

Cumberlands Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
6/18/2024

The Cumberlands Workforce Development Board (CWDB) met in person and via Zoom on June 18th, 2024 at the Lake Cumberland Area Development office in Russell Springs. Chairman Sam Brown called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Ms. Jana Shell called the roll. There were twenty four (24) of the twenty-nine (29) member's present in-person or via zoom, thus constituting a quorum of the Board. There were eight members in-person and 16 via zoom were Business and Workforce representatives which met the requirement of 51% of members present being a combination of Business and Workforce representatives.

Copies of the April 16th, 2024 Meeting Minutes were sent to all members. Questions/corrections were asked for; there being none, a motion was made by Chairman Brown to approve the minutes as presented. Scott Pierce made the motion to accept the minutes and Larry King seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Brown introduced Lori Poindexter as a new member of the board replacing Karen Talbott as of July 1st, 2024. Lori is a nurse practitioner from Albany and represents healthcare.

Vickie Wells, Treasurer gave the budget report for 4-5-2024 stating our total budget for the year is \$2,350,681.93. As of the same date, we have expended \$1,894,785.74 which is 84.75% of the budget. Ms. Wells noted that page 2 was the broken-out expenditures by grant area and that we are on target. Mr. Brown asked Ms. Wells if she was making a motion on behalf of the committee and she said yes and the motion carried. Next Ms. Wells presented the 2024 preliminary budget with planning numbers that had been received. Motion made by Scott Pierce seconded by Craig Dean to accept the 2024 preliminary budget. Motion carried.

Chairman Brown brought forward the Direct Service Provider contract extension and budget for approval. Mr. King made a motion for approval, seconded by Vickie Wells. Motion carried.

Chairman Brown brought forward the One-Stop operator and budget contract extension. Mr. King made a motion for approval, seconded by Vickie Wells. Motion carried.

Chairman Brown brought forward the contract with the Lake Cumberland Community Action Agency for administration and budget was presented. Jeff VanHook made the motion for approval and Rhonda Thomas seconded with none opposing. Motion carried.

Albany ADA and recertification were discussed. ADA review on May 15th by Jennifer Hicks from Frankfort revealed the first counter is high for a wheelchair. It was suggested to have a workstation for a wheelchair in the resource room for people with disabilities. Eric Sproles made an approval motion, seconded by Scott Pierce to accept the Albany documents and findings. Motion carried.

Mr. Pierce from the nominating committee recommended Mr. Jeff VanHook as the Chairman, and Mr. Sam Brown as the Vice-Chairman for the Cumberland Workforce Development Board. The motion was made and carried with no opposition.

Mr. VanHook and Jason Rainey's interview on KET's Business Beat was played to the group. The new industrial park and 16 sites were discussed along with future groundbreaking.

Mr. Brown invited Ms. Debbie Dennison from the KWIB to speak and she was grateful for the great meeting and to be present.

Next, Ms. Karen Miller presented the numbers for the Kentucky Career Center. 6,442 for email, telephone, and in-person contacts were reported with this being a conservative number.

Ms. Lisa Gosser from Business Services presented data from engagement with employers, potential clients, marketing, and meetings. She also discussed the rapid-response event in Laurel County.

Mr. Brown gave the floor to Ms. Wilson and she discussed House Bill 1 funds and how they will be allocated. The funds are expected the first week in July. Judge King's five interns will be the pilot program in the Cumberland.

The first request from a budget review subcommittee will be in Frankfort, in July 2024. Ms. Wilson also discussed the WOTC presentation to employers, VR training in Lexington, and the program expenses.

The first request to testify for the legislators in Frankfort was presented to Michael Gritton and Ms. Wilson. Ms. Wilson will also be presenting at SETA in Versailles in July.

Ms. Wilson shared the updates to the strategic plan that were in the package the members received for review.

In other business, Ms. Marsha Wells requested approval for an additional semester for a client to graduate with his bachelor's in IT. The motion was made by Scott Pierce and seconded by Larry King with one opposition. Motion Carried.

Ms. Dennison stated that collaboration and unity are the new trends in the state of KY.

The adjournment motion was made by Scott Pierce.



Sam Brown, Chairman



Vickie Wells, Secretary/Treasurer