

**MINUTES OF THE
LINCOLN TRAIL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
BOARD
Executive Committee
November 16, 2022**

The Lincoln Trail Workforce Development Board (LTWDB) Executive Committee met via Zoom on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 11:30 am ET.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lance Blanford
Julie Brown
Stan Carton
Myra Covault
Trish Niles
Jim Rachlin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chris Cottrell*

GUESTS

Robert Boone
Camree Cohoon
Andy Hightower
Lori Strumpf
Stephanie Wetzel
Cathy Williamson

STAFF

Sherry Johnson
Jackie Masterson
Jim Skees

**Denotes excused absence*

Trish Niles, Chair, called the meeting to order after determining quorum requirements had been met.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration of Minutes – August 17, 2022

After review of the August 17, 2022 Executive Committee minutes, Jim Rachlin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Myra Covault seconded; motion carried.

Set Agenda for December Board Meeting

The committee agreed on the following agenda items for the December Board meeting:

- Heartland Communications Consultants (HCC) update
- One Stop Operator (OSO) Update (to include update on virtual job fair platform) HWI/Strumpf and Associates

- Direct Services Provider Update – Career Team
- One Stop Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) & Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA)
- Introduction of Daniel London, new Executive Director for the Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD).
- Baptist Health Hardin Project Update – Myra Covault

DISCUSSION/UPDATE ITEMS

After Action Discussion – Barton Malow and Premier Virtual Job Fairs

Lori Strumpf provided an update on the November 2nd Barton Malow job fair. Ms. Strumpf indicated the company was pleased with the turnout of 117 jobseekers. Ms. Strumpf stated the Blue Oval Strategy group, made up of local workforce partners, felt the attendance was not where it should have been and provided the company with a list of recommendations to improve the process for future hiring events. Carter Dyson is scheduled to meet with Barton Malow next week to discuss.

Andy Hightower introduced Cathy Williamson, who was recently hired as the new Business Solutions Team lead and instrumental in implementing the virtual job fair pilot. Ms. Strumpf provided an update on the pilot, which was conducted on November 14th. Training was provided to the employers on how to set up and navigate the platform. There were five companies and eight jobseekers that participated. A survey was provided for employers and results will be shared when they are received. Next steps include discussion on how to move forward in regard to promoting the service to the business community. Myra Covault shared that she participated in the employer training piece and thought it was very user friendly.

Reimagining Bardstown

Ms. Strumpf indicated they had made great and steady progress in getting the center up and running which included many repairs and updates made by the County. Ms. Strumpf stated Career Team had a full-time staff person at the center and she was also working with Elizabethtown Community and Technical College (ECTC) to have someone there soon. Adult Basic Education agreed to provide a staff person one day a week through December for testing and would commit two people for two days a week starting in January for instruction. Vocational Rehabilitation also indicated they would consider placing a staff person there once the center was ADA certified. Lance Blanford thanked the Executive Committee for their support in getting Adult Basic Education on board. Sherry Johnson also shared that she spoke recently with Secretary Jamie Link about bringing employment and unemployment insurance services back to Bardstown. Secretary Link agreed to check into the possibility. Ms. Johnson provided a copy of the lease to the committee along with the projected costs and asked if they would allow Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD) to enter into a lease agreement on behalf of the LTWDB. Ms. Johnson indicated the LTWDB would have to pick up a majority of the costs for the first few months until other partners move in. LTWDB costs would include the full rent, a portion of janitorial, utilities and internet services resulting in an estimated cost of \$1200 per month. Julie Brown made a motion for the

LTADD to enter into a lease agreement on behalf of the LTWDB for the Bardstown Center, Lance Blanford seconded; motion carried.

Heartland Communications Consultants Update

Stephanie Wetzel provided an overview of the newly updated Kentucky Career Center-Lincoln Trail website.

Workforce Update

Sherry Johnson indicated she had a very positive conversation with Secretary Link about the future of workforce in the region. He committed all of the Education and Labor Cabinet's services and resources to ensure the success of the Blue Oval Battery Park.

Ms. Johnson also shared updated information about the draft State policies that were previously discussed and of concern to the local workforce areas. Ms. Johnson indicated five or six were tabled for later discussion, five or six were amended and the remaining were agreed upon. Ms. Johnson reiterated that the WIOA law was very clear that there is local control.

Ms. Johnson also mentioned that the Baptist Health Hardin project was in full swing. The Direct Services Provider, Career Team was also now fully staffed. Robert Boone, Chief Officer with Career Team, shared things were going well in Bardstown and they were seeing some walk-ins. Mr. Boone also stated enrollments were looking up and they were working on outreach to the young adult community. In addition, one of the Career Advisors was on ECTC's campus one day a week.

Ms. Johnson shared that she will be retiring at the end of April 2023. Ms. Johnson indicated she expressed to the LTADD Executive Director that it was important the LTWDB have a presence at the table in selecting the next Director. Ms. Johnson thanked the committee for their support over the years. Committee members thanked Ms. Johnson for her leadership and that she would be greatly missed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.