

MICHIGAN WORKS! WEST CENTRAL
WDB/LEO JOINT MEETING
BIG RAPIDS WORKFORCE SERVICE CENTER
BIG RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2010

MINUTES

LEO Members Present

Emig, Larry
Howard, Linda
Myers, Robert
Warba, Mark

LEO Members Absent

Nichols, Mary
Scholtens, Sam
Scott, Brent
Trapp, Chuck

WDB Members Present

Aultman, Robb
Boitnott, Larry
Bonga, Roger
Crandall, Sandy
Fettig, Grant
Frost, Jim
Griffin, Nancy
Jensen, Jim
Lloyd, Larry
Massy, Dan
Stanek, Bill
Thompson, Sheri

WDB Members Absent

Arnoldi, John
Ferguson, Tim
Goward, Scott
Nash, Roger
Smith-Olson, Debbie
Stuck, Brian
Trucks, Mary

Michigan Works! West Central Staff

Griffith, Paul Reed, Brigette Shoemaker, Connie Wyman, Michael

Others Present

Barker, Bob – Mason Co Growth Alliance	Crum, Moreen – FBR	Mikaelsen, Jesse – Vet Rep
Blamer, Lori – Goodwill	Frendo, Joe – NCRESA	Mikols, Deanne – Eagle Village
Bozeman, Jerri – Hope Network	Gaietto, Cyndi – Goodwill	Wood, Janet – Hope Network
Charles, Felisha – FBR	Hall, Marie – Eagle Village	Wyers, Kirk – NCRESA

Call to Order

LEO Chairperson, Larry Emig brought the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. at the Big Rapids Michigan Works! Workforce Service Center. A quorum is present of the WDB but not of the LEO, this is the third time – a Special Meeting of the LEO will be held to get the Action Items caught up.

Paul invited the Board members for a tour of the Center after the meeting.

Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Consent Agenda (Action Item)

Ø Minutes of June 2, 2010 WDB/LEO Joint Meeting – Mailed Prior

⊗ April 7 & June 2, 2010 Joint Meeting Action Items – LEO Only – Mailed Prior/Handout
(Lavender)

Due to the lack of a quorum of the LEO this Agenda Item will be held for a Special LEO meeting.

Ø June Financial Report – Mailed Prior/Handout (Goldenrod)

Roger Bonga moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; supported by Larry Boitnott; motion approved unanimously by the WDB and those present of the LEO.

12:47 p.m.

June Program Reports – Handouts

2 Enrollment/Expenditures Reports

Paul explained that some of the pages indicate “Preliminary Final”; the Workforce Investment Act Programs go through June 30, even though the books have not been closed yet, these are a good indication of the numbers.

West Central had a significant increase in the budget last year and is reduced significantly for the coming year. We will be giving back \$1,643 of Incumbent Worker money.

For Jobs, Education and Training (JET) shows that “% Enrolled into Unsubsidized Employment” we averaged 27% the same as the State.

Goodwill is at a small negative number which is good because we still have three months to go.

Plans/Modifications *Summary Blue (Action Item)*

1. WIA Budgets (Plan 10-00 and Modification 10-01)

Initial allocations have been received for the regular WIA Programs. These are \$844,760 for the Youth Program; \$672,656 for Adult and \$612,178 for the Dislocated Worker Program. This amount is inadequate to meet the training costs of people already in training, many of whom started under the increased funding obtained for last year, and the allocations to Michigan are down for each of the programs. DELEG is well aware of this issue and encouraged MWAs to submit additional State Adjustment Grant (SAG) applications. West Central submitted an application, for existing participants, projected OJT and people on the waiting list before MWAs stopped putting people on a waiting list. The request for all was over \$2 million. West Central has been notified that we will receive \$469,068 to sustain the current enrollment at this time. At this point the type of funding has not been determined, so signature sheets have been prepared for a modification of these budgets and the ARRA budgets, so this funding can be accepted as soon as it becomes available.

Modification 10-01 will accept any additional funding from the \$469,068 that is regular WIA allocation funding.

2. ARRA (Plan 10-00)

This Plan will accept any additional funding from the \$469,068 and will extend the Plan to cover ARRA funding remaining for PY 2010.

3. Incumbent Worker Plan (Plan 10-00)

West Central received an allocation of \$41,546 for the traditional Incumbent Worker Program. This plan has been submitted, and includes the ability to provide OJT and Customized Training along with the traditional tuition based training for business and industry. This Program continues to require the enrollment of Incumbent Workers into the state MIS, and eligibility data to document eligibility.

4. Capacity Building (Plan 10-00)

All MWAs received \$24,000 for Capacity Building. This funding supports training provided by the Michigan Works! Association.

5. Service Center Operations (ARRA) (Plan 10-00)

West Central received \$35,632 which is used to support Service Center Operations for maintenance of equipment and internet connectivity.

