



Workforce Investment Board

Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Debbie Lieberman, Karen Borgert, Marvene Mitchell Cook, Chris Williams, Timothy Dutton, Walter Hibner, Diane Walsh, Linda Ashworth, Richard Wegmann, Sarah Hackenbracht, Patty Buddelmeyer, Kathleen Cleary, Tawana Jones, Shannon Cox, Angelia Erbaugh

Guests Present: Garth McLean, Larry Lash, Jacqueline Williams, Susan Warren, Mark Anderson, Dave Seagraves, Michael Booker, Regina Lewis, Linda White

Call to Order, Introductions and Announcements: Karen Borgert

The meeting called to order by Chair Karen Borgert at 9:15 AM.

Approval of Minutes: Chair Karen Borgert called the motion to approve minutes: Motion to approve by Timothy Dutton, Second by Linda Ashworth.

Minutes approved without discussion.

Purpose of WIB: The Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board purpose is to drive strategic alliances that advance the region's workforce initiatives and ultimately the region's economic vitality.

Role and Function: The role of WIB is to manage the strategic direction of workforce development activities through the investment in people, fulfilling employer needs, and improving the quality of life in Montgomery County.

WIB – Karen Borgert

WIB purpose statement reviewed. There is a lot the board can look into going forward. The McKinsey & Company report looks at workforce on a federal level. The report looks at closing the skills gap: creating workforce development programs that work for everyone. The Brookings Institution and the Harvard Kennedy School's project on Workforce looks at what works in workforce development – and how can it work better?

While we can't run a paint brush across all sectors to the extent you can bring things to a local level you have more success.

Greater Ohio Workforce Board/Area 7 – Lori Geary

No Report

Introduction of new board members – Marvene Mitchell Cook

Dr. Kathleen Cleary, Senior Vice President for Workforce Solutions, Sinclair College, who is replacing Dave Collins.

Tawana Jones, Director of Montgomery County Community and Economic Development, replacing Erik Collins.

Workforce – Marvene Mitchell Cook

As the first in person meeting since pre Covid, we are taking some time to put faces to names and introduce some of the workforce team and what they do.

Business Solutions Center – Mark Anderson

While part of what we do is to give businesses a place to hold meetings, networking events, and training for free, we do so much more in the development of Workforce Initiatives for the region. The BSC connects businesses with resources and services for workforce support with dedicated employer services coordinators who meet with and consult with employers. Some of those initiatives include recruitment plans, funded hiring programs and assist with Job Fairs and Youth Programming. The BSC hosts hundreds of events and meetings with nearly 10,000 participants each year using the board and event rooms. The CARES Act was housed and completed here providing 92 million in funding awarded to businesses in Montgomery County – making sure that they had assistance through the pandemic. Ohio to Work South West, in partnership with Sinclair, was coordinated through the BSC and Workforce Development teams, having served 19,000 job seekers representing over half of the state's total recipients and re-skilled over 10,000 regionally. SW Ohio placed almost 6,000 individuals in jobs through the year which represented 25% of all those placed within the state.

Madison Lakes– Dave Seagraves

Madison Lakes is in the process of renovation and should be ready to open the first party of July. There will be 2 large rooms available for training purposes. We will also tie into the City of Trotwood and get involved with a community garden.

Employment Opportunity Center– Michael Booker

We are entering our second full year of service. This center is a satellite office of the job center. We do have the fundamentals around WIOA training dollars available with orientations going on at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Partnerships include Miami Valley Career Technology Center with the Aspire Program, which is a GED and HESI program. Another partnership is with Sinclair College & BCC IT Apprenticeship Program. This really helps to address and fill IT positions in our region. This ultimately upon completion gives participants the opportunity to gain full-time employment with the county or can move on to unsubsidized employment elsewhere in our region. The Male and Female Leadership Academies are also housed here. This center really gives a chance to impact the community of West Dayton.

Compliance and Review – Larry Lash

The Montgomery County Business Services (MCBS) Compliance and Review Unit serves as an advocate support entity entrusted to ensure that programs and providers meet regulatory standards and obligations required by their contractual arrangements. We do this through monitoring and technical assistance.

Talent and Adult – Susan Warren

Services offered: OMJ registration, labor market information, community resources and programs, career assessments, job search assistance, career counseling, workshops, skill level assessments, development of individual opportunity/employment plans, short and long-term training services, career planning, literacy activities.

Adult Career Services – Jacqueline Williams

Adult Career Services is a coordination and alignment of workforce development services. It is our goal to close the skills gap because what we know is the demand for skilled workers is greater than ever before, but the availability is in short supply.

YCS-365 – Garth McLean

Our Youth Services program supports hundreds of teens aged 14-18 and provides employment opportunities with businesses county-wide. For over 20 years, this program has allowed students to gain valuable work experience and has provided a workforce pipeline to many industries.

Walter Hibner – CenterPoint Energy

Personal background: Degree in Construction Management and worked in construction/building industry, then went to Dayton Power and Light until 2003, Homebuilders Association of Dayton in 2007, started with Vectren in 2015, which is now a CenterPoint Energy company.

CenterPoint Energy is in 6 states with 9,000 employees and 7 million customers. It is based out of Houston, with 170 in the workforce in Ohio. The rates are regulated by the PUCO and the last rate increase was 2019.

Through the CenterPoint Energy Foundation, we look at ways to help the community. Our giving priorities are community vitality and education, with 1.4 million going into the community in 2023.

The energy world is changing. We now have 2.5 million electric users in Houston and less gas users. Electric is the talk. In 2026 some coal plants will be closed and change to fossil fuels. We are looking toward more renewable energy and waste to energy is growing.

Presentation to Karen Borger – Marvene Mitchell Cook

Gift presented to Karen Borgert as this is her last WIB meeting. Karen has been Chair during some of the hardest years, helping with ideas, educating, and mentoring. Her presence will be greatly missed.

Rick Wegman introduced himself as the new WIB Chair.

Board Member Comments**County Administrator and Commissioners Comments**

Debbie Lieberman – As I look around we have a lot of sectors represented: education, energy, manufacturing, economic development, and workforce. Looking forward to working together as a team and just want to say thank you.

Meeting Adjourned – 10:30 AM

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023