

**MINUTES OF THE
LINCOLN TRAIL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
BOARD
December 15, 2020**

The Lincoln Trail Workforce Development Board (LTWDB) met via Zoom on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 11:30 am EDT.

Myra Covault, Second Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order, in the absence of Chairman Dean Schamore. It was determined that a quorum was not present, therefore the meeting continued with discussion and update items only.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes – Board Meeting – September 15, 2020

Due to the absence of a quorum, the minutes were not presented.

DISCUSSION/UPDATE ITEMS

Heartland Communications Consultants (HCC)

Jessica Ward, with HCC, provided an overview of current and upcoming outreach activities. Ms. Ward reported that outreach over the past several months had been focused on virtual career services, due to the closure of the Kentucky Career Center-Lincoln Trail (KCC-LT) locations to in-person services. Ms. Ward indicated that beginning in January they would be highlighting in-demand careers in the region and promoting a career in each one of the five sectors. The Work Matters column would continue along with an accompanying podcast. Ms. Ward indicated she would send the full advertising report when it was ready.

Workforce Update

Jennifer Carman, Career Development Office (CDO) Regional Program Manager, provided an update on CDO and Unemployment Insurance (UI) activities. Ms. Carman stated that CDO staff were still detailed to UI services. Ms. Carman shared stats regarding claim payouts in March and April and also indicated that two groups had been formed to focus on April claims and constituent services. Ms. Carman shared they were also working to move toward providing more employment and employer services. She also mentioned that, as of last week, there were 1,298 job postings in the Lincoln Trail region in various sectors.

Sherry Johnson extended apologies for Chairman Dean Schamore and First Vice-Chair Trish Niles for not being able to attend today's meeting.

Ms. Johnson indicated that the One Stop Operator Request for Proposal (RFP) would be released on February 1st and an RFP to update the strategic plan would go out within the next week.

Ms. Johnson reported that Workforce staff began assisting with UI in March 2020 and continued through the Fall. In mid to late October the local Workforce Areas were notified by the State that the Department of Labor, who was conducting a review of the UI system, questioned various State agencies that provided assistance with UI. In particular, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) staff being paid with WIOA funds to provide this assistance was questioned. Ms. Johnson indicated assistance was immediately stopped and financial information for all the staff time used to provide services from March through the end of October was submitted to the State. The local Workforce Areas were told that either CARES Act or UI dollars would be provided to the local Workforce Areas to pay for these expenses. Ms. Johnson stated that the local Workforce Areas were assured that providing the assistance was okay and would be reimbursed. Ms. Johnson indicated that the situation caused her to rethink our role in filling in the gaps for employment and employer services. Ms. Johnson stated the Workforce Directors' would be meeting this week and were going to ask the Labor Cabinet if they would consider allowing the local Workforce Areas to provide these services, through a contractual agreement,

Ms. Johnson also reported that, in the next six months, the Local Elected Officials in the region would have to procure the local grant subrecipient for another three to four year period. Ms. Johnson indicated that the local Workforce Areas asked the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet (EWDC) to consider removing the State regulations that require this because it is not part of the law. The EWDC informed the local Workforce Areas last week that this would not be changed. The procurement process was scheduled to begin after the first of the year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

**LINCOLN TRAIL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
ATTENDANCE SHEET
December 15, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Brown
Daniel Carney
Jennifer Carman
Chris Cottrell
Myra Covault
Joe Fowler
Greg Gribbins
Patricia Krausman
Jennifer Lampton
Anna Larson
Scott Lusk
Megan Stith for Dr. Juston
Pate
Jim Rachlin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joe Ashley
Lance Blanford
Stan Carton
Michael Embry
Mark Nelson
Trish Niles*
Tom Renfrow
Ken Ritchie
Dean Schamore*
Davette Swiney

STAFF

Angela Crenshaw
Jackie Masterson
Sherry L. Johnson
Jim Skees

GUESTS

Jessica Ward

*Denotes excused absence