



## Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! County Commissioner Board Meeting Minutes October 30, 2020

### **I. Call to Order, Gerald Corkin, Chair**

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 by board chair Commissioner Gerry Corkin.

### **II. Roll Call**

#### **Present:**

Board Chair, Gerry Corkin; Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Gale Eilola, Baraga County; Joe Stevens, Dickinson County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County; Bernie Lang, Menominee County; and Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County.

#### **Excused:**

Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Don McLean, Chippewa County; Tim Aho, Iron County; Bob DeMarois, Keweenaw County; Kevin Erickson, Luce County; Paul Krause, Mackinac County; and Craig Reiter, Schoolcraft County.

#### **UP Michigan Works! Staff:**

William Raymond, CEO; Michelle Viau, CFO; and Tracy Roberts, Administrative Services Manager.

### **III. Public Comment**

None.

### **IV. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Tikkanen and was supported by Commissioner Bonovetz . The agenda was approved.

### **V. Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2020 board meeting**

The motion to approve the minutes from August 6, 2020 was made by Commissioner Nykanen and was then supported by Commissioner Eilola. The motion passed unanimously.

### **VI. Financial Report**

- A. Grant Status & Overview
- B. Line-Item Budget Report
- C. Voucher Review Report

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Corkin and was supported by Commissioner Nykanen. The UPMW grant status reports show that grants are on track. Commissioner Stevens asks a few questions about expenditures of some of the funds, such as the Jobs for Michigan Graduates and The Summer Youth Professionals.

Vouchers – CEO Raymond talks about the UP-Restart Grants and the joint effort with the MEDC and EDO's. He informs the board that UPMW helped to distribute the checks and the businesses have the monies in hand and hopefully are moving forward.

Chair Corkin also asked about the Capacity Building line item. CEO Raymond explains that it is money that comes from the State of Michigan and we pass through to the Association to support the association which is money that is ear-marked for the association.

Commissioner Bonovetz asks about the amount of money currently and if it is the same

across regions. CEO Raymond indicates that there is a formula based on the demographics of the state. Commissioner and board chair Corkin moves to accept vouchers and it is supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. The motion passes.

## **VII. Old Business**

A. UPMW Dashboard – September 2020

B. Strategic Plan update – Grants Committee

CEO Bill Raymond and Tracy Roberts inform the board about the new grants committee being led by Tracy Roberts, Administrative Services Manager. The team is has been working to formalize and standardize the grants process at UPMW, enabling more diversity of funding and better processes to be able to more efficiently submit for grants.

Commissioner Stevens asks if the Federal government increases the federal minimum wage to \$15 does UPMW have a strategy for that? CEO Raymond indicates that a lot of the groups such as Invest UP, and other groups across the state, along with MEDC would collaborate and analyze the data and keep the boards informed on anything happening in that regard.

Commissioner Tikkanen asks about the training numbers if those are based on referrals. UPMW CFO Michelle Viau adds that most of the trainings are in a classroom setting. Our training is down this year due to COVID. Commissioner Tikkanen asks about the county break-down. CEO Raymond indicates that there is a staff team working on gathering data to present by county.

A motion to accept old business items for file made was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and Commissioner Tom Tikkanen supports. Motion passes.

## **VIII. New Business**

A. Action Items – Recommended Motions

1. PI 20-23: FY21 Business Resource Network Program

Motion to support made by Commissioner Doucette and supported by Commissioner Corkin and motion passes unanimously.

2. PI 20-25: FY20 UI Claims Assistance

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and was supported by Commissioner Nykanen. Motion passes.

3. PI 20-27: FY21 PATH Program

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Corkin and was supported by Commissioner Doucette. Motion passes unanimously.

4. PI 20-28: AY20 WIOA DWG-COVID19 Recovery Project

Motion to approve the funding was made by Commissioner Lang and was then supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. The motion passes unanimously.

5. PI 20-29: AY19/FY21 TAA Program

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and was supported by Commissioner Nykanen. The motion was passed.

## **VIII. Reports**

A. Chairman

Commissioner Board Chair Gerry Corkin comments that Going Pro was approved. He states that it has been a challenging year with respect to the budget, but they made it without any layoff or program cuts.

B. CEO – sending via separate email

1. WDA Grants – CEO Raymond updates the board on the following grant opportunities, and the next steps with the UP Jobs NOW! Campaign.

- Futures for Frontliners

- Michigan Reconnect
2. UP Jobs NOW! Campaign update  
UPMW worked with The Marketing Dept and TV6 and this campaign has provided great exposure to get the word out about UPMW and the exciting things happening across the U.P.

There were some comments by the Commissioners:

Comments from Commissioner Stevens were about the Dickinson Hospital being hacked and is urging everyone to go back to their IT people and make sure you are covered, especially with some type of cyber-security. CEO Raymond indicates that UPMW is involved with the Cyber-Security task force through NMU. There will be several training and job opportunities for those who want to get into that industry. The U.P. is able to have a strong base industry here.

## **IX. Communications**

- A. Shining Star Award – Elaine Eikenberry
- B. Real-Time Labor Demand, Prosperity Region 1, September 2020
- C. September 2020 Fast Facts

A motion to accept Communications as presented by made by Commissioner Doucette and was supported by Commissioner Stevens. The motion passes.

## **X. Public Comment**

## **XI. Next Meeting/Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:38 a.m.

The next UPMW LEO Full Board meeting is scheduled for January 2021 (exact date TBD).