



Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! Workforce Development Board Thursday, September 17, 2020 MINUTES

I. Call to Order, Mark Massicotte, Chair

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Mark Massicotte at approx.: 1201: ET

II. Roll Call

Present:

Mark Massicotte, L'Anse Manufacturing, Chair

Joe Esbrook, Hiawatha Log Homes

Dave Goudreau, Northern Wings Repair

George Kinsella, EcoMarine

Chad Rowe, Aspirius Health Services

Meagen Morrison, Eagle Lundin Mine

Travis Cary, IUPATDC7

John Hamm, UPRLF

Tony Retaskie, UP Construction Council

Michelle LaJoie, Alger/Marquette Community Action

Samantha Cameron, Bay Mills Community College

Julie Wonders, Iron Mountain-Kingsford Community Schools

Jeff Holt, Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation

Roy Del Valle, Michigan Rehabilitation Services

Excused:

Dave Anthony, Northern Sun Winery

David Lord, OSF St. Francis Hospital & Medical Group

Bridget Kennedy, Systems Control

Suzanne Pazdernik, Jacquart Fabric Products

Melanie Bicigo, Upper Peninsula Health Plan

Jonathan Mead, UPCAP

Michigan Works! Staff:

Bill Raymond, CEO, Debb Brunell, Workforce Services Director, Janie McNabb, One-Stop Operator, and Tracy Roberts, Administrative Services Manager

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Agenda



A motion was made by Joe Esbrook to approve the agenda. The motion was supported by Michelle Lajoie and passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2020

A motion was made by Tony Retaskie to approve the June 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes. The motion was supported by Julie Wonders and passed unanimously.

VI. Financial Report

A. Grant Status & Overview

Bill reviews the grant report with the board members. Mark Massicotte wonders if there will be a need to and if we are able to carry over funds. CEO Raymond explains that yes, we can, especially due to COVID, we can carry over. UPMW just received additional monies coming through in some smaller grants to assist with COVID. Spending is down due to COVID-19, and our income has stayed pretty good.

B. Line Item Budget Report

VII. Reports

A. Chairperson

Workforce Development Board Chair Mark Massicotte would like to pass along thanks you to the team for all the successful work. Mark congratulates Elaine Eikenberry, as the Shining Star Award winner for the U.P. and wants to pass along appreciation to all of the staff on a great job during these tough times.

B. CEO

Bill reviews highlights from his CEO report.

Tony Retaskie wants to highlight the discussion about the space port. One of the things that he is seeing are some of the overwhelming public that are against this initiative. We need to get with MAMA and get together some letters of support. Board member Tony Retaskie is in favor of it. Bill Raymond explains that we will work with Debb Brunell and will continue to garner support as well as explore what ways we can showcase more support of the initiative. Board member Dave Goudreau talked about timing for this, indicating that the board has more time to have more conversations. He agrees with board member Retaskie and thinks letters of support would be good. Board Chair Mark Massicotte talked about Green Forces group that did a presentation and acknowledged the fact that there is a lot of misinformation out there, and there is a lot more information that needs to get out there. There is equal conversation on both sides, and he encourages the board members to keep positive. He also agrees that letters of support from the board, as well as the private sector will be good.

CEO Bill Raymond updated the board on the Small Business Restart grants that came through here in the U.P. He also informed the board that UPMW has hired a new IT Director, Beau Boden. He worked for Michigan Works in the past, and is happy to be back. Board members Joe Esbrook and George Kinsella speak very highly of bringing Beau back on.

CEO Raymond updated the board on the new campaign for UP Jobs Now! Campaign. There will be a lot of coverage on TV6 and both eastern and western ends of the U.P.



Bill also talked about the Winning Wednesday All Staff trainings that have been happening. UPMW has been doing things that are really helping front-line staff and the team has consistently been getting positive feedback. Please thank the staff for their hard work.

VIII. Action Items

A. Action Items – Recommended Motions – The board agrees to consensus votes and a motion to move forward on that was made by Michelle Lajoie and supported by Tony Retaskie. The board unanimously votes to move forward with consensus vote on all Recommended Motions.

The Motion to accept all as moving forward was made by Joe Esbrook and supported by George Kinsella. All action motions were approved unanimously.

