

COASTAL COUNTIES WORKFORCE BOARD

Minutes of Workforce Board Meeting
VIA ZOOM/Video Technology Meeting
April 2, 2020

Board Members in Attendance: Bob Schmidt, Cory King, Dawn Self-Cooper, Denise Griffin, Heather Stott, Scott Christman, Jennifer Rice, Jim Butler, Jim Whitten, Joni Boissonneault, Kelley Scott, Laura Moskwa, Lydia Sy, Michelle Love, Nick Paquet, Paulette Bonneau, Peter Russell, Steve Ryan, Tom Nickerson, Tony Sirois

Board Members Absent: Carrie Murphy, Charles Crosby III, Chris Arbour, Jennifer O’Leary, Laura Lindblom, Mary Ellen Barnes, Samantha Fenderson

Staff in Attendance: Antoinette Mancusi, Executive Director; Jillian Sample, Director of Operations; Amy Wilkinson Executive Assistant

Others in Attendance: Nikki Williams, Linda Winton, Gail Senese, Megan Dictor, Nate Snow, Anita St. Onge, Liz Love, Shelly Pride, Madelyn Litz, Jessica Moninski, Jeremy Kendall, Stephanie Haskins, Jim Nimon, Christine Logan, Dave Wurm, Shelia Muldoon, Brian Anderson, Adrian Cohen, Kim Moore, Autum Main, Laura Fortman, Josh Howe, Ginny Carroll, Diana Roberge.

I. WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS – Denise Griffin, CCWB Chair

- A. Chair Denise Griffin called the meeting to order at 9:04a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
 - Housekeeping regarding using Zoom.
 - Role was called.
- B. Annual Meeting: June 12th with flexibility.
- C. Meeting Sponsorships - A request was made by Denise for corporate donations to fund meeting expenses. Those members whose company would be willing to donate should speak to Jillian and Antionette for details.
- D. Laura Fortman: Unemployment update regarding COVID- 19. 23,800 initial claims filed. Over 6 million dollars paid out last week in unemployment benefits. Apply online using a computer not a mobile device at low internet traffic times.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – *Antoinette Mancusi, CCWI Executive Director*

- A. Chris Quint is not part of the meeting and his presentation will not be part of today's agenda.
- B. Two new hire's will be joining the team by June; Executive Assistant and Program Manager.
- C. One Stop Operator- CCWI has gone through 2 procurements for the position with no response. Confirmed with MDOL to converse with an agency to fit the needs.
- D. Grants Update: City of Portland TIF (\$150k) & Opioid NEG (\$2.7mil)
 - 1. Won City of Portland TIF Grant for \$150k. (Healthcare careers for new immigrants). Working in conjunction with Jenifer O'leary and Workforce Solutions to provide resources for new immigrants in the healthcare field. Workforce Solutions will place a career advisor at Maine Health.
 - 2. Requested a quarter extension with the city of Portland for grant due to COVID-19.
 - 3. Awarded \$2.7mil grant to combat opioid epidemic. Focusing on ex-offenders close to release from incarceration, on probation, or prerelease.
 - 4. USDOL will be generating a grant for dislocated workers due to COVID-19. Awaiting official announcement for our area.
- E. Financial Update: Request for transfer
 - 1. About a month ago CCWI requested permission from MDOL to transfer \$124k from dislocated workers to adult programs. Transfer approved and can be transferred back depending on needs.
 - 2. Shared Summary report through last full quarter ending in December.
- F. David Wurm shared Fiscal Summary Report
 - 1. Adult and dislocated worker pools are tied together and money is transferable between.
 - 2. Currently spending on program year 18 until June.

III. PROGRAM / FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS

- A. **Maine Department of Labor-** *Kim Moore, Director, Bureau of Employment Services*

1. Shifting services to remote. Priorities have shifted due to COVID-19. Live Chat via www.maineccarcenters.gov Chat volume has increased to over 1000 chats a day. Also offline messages.
2. FAQ sheet at www.maine.gov/unemployment
3. Career center employees have been constrained for Unemployment Insurance.
4. Staff is reaching out to companies who have laid off or furloughed 5 or more workers.
5. Maine Job link is marking jobs with urgent need during COVID-19.
6. If claims are blocked continue to file weekly.
7. Maine UI benefits are not yet receiving then enhanced benefits through the stimulus program; but is a work in progress.

B. WIOA Title 1B *Dave Wurm, Senior Director, Workforce Services*

1. Shared quarterly report.
2. Portland one stop and Belfast are closed to the public currently. Services are still available via phone and email.
3. Still available to make enrollments to title 1B. There is slow down in enrollment due to COVID-19.
4. Many trainings have been shifted online or postponed.
5. Youth services have been put on pause.
6. As restrictions ease up a wave of clients is expected. More dislocated workers with different needs.
7. There is slow down in spending will impact April's budget.
8. Silver lining – remote services improved.

C. Maine Adult Education- *Gail Senese, Director*

1. Most facilities located in schools which are closed down.
2. Classes are still happening online, high school diploma, Highset, CNA classes, pre CDL, Phlebotomy.
3. Still excepting new students.

4. Looking to secure more GoodTech laptops.

D. Maine Quality Centers- *Jim Whitten, Dean of Workforce, Southern Maine Community College*

1. Working with MDOL to release as much finding as possible. Governor Mills release an executive order to ease restrictions on spending.
2. 4 online healthcare classes.
3. Working with Maine health and Nordex to move online vs face to face training.

IV. TechHire Update

1. Serving all participants virtually.
2. Enrollment has slowed due to COVID-19
3. Revamped for no cost extension 2021.
4. Each location has a dedicated TechHire position navigator. Standardized program.
5. Looking at targeted recruitment for post-secondary education.
6. Face to face training held virtually. Two participants have transitioned successfully.
7. Reached out to USDOL for an extension due to COVID-19

V. Opioid National Emergency Grant

1. Grant released by USDOL to support the transition of dislocated workers and reintegration of individuals impacted by the opioid crisis. CCWI was awarded \$2,687,896 with \$875,941.00 initially released. This is a two year grant march 19 to December 2021.

2. Grant objectives are to invest in career services, training, and support services for those seeking reemployment impacted by the opioid crisis. Individuals don't have to be personally impacted by opioids it could be a family member or community affected.

3. The grant also helps build skills like addiction treatment, mental health, and pain management services.

4. Workforce solutions is the service provider for this grant will be hiring 8 for the 2 year period.

5. Partnered with Cumberland County Jail and anticipating having a team at the jail. Purposed to serve 60 individuals.

6. Partnered with Region 1 Adult community Corrections to serve 120 individuals. referend through Maine Pretrials.

7. Service delivery would consist of 6 teams with a career advisor, life navigator. Mobile team at both workforce solutions centers and a mobile team for York county.

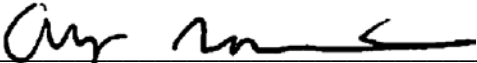
8. Requested extension on grant due to getting the grant 2 quarters late along with Covid-19.

Open for questions/comments

Paycheck protection stimulus money. 8 weeks of payroll protection dating back to Feb 15, 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VK1Ta5EnCc0&t=7s>

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted:



Amy Wilkinson
CCWI Executive Assistant

APPROVED: 6/12/2020