



UPWARD Talent Council
County Commissioners' Executive Board Meeting
March 1, 2018

MINUTES

I. Call To Order

Board Chair Gerald Corkin calls the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. Eastern.

II. Roll Call

Present:

Esley Mattson, Alger County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Tim Aho, Iron County; John Waltman, Luce County; Gerry Corkin, Marquette County; Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County; and Larry Mersnick, Schoolcraft County.

Michigan Works! Staff:

William Raymond, CEO; Michelle Viau, Director of Finance; and Deb Doyle, Director of Policy and Compliance

III. Public Comment

There is no public comment.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda is made by made by Commissioner Nykanen; seconded by Commissioner Aho; the motion passed unanimously.

V. Financial Report

CEO Raymond presents the financial report, inclusive of the addition of a more detailed cost category. Raymond reported that we are on track to expend funds. Michelle Viau added that there were no trouble areas at this time. Raymond added that Congress is still operating under a Continuing Resolution until March 23rd. At this time our system does appear to have Congressional support.

The vouchers for December 2017 and January 2018 were reviewed. Questions about furniture expenditures were answered. Commissioner Johnson motioned to accept the vouchers for December totaling \$1,005,521.58 and January totaling \$670,208.05; seconded by Commissioner Waltman and passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business



VII. New Business

A. Workforce Board Nominations

Raymond indicated to the Board that Rodney Nelson was nominated to be considered for the UPWARD Talent Council Workforce Development Board by the Chippewa County Chamber of Commerce. Nelson is the past CEO of Mackinac Straits Health System and is currently serving on the Board of Lake Superior State University. His recommendation was included in the Board packet.

Commissioner Nykanen motioned to accept the nomination and appointment to the Workforce Board; seconded by Commissioner Waltman, the motion passed unanimously.

B. Empire Mine Resolution

Raymond reviewed the support letter and resolution that Lake Superior Partnership shard to support the re-opening of the Empire Mine in Marquette County. A current campaign is underway to have Cleveland Cliffs re-open the mine to help meet the pellet demands of Cliffs' Toledo Plant as opposed to increasing operations in the state of Minnesota.

Commissioner Waltman motioned to send a letter of support and a resolution supporting the Empire Mine re-opening; seconded by Commissioner Mersnick, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Goals 2018-2019

Raymond referenced his identified goals that were included in the Board Packet. These goals include increasing flexible funding, increasing Economic Development and Chamber of Commerce partnerships, solidify UP wide branding, RFP for fiscal review, implement a strategic planning process and explore a Business Resource Network model for UPWARD.

Commissioner Johnson motioned to accept the goals; seconded by Commissioner Nykanen, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Marshal Plan for Talent

Governor Snyder introduced the Marshall Plan to build talent in Michigan. Budgeted at \$100 million dollars over a five-year period, the plan includes creating new and expanding current program funding; providing student financial support; increasing career exploration opportunities for students and investing in educators.

Commissioner Johnson motioned to accept for file; seconded by Commissioner Waltman, the motion passed unanimously.

E. Federal and State Budget Update

Update given during financial report.



F. Workforce Development Plan Motions

Motion to approve the required allocation documents to the Talent Investment Agency for the Skilled Trades Training Fund is made by Commissioner Nykanen; seconded by Commissioner Aho, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the required allocation documents to the Talent Investment Agency for the Statewide Funding for Customer Relations Management is made by Commissioner Mersnick; seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Reports:

A. Chair

Commissioner Corkin reported that he is working with county officials to support efforts for Cliffs to re-open the Empire Mine.

B. CEO

Raymond highlighted some of the activities that were referenced in Board Packet. Copper Country ISD and Dickinson/Iron ISD both have received CTE grants from the State of Michigan. Copper Country ISD received \$364,000 and Dickinson – Iron received \$467,000. There were a total of 16 grants statewide out of 67 applications.

We have been invited to present at the upcoming annual conference of the Michigan Association of Timbermen (MAT) on April 27, 2018. They represent about 325 timber related businesses and over 3500 employees throughout the state. They are interested in knowing more about Michigan Works! and how they can find the talent they need to fill critical position. MAT is headquartered in Newberry, MI.

Raymond added that he is working with the Michigan Works Association to develop legislative priorities for 2018 and is in the process of setting up meetings with state and federal legislators to discuss those priorities. Among the priorities are continued Skilled Trades Training Fund appropriations, continued funding for Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) and Partnership – Accountability – Training & Hope funding (PATH, which is for those customers receiving cash assistance from the state).

IX. Communications

Commissioner Johnson moved to support the communications presented; seconded by Commissioner Nykanen them motion passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Corkin adjourned meeting at 2:50 P.M. Eastern.