

Cumberlands Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
8/19/2025 @ 10:00 am (CT)
LCADD, 2384 Lakeway Dr, Russell Springs, KY 42642

The Cumberlands Workforce Development Board's meeting was held on Tuesday, August 19, 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. Sam Brown, Vice-Chair, 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 fifteen (15) members in-person and seven (7) via zoom/phone. 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 June 17, 2025 meeting. Questions and/or corrections were asked for; there being none, a motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Sam Brown, seconded by Mr. Craig Dean. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Vickie Wells, Treasurer, gave the budget report stating the total budget for PY25 is \$2,195,473.00. As of August 8, 2025, \$79,026.74 has been expended, which is 3.6% of the budget. A motion to accept the 2025 budget as presented was made by Ms. Ayla Hargis. Seconded by Mr. Larry King. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Myra Wilson, Executive Director, presented a Service Agreement Amendment for Kinetic Strategic Design. Funds for website maintenance and social media postings remained the same at \$2,062.50 per month. A motion to accept the amendment as presented was made by Ms. Alesa Johnson. Seconded by Mr. Larry King. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Judge Executive Randy Marcum, Russell County, spoke about Cumberland County Fiscal Court receiving the National Association of Counties Achievement Award. The award is the result of Judge Executive Luke King's efforts in starting a Civics Club and County Internship Program in Cumberland County Schools. According to Mr. David Nicholson, Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk, there were 3,069 counties nationally being considered for the award and Cumberland County, with a population of 6,000, won over a county of 60,000.

Ms. Karen Miller, One-Stop Operator, reviewed the Kentucky Career Center update. Grand totals for FY25 are as follows:

County	In Person	Phone	Virtual	Total
• Albany:	1073	359	37	1469
• Burkesville:	26	81	43	150
• Campbellsville:	2730	104	52	2886
• Columbia:	732	168	3	903
• Corbin:	978	481	30	1489
• Liberty:	2021	241	611	2873
• London:	99	273	16	388
• Monticello:	75	373	66	514
• Russell Springs:	439	509	0	948

• Somerset:	5661	9492	17333	32486
• Whitley City:	1512	394	145	2051
• Grand totals:	15,346	12,475	18,336	46,157

Ms. Miller stated that altogether, the centers served 8,023 people more than the previous year.

Ms. B.J. Wilkerson, WIOA Program Director, gave an update on WIOA programs. WIOA currently has 47 active participants and 107 in follow-up. They have successfully completed the Corrective Action Plan and regular meetings/trainings are on-going. The Individual Placement and Support Model (IPS) is still being rolled out and they are looking for treatment providers. ProjectWORK is currently serving 117 participants. Cybersecurity training still has 2 spots open and training will begin in October. Business Services has participated in several hiring events recently. PYKTW has partnered with Russell County Schools to help with the launching of the Civics Club and Internship program. PYKTW has 197 participants signed up and new candidates being enrolled daily.

Mr. Sam Flynn, Executive Director for Pre-K for All, spoke about universal preschool in Kentucky. Pre-K for All is an initiative launched by the Governor in June that would expand access to pre-school for all 4-year-old children in Kentucky. Currently, Kentucky has 54,000 4-year-olds and only 27% of them have access to preschool. By making preschool universal, more children will be Kindergarten ready, daycares will have more open spots for the younger children and parents can reenter the workforce sooner without having to worry about the cost of daycare. This initiative would have an immediate, positive impact on the Commonwealth's workforce.

Ms. Alesa Johnson, Somerset Community College, spoke about FiberOptics training. The recent demand for FiberOptics workers has exploded. One company alone is trying to fill 300 jobs by the end of 2026 and they have multiple companies that are interested in hiring the students they train. While some of these jobs are local, many are national. The certifications in the past have focused on a construction setting and now they will offer a certification for Fiber to the Home. They currently have four cohorts scheduled for the Fall with 10 students per cohort. Currently, the training is 7 days, but will move to 10 days with the addition of the Fiber to the Home certification.

Ms. Myra Wilson gave a Director's Update stating that she recently attended the Goodwill Director's retreat as a board panelist. Ms. Wilson, as well as some Judge Executives and ADD employees recently attended Senator Stivers quarterly meeting. The Local and Regional Plan has been approved for the next four years. Monitoring has been completed and the Corrective Action Plan has been satisfied. Ms. Wilson asks for everyone's support as testifying at the EDWI will begin soon and could result in additional funding.

Mr. Waylon Wright, LCADD Executive Director, gave a Direct Service Provider Update. The ADD board executed a lease agreement with the Center for Rural Development in July for the new building in Somerset and the allocation for the building has been received. The ADD board has begun the architectural procurement process and should have an architect within 3 weeks.

Ms. Myra Wilson reminded everyone about the KWIB meeting on August 21st at 12:30 pm which will be hosted at LCADD and encourages everyone to attend.

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Jeff VanHook. Meeting adjourned.

Jeff VanHook, Chair

Vickie Wells, Secretary/Treasurer