6. Service Center Operations (Statewide Activities) (Plan 10-00)

This funding is used to support Service Center Operations. For West Central, the allocation is \$14,368, which is used to help pay for the maintenance and provision of internet connectivity.

7. High Concentration of WIA Eligible Youth (Plan 10-00)

This Plan allocates \$4,501 to assist eligible youth with additional services. The funding will be used for high school completion, including GED and Classroom Training, as well as, other activities.

8. Employment Service (Plan 10-00)

The Plan is for \$237,596 including estimated carry in. Employment Service funding is contracted to NCRESA and is used to provide staff for assisting the public with job search, using the Talent Bank and a variety of customer service activities.

9. JET and Food Assistance Employment & Training plans will likely be due prior to the next meeting. These plans will be drafted when instructions are received.

Bill Stanek moved to accept the WIA Budgets 10-00, the ARRA Plan 10-00, the Incumbent Worker 10-00, Capacity Building 10-00, Service Center Operation ARRA, Service Center Operations Statewide, High Concentration Youth 10-00 and Employment Service 10-00 as presented by Michael Wyman; supported by Jim Frost; motion accepted unanimously by the WDB and those present of the LEO. 1:00 p.m.

MPRI Service Provider Awards – Handouts (Action Item)

8 Review Committee Report/Recommendations

Larry Emig explained that the Committee, made up of the LEO, WDB and Co-Chairs for the MPRI, met to interview the four bidders who submitted proposals to provide services for the MPRI Program.

The recommendation of the Committee is that the Contract be awarded to Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids for Employment Readiness and Social Support Services for all nine (9) counties for one (1) year beginning October 1, 2010 with two (2) one (1) year renewable options.

Jim Frost moved to accept the recommendation of the MPRI Review Committee and award the contract to Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids for Employment Readiness and Social Support Services for all nine (9) counties for one (1) year beginning October 1, 2010 with two (2) one (1) year renewable options; supported by Robert Myers; motion accepted unanimously by the WDB and those present of the LEO. 1:04 p.m.

The recommendation of the Committee is that staff be authorized to negotiate a Contract with Muskegon Community Health Project for Health Screening and payment Services for all nine (9) counties for one (1) year beginning October 1, 2010 with two (2) one (1) year renewable options.

James Jensen moved to accept the recommendation of the MPRI Review Committee to authorize Michigan Works! West Central staff to negotiate a contract with Muskegon Community Health Project for Health Screening and Payment Services for all nine (9) counties for one (1) year beginning October 1, 2010 with two (2) one (1) year renewable options; supported by Grant Fettig; motion accepted unanimously by the WDB and those present of the LEO. 1:05 p.m.

8 July 20th Celebration Event

Paul explained that the Director of the Department of Corrections was invited to speak at a Celebration of the successes for those who have gone above and beyond on the MPRI program. The sense of accomplishment was very evident to those who were there.

8 State Regional Map

There are 25 Michigan Works! Agencies but only 18 MRPI Regions.

8 USA Today Front Page Article

The Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative (MPRI) has decreased the rate of parolees going back to prison from 55% to 38%.

8 Steering Team Report

Central Area MPRI has served 394 people to date and by the end of September that number should easily reach 500. Those released are based on the Parole Board's decisions. Not everyone who is paroled is an MPRI participant.

Funding Status Update

8 State Action Grant (SAG)

This is the \$469,068 referenced by Mike in the Plans and Modifications and we will be putting in for about \$150,000 for On-the-Job Training (OJT).

Note: Kirk Wyers left at 1:20 p.m.

8 National Emergency Grant (NEG) OJT ONLY

West Central should receive between \$150,000 and \$200,000 from this funding source but not until October 1.

West Central, due to funding, has not enrolled anyone into Classroom Training or OJT except for the three companies Mike mentioned since March 2010.

Nancy Griffin said that MRS would accept referrals from West Central because they could be sending money back; the only requirement is that there is some type of disability. Paul asked that she meet with Felisha Charles and Jerri Bozeman.

New Big Rapids Service Center Open House

Paul asked the opinion of the Board members in having an Open House considering two of our major programs are currently not enrolling new participants. It was the consensus of both Boards to go ahead with plans for an Open House before winter.

2-1-1 Update – Handout

Paul explained that Mason County has been on 2-1-1 for a year now along with Oceana. 2-1-1 is like a 9-1-1 for human services or anything that is non emergency. The first 2-1-1 in the country was established in 2000. Since then 85% of Michigan's and 85% of the country's population are now covered. Companies can use this as a resource for employees. A toll free number has to be established first before becoming a true 2-1-1 service; this is a very rigorous process including gaining the approval of the Michigan Public Service Commission. In the last couple months Lake, Mecosta, Newaygo and Osceola now have a toll free number (877 211.5253) and starting to receive calls. Linda Myers is a part time Resource Specialist for Mecosta/Osceola and Lake/Newaygo and Mason/Oceana also each have a part time Resource Specialist.

