

**Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! County Commissioner Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 4, 2022**

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

Commissioner Corkin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:27 pm ET.

**II. Roll Call**

**Present:**

Board Chair, Gerald Corkin, Marquette County; Jerry Doucette, Alger County; Patrick Johnson, Delta County; Phyllis French, Luce County; Carl Nykanen, Ontonagon County; Joe Bonovetz, Gogebic County; Gretchen Janssen, Houghton County; Joe Stevens, Dickinson County.

**Guests:**

Johnny DePetro

**UP Michigan Works! Staff Present:**

William Raymond, CEO; Michelle Viau, CFO; Betsy Erkkila, Administrative Services Manager.

**III. Public Comment**

None.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Doucette and was supported by Commissioner French. The motion passes.

**V. Approval of Minutes from May 5, 2022, Meeting – Action**

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of the May 5, 2022, Board meeting was made by Commissioner Stevens and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. The motion passes.

**VI. Financial Report**

The Grant Status & Overview, line-item budget report, and voucher review report were presented. A motion to accept was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner French. The motion passes.

The audit report was presented. All Board members were mailed a copy of the Audit Report prior to the meeting. CFO Michelle explained the audit report and highlighted items. The audit went well and there were no findings. Opinion was a clean, unmodified audit. On page two opinion of the auditor. She highlighted the core financial statements. The "one-time only's" were the \$7 million that passed through UPMW from MEDC. Michelle noted it changed the way we must report our leases for our 14 American Job Centers. Commissioner Corkin made a motion to accept the audit report for Year ending June 30, 2021, and Commissioner Bonovetz supported. The motion passes. Commissioner Corkin recognized CFO Viau's great work.

The Approval of Budget and Resolution 2022-2023 was presented. Bill explained the resolution. This was recommended by the Executive Committee at the June meeting and was then officially approved at this August 4 meeting. There was a motion to approve the budget and resolution of 2022-2023 by Commissioner French and supported by

Commissioner Corkin. A roll call vote was also conducted. All 8 members present (Chair Gerald Corkin, Jerry Doucette, Patrick Johnson, Phyllis French, Carl Nykanen, Joe Bonovetz, Gretchen Janssen, and Joe Stevens) voted yes on the approval of the budget.

## **VII. Old Business**

CEO Raymond gave an update on the Wagner-Peyser issue with the USDOL. It is in the post-public comment phase. There were approximately 1500 public comments, and the word was spread. It was asked how much the 14 service centers will be impacted. There were several comments from Board members and CEO Raymond.

## **VIII. New Business**

A proposed Bylaws Change Regarding Quorum/Number of Executive Committee members was presented for discussion.

The original verbiage of the bylaws are as follows:

1. Section 4.3: Executive Committee (from current bylaws, revised June 2019) Two LEO Board representatives from each of the 4 "service delivery areas" serve as the members of the Executive Committee. Except for the power to amend the Articles of Incorporation and bylaws, the Executive Committee shall have all the powers and authority of the board of directors in the intervals between meetings of the board of directors and is subject to the direction and control of the full board.

The suggested change to the bylaws are as follows:

2. Seven (7) LEO Board representatives from among each of the 4 "service delivery areas" serve as the members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall not have any power or authority to make action decisions on behalf of the full board of directors and is subject to the direction and control of the full board. The Chairperson of the Board shall appoint the Executive Committee members.

There was a motion to approve the change in the bylaws by Commissioner Stevens and supported by Commissioner Bonovetz. All were in favor and the motion passes.

Reappointments for the Workforce Development Board Members were presented to the Board. A motion to approve the reappointments for Michelle LaJoie and Joe Esbrook was made by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. No comments. All in favor. The motion passes.

Policy Issuance 22-02 and Policy Issuance 22-03 were presented for approval. These were reviewed and recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board prior to the full Board meeting. A motion was made to approve the policy issuances by Commissioner Bonovetz and supported by Commissioner Doucette. All in favor. The motion passes.

## **IX. Reports**

Chair Corkin noted he is working on American Rescue Plan funds in Marquette county. The Board requested a written CEO report ahead of the meetings from CEO Raymond. The Board discussed CEO Raymond's future work schedule plans regarding location for work and his presence in the Upper Peninsula. Additionally, Chair Corkin requested regular communication from CEO Raymond.

## **X. Communications**

A motion to accept the communications for file was made by Commissioner Corkin and supported by Commissioner Nykanen. All in favor. The motion passes.

## **XI. Member updates**

Commissioner Bonovetz noted the importance of being at meetings in person. He requested a combined letter to the County clerks and County Boards to emphasize the importance of

this Board and having representation at these meetings. CEO Raymond and Ms. Erkkila agreed to get the letter out. There were comments about attendance, and appreciation was expressed to those who did attend in person. It was noted this is an important Board, and the role of the county commissioner is important.

**XII. Next Meeting/Adjournment**

The next LEO Executive Committee meeting will be on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The next full Board meeting will be on Thursday, October 6, 2022, at the Island Resort and Casino prior to the UPACC meetings.

Commissioner Corkin, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 2:29 pm ET.