



**UPWARD Talent Council
County Commissioners
Jan 17, 2019**

MINUTES

I. Call To Order

Board Chair Gerald Corkin calls the meeting to order at 2:02 P.M. Eastern.

II. Roll Call

Present:

Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Gail Eilola, Baraga County; Don McClean, Chippewa County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Henry Wender (for Joe Stevens), Dickinson County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County; Tim Aho, Iron County; Paul Krause, Mackinac County; Gerry Corkin, Marquette County; and Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County.

Excused:

Bob DeMarois, Keweenaw County; Bernie Lang, Menominee County; and Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County.

Michigan Works! Staff:

William Raymond, CEO; Michelle Viau, CFO; and Nickie Lauerma, Office support.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by CEO Raymond to add Audit report to the agenda. Motion to approve addition to agenda was made by Commissioner Nykanen and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen; motion was approved unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and was seconded by Commissioner McLean.

VI. Financial Report - start here

A. Grant Status and Overview. CEO Raymond indicated that right now, everything is on target to expend grant funds.



B. Line Item Budget Report

C. Voucher Review Report. Motion was made to approve vouchers by Commissioner Doucette and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. Vouchers we approved in amount of \$633, 312.93.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

A. Action Items – Recommended Motions

i. FY 2019 Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program Plan Narrative Instructions

Motion to approve is made by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

ii. WIOA Statewide Activities Allocations to Support Integrated Education and Training (IET) Programs

Bill Raymond gives overview of where funds are allocated. Motion to approve is made by Commissioner Doucette and supported by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

B. 2018 Audit Report

2018 Audit Report – Presentation by Anderson Tackman

There may be a change in travel policy regarding the requirement to obtain prior approval. Commissioner Bonovetz suggests that the policy be modified. Commissioner McLean agrees, and stated weather also becomes a factor when requiring prior approval. CEO Bill Raymond to work with CFO Michelle Viau to make the changes for the next meeting. Raymond indicated that there is nothing to be concerned about at this time, and that UPward is making sure necessary documentation is there. He agrees to send the report with the packet for next time. Motion to Accept audit report as presented by Anderson Tackman was made by Commissioner McLean and was supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. Motion passed.

C. New position – Chief Public Relations & Legislative Officer

This position is designed to work with legislators, making connections, external relations (building partnerships), and spearheading a more robust fundraising (to assist with making us less dependent on federal/state funding). This person would work very closely with CEO Raymond. It was not included in current budget but there is funding available to support this position. There are two candidates, Mark Pontti and Scott Dianda. Both bring strong skills. They are both well like and respected. Commissioner Bonovetz feels this is a necessary development due to the limited physical capacity of the CEO. This position would assist with keeping those relationships strong. LEO Board Chair Corkin agrees, especially with such a strong UP presence/connections in the



current State legislature. Commissioner McLean agrees and comments that there are a lot of things going on across the UP and to try to pull it all together is a large project. Next step would be to interview and fill the position. Compensation would be \$85,000 plus benefits. Motion to approve new position was made by Commissioner McLean and was supported by Commissioner Tikkanen. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolution – Recording Pre-Paid Expenses

An example of a pre-paid expense would be multiple user software licensing. The Pre-paid expenses will now be reflected under the Purchases section. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner Tikkanen. Motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Reports

- A. Chairman.** Board Chair Commissioner Gerry Corkin states that he is pleased with CEO written reports. The reports help to keep board informed on what is going on. Commissioner Corkin ask is there are any areas of the UP that have fires to deal with? Commissioner Bonovetz informs the board members that the Gogebic county pension issues continues. It “could” be a lawsuit. They have tried on their own to resolve this issue but have not reached a resolution. A meeting is being setup with those 6 counties. The entire board supports the effort. CEO Bill Raymond informs that the current board is under a PA7. This splits the liability between all 15 counties.
- B. CEO.** CEO Raymond discusses his written CEO report.
- C. Marshall Plan Update.** There was no funding awarded to the UP during Round 1. Groups are currently working to correct any deficiencies in the applications for Round 2 considerations.

IX. Communications

Motion to approve Communications was made by Commissioner Johnson and then supported by Commissioner Nykanen. Motion approved unanimously.

X. Public Comment. None

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Corkin adjourned meeting at 3:21 P.M. Eastern.