



**Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!
Workforce Development Board
12pm Thursday, September 16, 2021
Meeting minutes**

I. Call to Order, Mark Massicotte, Chair

Board Chair, Mark Massicotte, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm ET.

II. Roll Call

Present:

Mark Massicotte, L'Anse Manufacturing, Chair
Joe Esbrook, Hiawatha Log Homes
Bridget Kennedy, Systems Control
David Lord, OSF St. Francis Hospital & Medical Group
Suzanne Pazdernik, Jacquart Fabric Products
Melanie Bicigo, Upper Peninsula Health Plan
Travis Cary, IUPATDC7
Mike Smith, Upper Peninsula Construction Council
Michelle LaJoie, Alger/Marquette Community Action
Samantha Cameron, Bay Mills Community College
Julie wonders, Iron Mountain-Kingsford Community Schools
John Hamm, UPRLF
George Kinsella, EcoMarine
Dave Goodreau, Northern Wings Repair
Jonathan Mead, UPCAP

Excused:

Chad Rowe, Aspirus Health Systems
Meagan Morrison, Eagle Lundin Mine
Roy Del Valle, Michigan Rehabilitation Services
Jeff Holt, Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation
Dave Anthony, Northern Sun Winery

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Action

A motion was made by Michelle LaJoie to approve the agenda and was supported by John Hamm. The motion was passed.



V. Approval of Minutes from June 17, 2021

A motion was made by John Hamm to approve the June 17, 2021 minutes as presented. Julie Wonders seconded the motion. All were in favor. No opposed. The motion was passed.

VI. Financial Report

There were two financial reports presented: the Grant Status & Overview and the Line-Item Budget. Everything is in line with expectations and looking well.

VII. Action Items

The first 7 items were voted on as a consensus and are motions for funding. A motion to approve the items 1-7 for approval was made by Joe Esbrook to approve and submit the required documents to the state and was seconded by Suzanne Pazdernik. No opposed. The motions passed unanimously.

- **PI 21-15: Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program**
- **PI 21-16: Wagner-Peyser ES Allocations**
- **PI 21-17: WIOA Adult, DW, and Youth Programs**
- **PI 21-18: Capacity Building and Professional Development**
- **PI 21-19: WIOA Statewide Funding Allocations CRM**
- **PI 21-21: WIOA Statewide Funding High Concentrations of WIOA Eligible Youth**
- **PI 21-22: Barrier Removal Employment Success**

Three local policies were presented for review and approval. The local policies were voted on as a consensus vote. A motion to approve the three local policies below was made by John Hamm and supported by Mike Smith. All were in favor. No opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Local Policy – Adult and Dislocated Worker Eligibility**
- **Local Policy – In-Demand Occupations Approved for Training**
- **Local Policy – Supportive Services**

VIII. Reports

● **Chairperson**

Mr. Massicotte, Chair, gave an update. He noted assistance was requested from the Workforce Development Board (WDB) to assist with the Michigan Industry Cluster Approach (MICA) grant. The ask is to bring a diverse group of private participants together to satisfy the needs of this grant. The WDB would host events and bring businesses together to learn. Mr. Massicotte noted the need to reach out in the UP local communities, get the word out, work together to come up with solutions to workforce issues in the Upper Peninsula, and to support the MICA grant. He asked the WDB for their commitment and time. Ms. Debb Brunell explained the MICA grant in further detail. We are looking for more companies to join and support the collaboratives. It's a partnership and collaboration.



- **CEO**

CEO Bill Raymond highlighted the familiarization tour and the feedback from that tour. One item strongly recognized was outdoor recreation. Michigan is one of the best states in the nation for highlighting its abundant and varied forms of outdoor recreation. CEO Bill Raymond presented an opportunity for questions.

IX. Old Business / Updates

- **CEAC Update – Debb Brunell**

Ms. Brunell updated on the Career and Education Advisory Council (CEAC). The CEAC is thriving and producing many of good things due to strong partnerships. Chris Standerford is an outstanding chair. He is highly involved in the grant work and ensuring success.

- **Michigan Works! Association Board Update – Dave Goudreau**

There are many changes occurring during the transition from a standard board to 32 members. The focus has changed. The new CEO Ryan Hundt at the Michigan Works Association is thriving, and things are going well. It was noted that as a board to send former CEO Luann Dunsford a thank you and congratulations on her career accomplishments. Mr. Joe Esbrook and CEO Bill Raymond will discuss this after the meeting.

- **UPMW Dashboard – May 2021**

This dashboard continues to be refined. The goal is to present meaningful information regarding goals and progress. We are revisiting the dashboard structure after the strategic planning is concluded to ensure it aligns with strategic goals.

- **Strategic Plan – Janie McNabb**

Janie led a discussion on the Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! strategic plan. A summary of the current strategic plan was sent out ahead of time to the WDB. The strategic plan was created in 2018. Now the task is to update the strategic plan and make sure it is relevant. Part of the goal of the process is to give the staff what they really need and how it connects to the bigger picture. Janie had sent out a survey and asked that those that did not fill it out yet to please take the time to fill out. The vision statement was discussed at length with Board member input. What the Board's definition of the vision statement is means many different things. It was noted the vision is lacking clarity and direction. As a next step, the Board can define what a vision statement means. A small committee of the WDB can meet virtually to work on next steps for the strategic plan before the next WDB full Board meeting.

- **Childcare Task Force – Janie McNabb**

We are convening a childcare task force across the UP. We have had only one meeting but are planning the next meeting for October 1. We have excellent representation on this task force. It offers a great perspective. The goal of our next meeting will be to narrow the scope. A small UPMW group presented at the Michigan Works Association conference.



X. Communications

July 2021 Fast Facts and UPMW successes were presented. No action needed.

XI. Member input – Updates / Items for discussion

There was a comment on Luce County's decline in population according to the census. There were additional comments on population loss in the Upper Peninsula.

XII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 12pm ET, along with a reception for Tony Retaskie's retirement.

XIII. Adjournment

Board Chair, Mr. Massicotte expressed a thank you to all the Board members for their time and energy. He also thanked and recognized a job well done to the whole Michigan Works team. A motion to adjourn was made by John Hamm and Dave Goodreau seconded. Mark Massicotte, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 1:18 pm.