



## UPward Talent Council County Commissioners August 1, 2019

### MINUTES

#### I. Call To Order

Board Chair Gerald Corkin calls the meeting to order at 1:58 P.M. Eastern.

#### II. Roll Call

##### Present:

Board Chair, Gerry Corkin, Marquette County; Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Bill Menge, alternate for Gail Eilola, Baraga County; Don McLean, Chippewa County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Joe Stevens, Dickinson County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Tim Aho, Iron County; Paul Krause, Mackinac County; Bernie Lang, Menominee County; Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County; and Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County

##### Excused:

Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County; Bob DeMarois, Keweenaw County; and Kevin Erickson, Luce County.

##### Michigan Works! Staff:

William Raymond, CEO, Michelle Viau, CFO and Tracy Roberts, Office Manager.

#### III. Public Comment

None.

#### IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Commissioners McLean (Chippewa County) to add as item 'D' under New Business - Testing Centers, and Commissioner Bonovetz to add as item 'E' under New Business – MAC platform amendments concerning item 5. Motion to approve additions to agenda was made by Commissioner McLean and supported by Commissioner Nykanen; motion was approved unanimously.

#### V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes was made by Commissioner McLean and was seconded by Commissioner Nykanen. Motion approved unanimously.

#### VI. Financial Report



- A. Grant Status and Overview.** CEO Raymond reviews grant status and provides updates.
- B. Line Item Budget Report.** The total budget – actual is a little under \$9M. CEO Raymond advised that revenue is a little down; but UPward budgeted so we didn't go over. Motion to approve Line Item Budget report was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner Reiter. Motion was approved.
- C. Voucher Review Report.** Motion was made to approve vouchers by Commissioner Nykanen and supported by Commissioner Doucette. Vouchers we approved unanimously.

## **VII. Old Business**

**A. Strategic Plan Update.** Bill Raymond goes over the strategic update report. Bill talks a little about the new BRN Manager, Jim Huff and how exciting it is to have him on board, coming from a lot of business experience and leading organizations. Commissioner Stevens commented that he met Jim Huff and was really impressed with him. He asked Bill to expound a bit on his role. Bill explains that Jim has hit the ground running. He is an early retiree but was CEO of a company outside of Flint. He knows how to connect with businesses and owners. We're having him connect with InvestUP and get out around to support the BRN. We've been getting very good feedback on Jim. Bill also talked to the group about some of the support that InvestUP is providing around the U.P. Commissioner Stevens commented on how InvestUP provided a hands-on approach to both Dickinson and Menominee counties to provide support in fixing problems and helping to expand. Commissioner and Chairman Corkin comments that everyone is very interested in keeping tabs on the various groups working on economic development across the U.P. Commissioner McLean states that it is good to have Bill and someone like Marty Fittante on these boards to move things forward and gain momentum on items pertinent to the U.P.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **A. Action Items – Recommended Motions**

i. **PI 19-08 - PY 2019 WIOA Dislocated Worker Grant Funding Allocation Motion**

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

ii. **PI 19-18 - PY 2019 WIOA Statewide Activities Funding for Capacity Building and Professional Development Allocation Motion**

Motion to approve is made by Commissioner McLean and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. Motion passed unanimously.

iii. **PI 19-19 - PY 2019 Wagner-Peyser Employment Services Motion**



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

iv. **PI 19-20 - PY 2019 WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Program Allocations Motion**

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

v. **PI 19-21 - PY 2019 Statewide Activities Funding for MWSC Operations Motion**

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

**B. Delta County American Job Center and UTC Admin space for 2020 and beyond**

CEO Raymond advised that he had gotten word that the Michigan State Police wanted to utilize space here in Delta at the county. UPward Talent Council's lease is up June 30, 2020 – there would be a need to procure space anyway. The State Police were interested because of the new jail here and the sheriff, making this into a law enforcement area. Bill explains that he started having conversations about whether we needed to move, and possibly new space. Since then, things have changed in that the Michigan State Police have since indicated that they cannot move their current space at this time. Because we must re-procure space, we still must figure this out, since the MI State Police are still interested in moving into the Delta county space. It is possible that we can re-procure with a shorter-term lease agreement. The county would realize \$12/sq. ft by leasing to the MSP, as opposed to \$3.25 per sq. ft which is what UTC is limited to pay.

**C. Resolution of Support for Aquila Resources Inc. Back Forty Project**

Commissioner Krause spoke to some of the concerns around mining, saying that there are concerns about water, however, mining went through in Mackinac and many of the fears did not come to fruition. Commissioner Lang says that no one in Menominee is anti-mine, it is about the location. There is a true fear about what it can do the environment. Commissioner Stevens went to the last meeting and said there were many there that spoke on behalf, and it was very civil. McLean says that we depend on the DEQ. Commissioner Bonovetz recommends this to be sent to legislators and the Governor. Motion to provide a letter of support for the resolution for Aquila Resources Inc. Back Forty Mine project was made by Commissioner Stevens and was supported by Commissioner Nykanen. The motion passed unanimously. Motion was made to provide breakdown of the voting by Commissioner Doucette and supported by Commissioner Corkin. The voting was as followed: Yay (Ayes) from Commissioners: Corkin (Marquette), Doucette (Alger), Menge (Baraga), McLean (Chippewa), Johnson (Delta), Stevens (Dickinson), Bonovetz (Gogebic), Aho (Iron), Krause (Mackinac), Nykanen (Ontonagon), and Reiter (Schoolcraft). Nay from Commissioner Lang (Menominee). Tracy to work on getting resolution letter in by deadline.



**D. Testing Center (NEW agenda addition)**

Commissioner McLean informs that board about a testing center for professional licenses in Chippewa county that is threatening to close. The center came to Chippewa EDC for office space (which would need to be secure with cameras) as they lost their space. CCSS is running it as a loss right now. Commissioner McLean wants to ask MI Works to see if we can provide some support so that the organization does not run at a loss. CEO Bill advises he will contact Bill Henry (CCSS) for more info.

**E. MAC platform amendments (NEW agenda addition)**

Commissioner Bonovetz informed the board that there are 2 amendments needing support from as many counties in the U.P. as possible: Amendment for Line 5 pipeline, and an Amendment for MAC in support of the public mental health system. They are trying to gain support of what they think will be an uphill fight. Commissioner Reiter will be passing on the info tomorrow downstate.

**IX. Reports**

**A. Chairman.**

Board Chair Commissioner Gerry Corkin mentions the MLI (Michigan Launch Initiative), indicating that Kincheloe and K.I. Sawyer are candidates and that hopefully by the fall will have some answers.

**B. CEO.**

CEO Raymond discusses his written CEO report. There was some discussion around some items highlighted in Bill's CEO report. There could be some devastating cuts to MEDC with the budget, we're not sure yet how that will fare. Commissioner Stevens asks about another agency advertising for a similar type of product or services – he asked if anyone else was hearing anything. No one could place hearing about anything of that nature. He also asked about numbers for jobs filled in counties and Bill advises that we are still working on those dashboard reports. Commissioner McLean mentions the RPI (Regional Planning Initiative) and how well they use the funding; they are intending to pass a resolution of support for RPI from his county.

**IX. Communications**

Motion to approve Communications was made by Commissioner McLean and then supported by Commissioner Stevens. Motion approved unanimously.

**X. Public Comment.** None

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Corkin adjourned the LEO meeting at 3:09 P.M. Eastern.