



Carroll County Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Exploration Commons, 9:15am

Attendees: Zach Tomlin, Haresh Raithatha, Chris Abell, Suzy Dyer Gear, Steve Berry, Bill Eckles, Brandon Schweitzer, Julie Givens, Mike McHale, Matti Franzén, Scott Yard, Matt LeFaivre, Karen Bernard, Anita Hammond, Denise Beaver, Rich Westcott, Corey Hardinger, Susan Torpey, Jamie Keller, Dempsie Johnson, Heather Powell, Stan Whiteman, Georgia Allen, and Shelby O'Leary.

Mr. Tomlin started the meeting at 9:10am. There was a quorum present.

1. Action Items

- a. **Minutes-** Mr. Abell motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Franzén seconded. The vote was unanimous, the minutes from the January 18, 2023, meeting were approved. Absent board members voted electronically.
- b. **One-Stop Operator Contract Renewal-** Mr. Yard motioned to approve to renew the contract with One-Stop Operator, Axios Strategies. Mr. Eckles seconded. Absent board members voted electronically. The vote was unanimous, the motion to approve Axios Strategies for a 1-year contract extension was approved.
- c. **Board Member Term Extension-** Mr. Eckles motioned to approve the board term extension for Zach Tomlin and Haresh Raithatha. Mr. Berry seconded. The vote was unanimous, the motion to extend Mr. Tomlin's and Mr. Raithatha's terms was approved.

2. New Business-

- a. Officer Elections- Ms. Beaver and Mr. Yard will serve on the nominating committee for new officers. Ms. Powell will assist them.
- b. Additional Board Members- Ms. Powell shared that the board needs three more members that will represent a business, in response to direction from the Governor's Workforce Board.
- c. KPI Dashboard- Mr. McCree put together a Key performance Indicator Dashboard. Ms. Powell shared a sample Dashboard with the Board.

3. Importance of Using Labor Market Information

Ms. Allen presented on this topic in place of Teresa Mena, on the Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWE). She presented how to use MWE to find data on salary comparisons, available employment, job listings, jobseekers/candidates, top growing occupations, unemployment rates, and other labor market information that can be of assistance to businesses. She shared that MWE spiders in job postings from other sites as well. The Board discussed the advantages for employers to be informed of this tool and to use it. For questions and staff assistance with using MWE, please visit the American Job Center or call 410-386-2820.

4. CCWD Updates-

- a. *Blueprint*- Ms. Powell said that the draft MOU between CCWD, Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS), and Carroll Community College (CCC) is due March 15, with the final version due July 1. She shared that the plan is to start with the middle school students. The three organizations are still ironing out the details on staffing, summer academy, and software systems. Ms. Beaver commented that the Blueprint plan will be beneficial to the youth of Carroll County learning and visit the CCWD center. Mr. Eckles shared information about a Job Fair on May 3rd at Winters Mill High School from 3:30-7:00pm for high school students. The information was emailed out to the board.
- b. *Standing Youth & Young Adult Committee*- The purpose of the standing youth and young adult committee will be meeting for the first time on April 19th. Ms. Powell thanked Bill Eckles, Chris Abell, Bryan Zuber, and Sharon Plump for participating.
- c. *AJC Pop-Up Events*- Due to the challenges of transportation in Carroll County and the need to meet people where they are in their communities, CCWD and the American Job Center (AJC) partners have started hosting pop-ups in the community. The goal is to educate and engage people about the opportunities in the American Job Center. There have been two so far at the Taneytown Branch Library and the Eldersburg Branch Library. Both have yielded good success. Two events are planned every month, with one focused at the Taneytown Branch. Please check the calendar for future events: <https://carrollworks.com/calendar/>
- d. *After Hours Chamber Event*- There will be a PM Connections Chamber of Commerce event on Thursday, April 27th from 4-6PM at Carroll County Workforce Development. Light refreshments will be served, and board attendance is encouraged. Registration is through the Chamber of Commerce's website.

5. Member Updates-

- a. Mr. McHale informed the board about the articulation agreement with Carroll Community College where IBEW apprentices can now receive 30 credits towards an associate degree, that is equal to half the degree.
- b. Mr. Abell shared that the Carroll Technology and Innovation Council annual golf tournament is on Friday, May 19 starting at 11:30am. Registration is open for sponsors and players. Proceeds go towards the Veterans Transition to Tech program and a STEM scholarship program.
- c. Mr. Tomlin suggested that considering future board presentation topic of unintentional discrimination of AI programs. Ms. Powell encouraged that if anyone had ideas of future board presentations to please bring them forward for consideration

Mr. Tomlin moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:52am. Mr. Abell seconded. Approval was unanimous.