \$40,000 a year and must pass an initial assessment test.

AMERICAN JOB CENTER RE-OPENING

Ruthy Davis shared with the Board the reopening plans for the AJCs. The Comprehensive AJC in Waldorf along with the Satellite AJCs will re-open to the public on July 6, 2021. The comprehensive AJC will not require masks or social distancing, however, the satellite AJCs will continue to social distance and require masks. Due to safety concerns, security guards will be on site at all AJCs.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Ruthy Davis provided information on the federal funding provided through ARPA to the 13 workforce areas in Maryland. \$3.2 million has been allocated to the Southern Maryland Workforce Area. \$1.6 million is scheduled to be received on July 1, 2021, with the remaining \$1.6 to be received on July 1, 2022. All funds must be obligated by 12/31/2024. Ruthy asked the board for ideas and suggestions on how they would like to see the money utilized. If any members have ideas, please forward them to Sandy Faucheux. This funding does not have WIOA ties to it, therefore there is more flexibility in how we serve those individuals and business economically effected by COVID-19.

VIRTUAL INDUSTRY HIRING EVENTS

Yvette Turner provided an overview of the recent industry virtual recruitments that were held. Positive feedback was received from both employers and job seekers. A data base of resumes was created, and that data base remains available for businesses to utilize for job vacancies. The following statistics were provided:

Construction

- 180 registered job seekers
- 10 attended
- 28 interviews were conducted
- 6 jobseekers hired
- 12 businesses participated

Healthcare Virtual Recruitment

- 113 registered job seekers
- 32 attended
- 52 interviews conducted
- 5 jobseekers hired
- 12 businesses participated

IT/Professional Services

- 133 registered job seekers
- 50 attended
- 52 interviews conducted
- 1 jobseeker hired
- 13 businesses attended

Retail/Hospitality

- 111 registered job seekers
- 23 attended
- 23 interviews conducted
- 2 jobseekers hired within 24 hours
- 11 businesses participated

Overall Totals:

- 537 registered jobseekers
- 123 jobseekers attended
- 224 interviews were conducted
- 16 jobseekers were hired
- 48 businesses attended

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SYEP) UPDATES

Greg provided an update on the upcoming SYEP. The program has received funding from all three counties as well as the Governor's office. The program will begin with boot camps next

week followed by 6 weeks of training/employment commencing on July 6th and concluding on August 13th. The program will consist of;

- Virtual Paid Training-utilizing the *14 Elements* platform used last year, \$1,200 in American Express Gift Cards paid out to the participant, given every 2 weeks at the successful completion of assignments
- Virtual Paid Employment with local organizations with total compensation of up to \$2,468
- On-Site Paid Employment with local organizations with total compensation of up to \$2,468
- Currently have 91 participants enrolled- (83 last year)
 - 46 Charles County
 - 28 Calvert County
 - 17 St. Mary's County

ONE STOP OPERATOR PROCUREMENT (OSO)

Ruthy provided an update on the procurement of the One Stop Operator. Per WIOA law, the OSO must be competitively procured. Currently Sandy Fauchaux/TCCSMD is the OSO, providing convening of SO MD WIOA Partners, partner communication, etc. Mary Ann Lawrence is handling the procurement process along with a committee of Workforce Development Board Members to oversee the procurement. The deadline to submit bids is June 11th and the selection of the OSO will be made prior to June 30th.

Public Comment & Announcements:

There were no public comments or announcements.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Doris Cammack-Spencer, seconded by Marcia Keeth, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 am.