



Missouri Workforce Development Board

January 26, 2023

9:00 am-12:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Teleconference

Members present: Chair Len Toenjes, Vice Chair Cara Canon, Garland Barton, Dr. Don Cook, Celeste Cramer, Stephanie Garrett, Gregg Roberts, Todd Spencer, Virgil White, LeRoy Stromberg, Kristie Davis, Matt Hankins (DOLIR proxy for Director Anna Hui), Elizabeth Perkins (VR proxy for Assistant Commissioner Chris Clause) Interim Commissioner Leroy Wade, Commissioner Gary Jungermann, Tony Bryan, Jill Williams

Members absent: Herbert Dankert, Joshua Tennison, Commissioner Dan Atwill, Rep. Jeff Coleman, Commissioner Margie Vandeven, Astra Ferris, John Thomas, Greta Bax, Senator Denny Hoskins

OWD/DHEWD Staff Present: Interim OWD Director Julie Carter, Yvonne Wright, SWDB Secretary, Rebecca Fletcher, Mark Bauer, Ronda Anderson, Gerren McHam, Sara Harrison, Assistant Commissioner Veronica Gielazauskas, Ashlyn Sherman

Other Representatives Present and/or Presenters: Sherri Rheums (SW WDB), Jenny Warren (St. Charles WDB), Donna Parrott (SC WDB), Kevin Stadler (Central WDB), Lori Myers (St. Charles WDB), Mary Brown (Jeff/Frank WDB), Brent Stevens (NW WDB), Jessica Farmer, Jim Kolve (NE WDB), Megan Wadley (DESE-AEL), Allen Andrews (DOLIR), Diane Simbro, Justin Logan (DSS), Missy Eidson (WC WDB), Cassandra Williams (SLATE)

Call to Order and Welcome: Chairman Toenjes called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and extended a welcome to everyone.

Roll Call: Ms. Wright called roll. Quorum was established.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the November 9, 2022 teleconference were presented for review. Garland Barton made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Cara seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business: At the June 2022 SWDB meeting, the Northwest and Northeast Workforce Development regions announced their intent to merge into one region. At that meeting, the SWDB voted to approve the Northwest region merger with Northeast region, the Northeast region merger with Northwest region, and to publicize the information for a 30 comment period. That comment period ran from July 15-August 15, 2022. No public comments were received.

Garland Barton made a motion for the SWDB to approve the merger and submit a letter to Governor Parson for final approval. Celeste seconded the motion. The motion passed; Gregg Roberts abstained from the vote.

Chair's Topic Discussion: Chair Toenjes led a roundtable discussion with the Board members on the legalization of recreational marijuana in Missouri and its potential impact on businesses.

State Director Update: Interim Director Julie Carter provided an update on the following items: Staffing changes and her appointment as Interim Director, the status of the Childcare Development Associate Apprenticeship program which is a collaboration between the Office of Workforce Development and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and update on the closure of the Sikeston job center, and overall funding trends for WIOA and Wagner Peyser programs.

Move to adjourn: Tony Bryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Virgil White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

The March SWDB meeting has been cancelled. The Board will meet again during the summer (dates to be announced) for an in-person meeting and Board retreat.