1. Resolution to approve Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! Nepotism and Conflict of Interest Local Policy
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
2. Resolution to approve Veterans Priority of Service Local Policy
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
3. PI 20-14: WIOA Adult DW Youth AY20 Allocations
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
4. PI 20-15: WIOA Statewide Activities Funding for Youth
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
5. PI 20-16: Capacity Building and Professional Development
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
6. PI 20-17: Employment Services
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
7. PI 20-18: CRM Motion
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
8. PI 20-19: RESEA Motion
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.
9. PI 20-20: JMG funding Motions
Motion passed unanimously. See above, Item A.

IX. Old Business / Updates

A. UPMW Dashboard September 2020

Bill reviews the new UPMW Program Dashboard. The dashboard shows the activity from mid-July through August. Bill updates that there has been quite a bit of activity, even during the COVID times. UPMW staff have been working hard, and remotely, and it has been a seamless process. Debb Brunell, Director of Workforce Services, talked about the dashboard and specifically, the volume of calls that were handled due to COVID. She explained that the team will take some time to examine how we are doing things differently now, and how best to serve the clients without them being able to physically come to the American Job Centers. Board Chair Mark Massicotte appreciates getting the numbers. He really likes how the dashboard highlights the information.



CEO Bill Raymond updates the board about the BRN (Business Resource Network) presentation that Megan Boddy, BRN Manager gave recently. Bob from the State and will be connecting with UPMW to talk about how to connect the BRN and mental health organizations – that will be a great opportunity around the state. Bill recognizes and thanks Megan and her good work to get that great statewide connection.

B. UP Energy Task Force Update – Tony Retaskie

Tony Retaskie updates on the UP-Energy Task force. He updates that they talked a lot about converting over to more electrical cars in the U.P. and about where the charging stations would be located. There are a lot of challenges that come with that. There are a lot of questions to be answered. Tony informed the board that he asked the Director to add an economic development portion to the task force meetings. The rates are high in the U.P. The Task Force is now meeting once a month via Zoom. LEO board meeting will take place in the next couple weeks so he should be able to update on that at the next meeting.

C. CEAC Update – Debb Brunell

Debb Brunell, Workforce Services Director gives an update on the CEAC (Career Education Advisory Council). She talked about some recent strategic sessions that One-Stop Operator Janie McNabb facilitated. Through those sessions, the group determined the mission of the CEAC is to connect education and employment and as a committee, they will keep their goals smaller and attainable. One long term impact is that student, parents and educators are in the know about education experiences. She explained that another goal is to connect students with businesses so they are better informed. She informed the board about the CEAC areas of focus and sub-committee:

- 1) Improve career awareness
- 2) Educate the educators
- 3) Improve alignment and collaboration with employers

The council is already starting to see some movement and they hope to be able to advise the Workforce Development Board in the future. Chris Standerford is doing a great job at leading the group.

X. New Business

A. New CEAC Member approval – Mari Schupp

A motion to approve new CEAC member Mari Schupp is made by Tony Retaskie and was supported by George Kinsella. The motion was approved by the board unanimously.

B. WDB Board Chair Nomination for 2021

CEO Bill Raymond advised the board that he will have more for the November board meeting. If anyone on the board has board chair nominations for 2021, please let Tracy and/or Bill know and they will have more info available in November.

XI. Communications

A. Real-Time Labor Demand, Prosperity Region 1 – August 2020

B. August 2020 Fast Facts

C. Get Ready to Win – Video



XII. Member input – Updates / Items for discussion

A. Updates

Board member Dave Goudreau talks about the composition of the Michigan Works Association Board of Directors. The Association is a focal point for lobbying efforts and also helps to ensure consistent policy at the national level. The Directors want to change the composition to 32 – 16 Directors and composition of LEOs, labor, private sector, etc. Dave Goudreau states that the only concern he has under the current structure, to make sure when moving to 32 members, to ensure there is strong representation. CEO Bill Raymond also commented about the need for representation from all sectors and having the right board make-up to be effective.

XIII. Next Meeting – Thursday, November 19, 2020

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Michelle LaJoie and supported by George Kinsella. Meeting adjourned at approx. 1:15 p.m.