

**Western Maryland Consortium
Workforce Development Board
12/08/2021 - Meeting**

Members

Amos McCoy
Kim Durst
Charles Hunt
Sharon Plump
Jennifer Hickey
Ken ward
Parika Anderson
Duane Yoder
Ed Crowe
Jessica Miller
Mike Genvro
Juli McCoy
Dawn Schoenenberger

Guests

Gary Bockrath
James Marchinke
Kim Connaughton
Angella Moon
Melanie Chapman

Amos McCoy chaired the meeting and had all present introduce themselves to benefit the two new Board members, Jessica Miller and Mike Genvro. He next proceeds to the agenda: Minutes were approved on a motion by Dawn Schoenenberger and seconded by Kim Durst.

Employment and Training Administration staff conducted COVID-19 Recovery and Reemployment Readiness with the Director at six workforce development areas. Western Maryland was one of the five. All areas were ready in 24 of the 24 areas assessed.

Gary Bockrath –(Governor’s Workforce Board) went over the role of the LWDB and their responsibilities to develop a strategy to improve and strengthen the workforce development system continuously and the needs of the community and build plans. Discussion on funding streams and working with commissioners on marketing. Gary went over some of the details in the Kirwan Blueprint for Education

Western Maryland Consortium held its first Re-employment Grants Initiative. As of December 3, 2021, over \$350,626 in total was awarded to the businesses. Mike Genvro spoke about how this grant has helped him and the job fair he held.

Deb Gilbert updated the board on the Maryland Relief funding, mainly used for youth, work experiences, apprenticeships, and training. The Consortium is currently working with 6 Businesses on nine (9) youth in Washington County Schools who are in the apprenticeship program. The Consortium is reaching out to Garrett and Allegany to get involved in their apprenticeships programs at the schools.

Deb Gilbert discussed the performance for PY2021 QTR1. Western Maryland has 15 performance measures. Western Maryland Exceeded eleven (11) met two (2) that are 90% of standard, and two (2), which are below the 90% standard. WMC exceeded the Employment Rate QTR2 and Employment Rate QTR4 in Adults and Dislocated Workers. In Median Earnings Adults, was exceeded and Dislocated workers met the standard, youth performance measure for Median Earnings were below the 90% standard. The Youth Education and Employment rate the standard

was met (90% standard). The Adults and Dislocated Worker Credential rate we exceeded. At the youth credential rate, we failed the 90% standard. The Measurable Skills Gain Measure we exceeded in all three, Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth.

Western Maryland is ready to start the new referral process using Path2help Training will be scheduled for front-line staff.

One-Stop Operator RFP is to be released with modifications to expectations for the position. If no one replies to the RFP, we can operate minimally, or Western Maryland Consortium can operate in the interim to maintain operation.

Western Maryland's Local Workforce Development - final corrections were completed and sent to the state. The plan is posted on WMC's website and will be sent out to all partners when finalized.

Angela Moon from MD Labor updated the board on business apprenticeships and tax credits.

Motion to adjourn made by Charles Hunt and Kim Durst