

**Western Maryland Consortium  
Workforce Development Board  
06-21-2022**

Members

Amos McCoy  
Deb Gilbert  
Jessika Miller  
Kim Durst  
Mike Genvro  
Brian Grim  
Stacy Watts  
Dawn Schoenenberger  
Ken Ward  
Duane Yoder  
Julie Yoder  
Sharon Shaffer  
Parika Anderson

Guests

Linda Spence  
Ken Lemberg  
James Marchinke  
Angela Moon

**Greetings and Introductions** – The virtual meeting was called to order by Board Chair Amos McCoy, who had all present introduce themselves. Stacy Watts stood in for Sharon Plumb.

**Approval of March 9, 2022, Minutes** – The minutes of March 9, 2022, were reviewed, and a motion to approve by Kim Durst and seconded by Ken Ward.

**Letter of Support** – Discussion of a Letter of Support for Horizon Goodwill Homeless EDA Grant. Working with ABC & Barr on a project to start a boot camp for four weeks, five days a week, 8 hours a day. Support a Full-time Instructor to outreach, visit High Schools, and start construction clubs.

**Truist Business Visa** - Board Approval is needed to authorize Debora K. Gilbert (Workforce Executive Director) to sign the loan paperwork up to \$10,000 on behalf of Western Maryland Consortium. Motion Approved by Jessika Miller and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kim Durst.

**Quarterly Statistics & Performance** – Western Maryland Performance exceeded 17 out of 18 performance all the Performance Measures except for youth Credential Attainment, which is at 28.1% of the 62% needed. Maryland is still having issues with Youth Training Completion.

**Funding Status** - WIOA Title I Funding increased by \$179,075.00

WIOA Title I PY22/23 Allocations:

Adult 581,745      Youth 598,559      Dislocated 706,474  
Total Combined \$1,886,778

MD Youth Connection (Summer Work Experience) for 14/15-year-olds. – \$76,075

**American Rescue Plan Act:** Additional \$2,064,799 – Changes on the second allotment, Funding must be drawn down as needed; 1<sup>st</sup> allotment was received all at once and monitored by the state.

Working with the Public Schools and Employers on the Apprenticeship program. Using ARAPA funds to pay the employer 75% of the youth wages for 450 hours.

Contracted with Hagerstown Com. College, Meritis Hospital on Acute Care Clinical/Internship for CNA's

Leadercast – Contract with HCC for all three Counties' businesses and staff to participate in working on Better Focus, Better Leadership, and Better You! This is to help companies to help be better leaders, human performances, and communicators.

**Summer Work Experience** -Approximately 150 youth total in Western Maryland. One of the smallest numbers of youth for the summer work experiences:

DORS 36 youth      DSS 12 youth      ARPA 54 Youth      WIOA 13 youth  
MD Conn. 22 youth

WMC partnered with the Colleges in each county for a three-day workshop on Job Readiness, Career exploration, and Financial Literacy.

**Member Updates:**

Businesses

- Parker Plastics –Thinking outside the box, using part-time, scheduling work hours flexibly, and working with Lasting Change, Reach, Goodwill, and Wells House, giving people a second chance to get back into the workforce.
- Garrett Containers - trying to find employees and retain them. Reaching out to the Colleges (Frostburg), go to the high schools to schedule field trips with shop teachers, showing the skills of robotics.
- Merkle and Washington County Public Schools are working together on apprenticeships.
- ABC/Bar Construction Institute - Entering into a partnership with Hagerstown Community College on a new building; applied for the grant and is in the final stages. The building will be renovated to become a trade center. Looking at the technology, Augment Reality, and Virtual Reality for hands-on things.

American Job Centers, Veterans & Regional Business Representative – The business rep stated she sees wage wars, bonus sign-on, and businesses joining job fairs outside

their counties. More and more businesses are overlooking some background issues. Can hold individual recruitment in the AJCs, free of charge. September 30, Expungement Fair.

Washington County Business Development Workforce. Washington County is looking at restructuring the ARPA funds for business development. They are looking at workforce housing, transportation, and childcare.

Adult Education & Literacy – Continues to grow – Working with a manufacturer in placing an instructor for 20 to 25 English language learners' on-site program 20 to 25 English language learners, primarily Spanish speaking.

Garrett College – The workforce staff visits the high schools on workforce programs. Grants to help with support in the development in the Career Center. We are working on a culinary program, looking for additional funds, and retooling the Diesel program to modules.

DORS – Region is looking to fill several positions throughout the region. On July 1, Hagerstown & Cumberland District will be one district, Hagerstown West.

Garrett County Business Development – Working with a consultant on New Economic Strategic Plan. The two important things being talked about are Workforce housing and Workforce Development.

Garrett County Commissioners decided to do the 3rd phase of their scholarship program, which was expanded to non-traditional age residents on several workforce training. They work with the schools, commissioners, and the college for apprenticeships. A New Business Development Specialist was hired.

Garrett County CAC continues to struggle to fill positions in childcare, Commercial Drivers, and in-home personal care hard to fill. Wage seems to be the issue.

Ken Lemberg GWB – Tracking and Career and Technical CTE and how to tie in with local Boards. The Maryland Blueprint requires 45% of seniors who graduate by 2030 to have either an apprenticeship, credential, or industry-recognized Credentials.

Next meeting scheduled for 9/7/2022

Motion to Adjourn – Mike Genervro – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julie Yoder.