



The Area 14 Workforce Development Board (WDB) met for a regularly scheduled meeting on the **8th day of February 2018**, at the Ohio University Inn, Athens, Ohio. A quorum was determined to be present.

**1) Chair Robert Ogden opened the meeting, introductions followed**

Jean Whobrey and Tracy Clark were introduced as new board members representing business for Meigs County. Welcome Jean and Tracy! Jill Taylor was not present, however will be representing business for Perry County at future meetings. Welcome Jill!

**2) Approval of previous meeting minutes**

Minutes/Notes (no quorum at last meeting) were presented and approved.

**3) State Representative Jay Edwards** attended as a special guest of the Area 14 Workforce Development Board. Jay addressed the group and thanked them for their volunteer efforts. He encouraged everyone to keep the lines of communication open to him and to provide ideas and feedback regarding workforce development in our area.

**4) Updates from the three Ohio Means Jobs Centers**

**Perry-** OMJ Center sponsored a Train to Work fair during the week of 1/29/18.

Perry County OMJ and the Perry County Libraries developed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding to detail their commitment to work together to provide Perry county job seekers all the resources available to them.

Staff is preparing for the Area 14 Job Fair scheduled for 4/25/18 at the Athens Community Center. Several employers have already been recruited.

Start Talking! Drug Prevention Program is a new initiative to give parents, guardians, educators and community leaders the tools to start the conversation with Ohio's youth about the importance of living healthy, drug-free lives. Perry County OMJ will be sponsoring an event for agencies and businesses on 3/27/18.

**Athens-** The Athens OMJ Center hosted a very successful Employer Open House on 1/24/18. Eighteen employers attended and networked as well as received information about OMJ and partner services and resources available to them.

Athens has continued advertising ASPIRE and GED options because enrollment seems to have fallen. There are two new graduation pathways the team is investigating <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Earning-an-Ohio-High-School-Diploma-for-the-Class#pathways>

The Athens OMJ sponsored ServSafe training for area food service workers.

Athens is also gearing up for the upcoming Area 14 Jobs Fair scheduled for 4/25/18. Multiple employers have already signed up, and based on previous years, around 75 employers are expected to attend. Look for advertisements over the coming weeks.

**Meigs-** OMJ Center is sponsoring a Careerapalooza at Southern High School on 2/23/18 (3/2 if a snow day). The event is geared toward 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders, and features information about careers, training, and will have 16 workshops to offer students interesting hands-on demonstrations. They are hoping Meigs and Eastern High Schools will participate next year.

Meigs OMJ is now offering Workforce Wednesday to highlight employers and programs like apprenticeships for job-seekers' information.

## 5) Director's Report

### A) Director Jean Demosky provided updates and business

- JobsOhio (“a private non-profit corporation designed to drive job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention and expansion efforts”) has approached the Ohio WD Areas 1-20 regarding development of a “Master Services Agreement” to ensure they will be able to take action in a timely manner should the need present itself. Jean asked board member Sara Marrs-Maxfield to explain a little more about JobsOhio and their relationship with Area 14. Sara explained that JobsOhio gets funding from Ohio liquor license monies. Based on past experience, JobsOhio seems to focus on larger counties' needs for job creation and has not showed much interest in SEO. Most of the WD areas (including Area 14) have decided to take a “wait and see” approach to signing a master services agreement. Jean will investigate inviting the JobsOhio outreach representative to see if he would like to provide more information to the Board.
- Area 14 OMJ staff worked with the state and partners on development of an updated Rapid Response Protocol document. The document has already put to the test with the closing of the Hocking Correctional facility in Nelsonville. The facility is actually located in Hocking county, so the team worked collaboratively with the Area 20 OMJ staff.
- Jean reported that the Buckeye Hills Regional Council grant that Area 14 worked on with Athens County Economic Development and Hocking College was unsuccessful in getting funded. We may try again when new monies become available.
- During the month of April, Jean will be reviewing the Aspire grant proposals for services in Area 14 and will provide feedback to the Department of Education. DOL actually awards the contract for the Aspire services.

## **B) General News from Director Jean Demosky**

- Jean briefly reviewed the new policy additions and is working with some OMJ staff to develop Area 14 versions as required by the state. These Area 14 policies will be presented for board approval in a future meeting.
- All three counties in Area 14 successfully submitted their CCMEP Plan on time. Each team put in a tremendous amount of thought and effort, so it was not a small task. Kudos! It will be a few months before we get feedback from the state.
- Area social media accounts (Facebook/Twitter) have been reviewed by the state for branding compliance. Jean is working with the teams on making the very small corrections required by the state.
- All three counties must develop an MOU with the county Library system so that job seekers are aware of all the resources available to them. The coordinated effort has been a welcomed collaboration. Jean and Ben Taylor, Perry county, worked with Perry County Library staff to develop theirs. Athens and Meigs are in the process of developing their versions.

## **6) Fiscal Report**

The fiscal report was presented by Mendra Hupp, fiscal agent for Area 14. She passed out current documents for WDB members to review (see attached). Mendra noted everything is looking good and we are on target for meeting budget requirements.

## **7) Documents for Review**

The director passed out the following documents for WDB members to review:  
Matrix from Office of Workforce Development regarding Implementation Activities requirements for all OMJ centers (Area 14 Board will be recertified in Fall of 2018).  
Matrix from Office of Workforce Development regarding policy requirements for LWDB areas.  
A help wanted online job postings document for Area 14.  
A document showing OMJ usage statistics for the July, August and September 2017 quarter.

**8) Adjournment** – moved by Sara Marrs-Maxfield, seconded by Stephen Carson. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The meeting ended at 11:45am

Gary Arnold  
Jeff Circle  
Patti Smith  
Kelly Hatas  
Jamie Bartee  
Sara Marrs-Maxfield  
Stephen Carson  
Misty Milstead  
Brent Patterson  
David Brennan (Vice-Chair)  
Jean Whobrey  
John Hoback  
Tracy Clark  
Robert Ogden (Chair)  
Troy Nash  
Jill Taylor  
Ethan Frank-Collins

Stephanie Cleland

Lenny Eliason  
Mike Bartrum  
James O'Brien

Scott Zielinski  
Chris Shank  
Vince Reiber  
Kyle Dunn  
Jace Jackson  
Angela McCord  
Cheryl Boley  
Ben Taylor  
Joe McGowen  
Theresa Lavender  
Angela McCord  
Mendra Hupp  
Tracy Helber