



**UPWARD Talent Council
County Commissioners' Executive Board Meeting/
Workforce Development Board Meeting &
Strategic Planning Session
September 6, 2018**

MINUTES

I. Call To Order

LEO Board Chair Gerald Corkin calls the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. Eastern.

II. Roll Call

Present (LEO):

Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Gerry Corkin, Marquette County; Larry Mersnick, Schoolcraft County; John Waltman, Luce County; Don McLean, Chippewa County; Joe Stevens, Dickinson County; and Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County

Absent:

Tim Aho, Iron County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; and Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County

Present (WDB):

Samantha Cameron, Bay Mills Community College; David Goodreau, Northern Wings Repair, Inc; Jeff Holt, SSM Economic Development Corporation; George Kinsella, EcoMarine; Michelle LaJoie, Community Action Alger/Marquette; Dave Lord, OSF St. Francis Hospital; Mark Massicotte, L'Anse Manufacturing; Jonathan Mead, UPCAP; Tony Retaskie, UP Construction Council; Julie Wonders, Iron Mountain-Kingsford Community Schools; and Bridget Kennedy, Systems Control

Absent (WDB):

Dave Anthony, Northern Sun Winery; Travis Cary, I.U.P.A.T. District Council 7; Roy Del Valle, MDHHS – Michigan Rehabilitation Services; Joe Esbrook, Hiawatha Log Homes; John Hamm, UPRLF; Suzanne Pazdernik, Jacquart Fabric Products; and Chad Rowe, Aspirus Health Services

Michigan Works! Staff:

William Raymond, CEO; Cherilynn Lampinen, COO; Michelle Viau, CFO; Debb Brunell, Director of Workforce Services; Joe Zerbst, Director of Administration; and Tracy Roberts, Office Manager

III. Public Comment

There is no public comment.

IV. Approval of Agenda



Motion to approve LEO agenda is made by Commissioner Mersnick; seconded by Commissioner Stevens; the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve WDB agenda is made by Tony Retaskie; seconded by George Kinsella; the motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from July 5 2018 LEO Executive meeting is made by Commissioner Bonovetz; seconded by Commissioner Doucette; the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes from May 17 2018 WDB meeting is made by Jonathan Mead; seconded by Michelle LaJoie; the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Financial Report

Commissioners Mersnick and Corkin reviewed the line item budget and vouchers and everything was in order; there were no questions. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Mersnick and supported by Commissioner Doucette; motion passed unanimously.

WDB chair Mark Massicotte asked if there were any carry-over funds and Bill Raymond indicated none at this time.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

A. Strategic Planning Session with Woodside Strategies

Elaine Wood, with Woodside Strategies, LLC facilitated the Strategic Planning session. She explained to the members about the purpose, foundations and process for the planning session, and what work has been done by UPward staff and consultant so far. She shared that although many people think strategy is all about the future, it is also about the present, and strategic planning changes over time.

The group reviewed the current Vision Statement and proposed new Vision Statement. Tony Retaskie from the WDB asked and highlighted where we would want to have a focus on the employees, the jobseekers, as well as the employers. The new Vision and Mission statements address both the employee/jobseeker and the employer. Elaine Wood encouraged the organization to adopt some value statements, which tell others “how we are” and “what we want to be”. Being Proactive and Adaptive are words that work well for our values and the group indicated they agree that this shows flexibility as well.

Elaine then presented discussion around the long term outcomes desired and encouraged all to take an active part and work together on the outcomes, since both boards have been given governing power through the programs that are managed.



After the discussion around desired outcomes, the group set to work on reviewing and providing feedback on the goals and tactics that UPward staff had previously worked on. A lot of the tactics needed to reach the desired outcomes will take effort and partnerships with other organizations, as we can't do it all. Bill Raymond stated that collectively, there are organizations across the U.P. that we can partner with, and we are well-positioned to do so. Commissioner Tikkanen (Houghton) suggested that we maybe should have a school liason to go out to the colleges. CEO Raymond indicated that we do have training specialists that cover that and we do engage with the educational institutions.

The last part of the strategy planning session was around accountability, and Elaine solicited direction and feedback from the members to understand how they want to see reports about the strategic plan. Some suggestions from the group were to provide either a semi-annual or quarterly update on the goals. Many members thought that a monthly report from CEO Bill Raymond would also be beneficial, as it would give board members time to step in and help with any barriers that may come up. Elaine suggested that taking the approach of picking a goal area each quarter to deep-dive in to.

B. Action Items for Workforce Development Board - Motions

1. Regional & Local Plan motion: Moved by: Dave Lord, supported by Tony Retaskie. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Systems Plan motion: Moved by: Michelle LaJoie, supported by Dave Lord. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Reemployment Services (RESEA) motion: Moved by: Tony Retaskie, supported by Jeff Holt. Motion passed unanimously.
4. MI Works! Service Center Operations motion: Moved by: Tony Retaskie, supported by Jeff Holt. Motion passed unanimously.
5. WIOA Allocation motion: Moved by: George Kinsella, supported by Michelle LaJoie. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Capacity Building & Professional Development motion: Moved by: Tony Retaskie, supported by George Kinsella. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Community Ventures/Business Resource Network motion: Moved by: Julie Wonders, supported by Jonathan Mead. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Wagner-Peyser Employment Services motion: Moved by: Jeff Holt, supported by George Kinsella. Motion passed unanimously

IX. Reports:

A. Chair (LEO)

Commissioner Corkin states that Bill Raymond has been working hard and he appreciates his efforts to bring the boards together for strategic planning

B. Chair (WDB)

No Workforce chair report

C. CEO



Prison Closing in Marenesco: CEO Raymond updated the board on the closing and efforts to support and provide quick and easy access for those affected by the closure. LEO Chair Gerry Corkin remarks that this should be expedited and Bill commented that it is the goal. WDB Chair Mark Massicotte asks for a notification out to the board members to update as progress is reached.

Commissioner McLean commented on the Legislation Coalition meeting and mentioned that when he went to MEDC website and found a 4 year history of grants – only 2 were in the U.P. He was looking at where they were located, and how much money was for jobs. The amounts ranged from \$3K up to \$17/18K per job. He does not understand how the U.P. only got 2 grants. His concern is that businesses that are trying to develop in the U.P., may not be aware of this. Commissioner Corkin encourages all members on both boards to push these people, to press for them to do research on the impacts not only to the employees, but to the entire communities.

X. Communications

A. Region 1 July 2018 Labor Snapshot

B. July 2018 Fast Facts

C. Civilian Labor Force Estimates July 2018

Motion to accept Communications made by Commissioner Doucette; seconded by Commissioner Mersnick. Motion passed.

XI. Public Comment

None

XII. Adjournment

With no other comments, meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40pm.