



The Chief Elected Officials of Area 14 Workforce Development Board (WDB) met for a scheduled meeting on the 9th day of February 2022, both in person at the OU Innovation Center and virtually via Zoom.

- 1. Commissioner Owen opened the meeting, and a quorum was established with the attendance of Perry County Commissioner, Scott Owen via Zoom and Athens County Commissioner, Lenny Eliason in-person and Commissioner Shannon Miller of Meigs County via Zoom. The meeting commenced at 9:03am. Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 10th, 2021, meeting and Commissioner Eliason seconded. All were in favor. Commissioner Eliason made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Miller seconded. All were in favor.**

Also, in attendance were Perry County JFS Executive Director Cheryl Boley, Meigs County JFS Executive Director Chris Shank, Meigs County Assistant Director Theresa Lavender, Area 14 Fiscal Agent/Perry County JFS Assistant Director Mendra Hupp, Athens County CFO Tracy Helber, Meigs County CFO Vince Reiber, and Meigs OMJ Supervisor, Shelly Adams.

1. Annual Report-Director McKnight presented:

Annual Report Presentation included in the Folder was reviewed.

2. Fiscal Report-Mendra Hupp:

Mendra passed out the fiscal update report, and it was added to the folder.

Opioid Grant 3 was extended to March 2022. The Area has spent most of the initial allocation and project to spend all by the end of the grant period. All counties have continued to work on their plans and programs with the new extension. Shut down will be 2/2022. DOL has received a request for another Opioid grant in the amount of 8.5 million with the Area requesting around \$600,000 to start March 2022 through February 2024. No word has been received yet.

Business Outreach funds were extended to December 31, 2021. All funds were spent but \$5306.95. Admin funds of \$3070.42 were transferred between Athens and Perry. An additional \$10,000 was requested by Perry above the original award for a total award of \$210,366.

A second round of BRN funds has been approved. This ends June 2023 for a total award of \$428,200 for the three counties and admin.

RESEA grants. Each county received \$7399.54, and all that money has been spent. Additional funds were

requested by the Area and was received for a total of \$138,946.33 in award. All those funds have been spent and PY21 funds have been issued. This was divided equally among all three counties for a total of \$11,533.59. Mendra requested that the \$3,845 of fiscal/administrative funds be transferred to program and divided equally among the counties.

Commissioner Owen made the motion to transfer those funds. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All were in favor.

Pre-Apprenticeship Grant funds were received for a total of \$260K. Participant funding was \$216K. with an additional \$52K in WIOA 3rd year special projects funding for RMS costs. Subgrant agreements were signed with TCCC and Meigs Career Center. Director McKnight is working to get Mid East signed on and their subgrant agreement completed.

The Perry and Associates audit is in the final stages with a cost around \$7.950.

ODJFS External Audit has begun for PY2021 WIOA/CCMEP/TANF/Opioid 3 grants.

3. OMJ Center Certification:

Phase 3 certification of our OMJ centers has begun. Because we just completed Phase 1 and 2 with Athens and Perry, the Office of Workforce Development will allow us to move our Phase 2 certification scores onto the Phase 3 scorecard and then complete just the form for Meigs. Meigs completed the 8044 form that was needed with a committee of Steve Carson, Jeff Circle, Jennifer Kleski and Brent Patterson. The OMJ scored 100%. Director McKnight requested approval from the CEO's to recommend to the Area 14 Board that all 3 centers be approved for Phase 3 certification.

Motion made by Commissioner Eliason and seconded by Commissioner Owen to present to the board for vote and approval Athens, Meigs and Perry for Phase 3 certifications. All were in favor.

4. Apprenticeship-Director McKnight:

Our new operating plan has been approved to now include Mid East Career Center for their pre-apprenticeship as well as Hocking College to be the training provider for an adult pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship training. We have been working with all our local dealers in Athens and Meigs as well as with Ricart to get this program started regionally.

Perry OMJ, fiscal and Director McKnight will be meeting with Mid East and getting their subgrant agreement signed so we can start enrolling their Perry students into the program. The Perry OMJ staff and Director McKnight will be working with Mid East to recruit businesses in and around Perry County for the students to be placed in.

5. Policy Updates:

Individual Training Account Policy has been updated as it was realized that training has gone up. Old policy links the \$10,000 year cap for training, on the job training and supportive services to that max.

The goal is to not just get people through training, but to get them employed in their new field, using funding for on-the-job placement and wages with a local employer is a great way to help this be successful. The change will allow for \$10,000/yr to for training purposes, this would be exclusive of the OJT policy to dictate that cap amount which is currently at \$8000 for up to 13 weeks wage reimbursement to the employer, this allows those programs to be seamless so one can get their certification or degree and then be placed with an employer and start work.

Supportive services were also separated out of the training cap to allow for a maximum of \$4000/year to help with anything outside of training such as gas cards to get to/from training or employment, work clothing and such.

Director McKnight requested to present this policy for approval at the board meeting.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve presenting both language changes above to the board. Commissioner Miller seconded. All were in favor.

6. Unemployment Update:

Unemployment saw an increase due to seasonal employment.

Our OMJ's are doing mini job fairs on site and at local businesses. BRN grants will increase outreach to businesses allow for even more onsite job fairs with the mobile units. We will be holding our Annual Area 14 In person job fair at the Athens Community center on April 27th. Director McKnight requested funding in our most recent BRN grant to be used to cover the cost of the Area job fair at the community centers.

7. Performance Measures:

Counties continued to do well on the unadjusted PY21, 1st quarter report which was included in the meeting folder.

8. Other Business:

Director McKnight requested a vote to extend the monitoring contract for Real Workforce Solutions as allowed in the original 1-year contract. This could be extended for an additional two years.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to extend the contract. Commissioner Owen seconded. All were in favor.

With no further business, Commissioner Eliason made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. With the motion passing, the meeting ended at 9:22am.