Note: Nancy Griffin left at 1:41 p.m.

2009/2910 Walk-In Visits – Handout

Walk-in visits for the five counties for Program Year 2010 (July 1 to June 30) were over 74,500; this is an increase of 7,000 from last year.

Hersey’s Mosaic Park – Handout

Robb Aultman and his wife were the Grand Marshall of the Hersey Heritage parade to celebrate the Mosaic Park.

Note: Linda Howard left at 1:45 p.m.

Email from Mason County Employer’s Council – Handout

Paul explained that this email was unsolicited and shows the impact of the Incumbent Worker dollars for the Lean Manufacturing training that is occurring in Mason County. This is an excellent example of collaboration among several Ludington area manufacturers.

Newspaper Articles – Handouts

MiBiz, July 5, 2010 – “Does education drive talent”?

The 2000 Census indicated that the West Central region was below the state average in all six levels of “Education Attainment.” However, the encouraging news is at the state level from 2007 to 2008 those with a “High School diploma only,” decreased by 90,125 and those with an Associate’s Degree or some college rose by 120,072.

Gonwer News, July 21, 2010 – “Advanced Manufacturing Shows Growth in State, URC Says”

Michigan Advantage eNewsletter, July 13, 2010 – “Michigan Awarded Silver Shovel for ‘Refreshingly Diversified’ Economic Development Efforts”

Grand Rapids Press, July 12, 2010 – “China’s cost advantage appears to be shrinking”

New Eagle Village Program – Handout

Eagle Village has introduced a new program “Changing Lanes... to Change Lives”

This is a Youth Intervention Program.

Mailing Packet Items

Educational Advisory Group (EAG) list

Resignation of WDB Member Jeff Jahr

Regrettably the resignation of Jeff Jahr, Fremont Area Community Foundation has been received due to health issues.

Next Meeting, October 6, 2010 – the Fremont Workforce Service Center

The next meeting will be October 6; Paul is hoping to make arrangements to have our meeting at The Stream in Newaygo instead of the Fremont Service Center.

Unemployment Chart

Lake County stayed the same and Mason County went down – the other three counties, as well as the National and State went up.

Round-the-Table

» Frost, Ludington Daily News – Ludington has had a rather emotional week with the plane that went down in Lake Michigan; the Daily News was there covering a story and ended up covering the crash for three hours; all were eventually recovered – only one survived.

- » Fetting, Fetting Farms – in the rural areas the crops are looking good – neighboring farms are reporting the likelihood of a very good yield of soy beans this year. Encouraged the Board members and their families to attend the fairs taking place around the area.
- » Massy, Osceola Economic Development – there is a site plan for a Family, Farm and Home store in Reed City and a new company manufacturing pallets is also locating in Reed City.
- » Bonga, Magna Mirrors – for the last year and a half business has been fairly good – temp hiring has increased, since January 40 have been moved to full time. Business is strong and the second half of the year is looking good too. Currently have 700 employed at the Newaygo facility.
- » Lloyd, Mason, Lake, Oceana ISD – the early retirement program offered to school employees by the state resulted in 17,000 taking the offer which is about 5,000 more than normal. Remain cautious about the budget and “lame duck” actions.
- » Jensen, West Shore Community College – Mary Nichols survived the election and will run unopposed in November.
- » Warba, Mayor City of Big Rapids – the city and university construction is winding down; the paving of Michigan Avenue should be completed Saturday and the Optometry building at Ferris is in its final phase; there will be an open house at the new student housing complex. The startup of the USDA Community Hanger at the Airport should begin soon. This will house Aero-med with crew quarters. The City Commission was approached by a local restaurant to expand their operation with a mini brewery; and Big Rapids may be visited by Senator Levin and Congressman Camp to recognize Wolverine World Wide for the jobs they’ve brought to the community.
- » Stanek, Heart Woods and Living Water Christian Resource – looking forward to Michigan Avenue being paved and Living Water now does personalized laser engraving.
- » Thompson, Thompson Milk Hauling – county fairs are going on now and encouraged Board members to check out the livestock auctions; it’s very interesting and fun.

- » Crandall, Northern Escape Lodge & Cabins – tourism is up in Lake County; and there has been name dropping of some famous people visiting our county, it's said that Denzel Washington is one of them.
- » Myers, Lake County Commissioner – survived the election and will begin to set the budgets for next year; the Commissioners have done a great job handling the money.
- » Boitnott, Mason/Oceana Department of Human Services – still waiting for an approved budget and there is still no word on the retirement bill for state workers and looking forward to the Michigan Works! Association Conference coming up in September.
- » Emig, Osceola County Commissioner – Osceola County is working on budgets as well. He has been President of the Michigan Association of Counties for the past year and will step down at the end of summer; he will still serve on the Board as Past President.

Other Business

Reserved for the Public

Adjournment

Meeting stands adjourned at 2:11 p.m.