

Cumberlands Workforce Development Board  
Meeting Minutes  
10/21/2025 @ 10:00 am (CT)  
LCADD, 2384 Lakeway Dr, Russell Springs, KY 42642

The Cumberlands Workforce Development Board's meeting was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 10:00 am Central Time in-person and via Zoom at the Lake Cumberland Area Development District office in Russell Springs. Mr. Jeff VanHook, Chair, called the meeting to order and Mr. Scott Pierce opened with prayer.

Ms. Shannon Kelty, LCADD Administrative Assistant, called the roll. There were twenty-two (22) of the twenty-nine (29) board members present. There were twelve (12) members in-person and ten (10) via Zoom. There were fifteen (15) Business and Workforce representatives in attendance meeting the minimum requirement of 51% of those members being present, thus constituting a quorum.

All members received a copy of the minutes from the August 19, 2025 meeting. Questions and/or corrections were asked for; there being none, a motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Ms. Tina Cook. Seconded by Mr. Scott Pierce. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Myra Wilson, Executive Director, gave the budget report stating the total budget for PY25 is \$2,195,473.00. As of October 3, 2025, \$305,865.42 has been expended, which is 13.93% of the budget. A motion to accept the 2025 budget as presented was made by Mr. Wendell Emerson. Seconded by Ms. Amanda Stafford. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Jeff VanHook presented several members for appointment & ratification; Roxana Miracle to the Youth Committee, Alesa Johnson to the Youth Committee, Bill Sandell to the Youth Committee, Kate Ray to the Youth Committee, Jeremy Lewis to the Youth Committee and Katie Houghlin to the Cumberlands Workforce Development Board. A motion to accept the appointments was made by Mr. Wendell Emerson. Seconded by Ms. Tina Cook. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Ms. Myra Wilson, Executive Director, presented an updated WIOA Out of School Youth Policy. We currently pay \$10/hr for 200 hours. The new policy would pay \$13/hr for 400 hours. A motion to accept the policy as presented was made by Ms. Amanda Stafford. Seconded by Mr. Scott Pierce. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Ms. Myra Wilson, Executive Director, presented a National Dislocated Worker Grant Policy. The policy would cover all 13 counties we serve and allocate \$4,000 per participant for employment recovery with a goal of 65 participants. A motion to accept the policy as presented was made by Mr. Wendell Emerson. Seconded by Ms. Tina Cook. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Ms. Karen Miller, One Stop Operator, presented the Campbellsville Career Center for recertification. A motion to accept the recertification was made by Mr. Kevin Shearer. Seconded by Ms. Alesa Johnson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Ms. Karen Miller then presented the Columbia Career Center for recertification. A motion to accept the recertification was made by Mr. Willie Wilson. Seconded by Mr. Wendell Emerson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Ms. Karen Miller also reviewed the Kentucky Career Center update. Totals for July, August and September (Q1) are as follows:

County	In Person	Phone	Virtual	Total
• Albany:	340	158	50	548
• Burkesville:	11	58	35	104
• Campbellsville:	498	127	45	670
• Columbia:	125	28	0	153
• Corbin:	205	141	0	346
• Liberty:	271	129	107	507
• London:	16	80	2	98
• Monticello:	2	114	36	152
• Russell Springs:	205	150	0	355
• Somerset:	1253	2581	5229	9063
• Whitley City:	445	0	2	447
• <b>Grand totals:</b>	<b>3,371</b>	<b>3,566</b>	<b>5,506</b>	<b>12,443</b>

Ms. B.J. Wilkerson, WIOA Program Director, gave an update on WIOA programs. WIOA currently has 84 active participants and 91 in follow-up. PY24 monitoring is scheduled for March 2, 2026. The Individual Placement and Support Model (IPS) MOUs are being worked on & 2 Supported Employment Specialists will be hired with a goal of providing IPS services beginning in December. ProjectWORK is currently serving 123 participants with 112 completing the program. Cybersecurity training has all 5 spots filled and training has been opened to others outside the initial parameters. Business Services has participated in several hiring events recently. PYKTW has 228 participants signed up and new candidates being enrolled daily.

Secretary Jamie Link, Education & Labor Cabinet, gave an update from the cabinet stating that there are 19 agencies in the cabinet with approximately 3,000 employees. The governor is pushing the Pre-K for All initiative which will directly affect the workforce by helping parents get back to work. The SWATT initiative has been launched to bring a cohesive effort on the workforce front at the local and state level. SWATT's primary goal "is to communicate and collaborate with one another." SWATT partnerships continue to grow and efforts are being made to make it a sustainable program across administrations. The Everybody Counts initiative helps expose students to future career and academic opportunities. Reentry services are gaining a lot of steam in the Commonwealth to help inmates who are on the path of release to train them for a career path. Funding to upgrade the Unemployment Insurance system has been approved and is about halfway through development. Kentucky leads the nation in GED pass rates at 78% and Adult Education programs are being highly utilized. Secretary Link says that he feels the 11 cabinets are collaborating more now than they ever have. Apprenticeships are growing in Kentucky. The federal government shut down is beginning to affect funding for programs and if the shutdown continues, funding may run out. The demand for Vocational Rehab services has exceeded the supply, so services are currently being provided on a priority basis.

Ms. Myra Wilson gave a Director's Update. There is a Technology Showcase on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Larry Hatfield will be retiring November 4<sup>th</sup>. RFPs will go out in January for the One Stop Operator and Direct Service Provider. Work has already begun on these. Thanks to the local reentry team for all the work they've done to get reentry services at a state level. The SWATT Roadshow will be hosted at LCADD on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Wilson encourages everyone to watch Secretary Link's testimony from July 31<sup>st</sup> on KET. Testimony will begin on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am Eastern to seek additional funding from the General Assembly.

Mr. Waylon Wright, LCADD Executive Director, gave a Direct Service Provider Update. Thanks to Mr. Larry Hatfield for all the work he has done. The ADD Board of Directors have selected MSE of

Lexington for the Architectural Design and oversight of the construction process for the new Comprehensive building in Somerset. The preliminary design is being worked on and once it is received, it will be shared with all the partners to gather input and finalize the design.

Ms. Myra Wilson proposed changing the date for the December meeting from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> due to the holidays. A motion to move the meeting was made by Mr. Kevin Shearer. Seconded by Mr. Willie Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Tina Cook. Meeting adjourned.

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Jeff VanHook, Chair

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Vickie Wells, Secretary/Treasurer