



NEMO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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**NEMO Workforce Development Board (WDB)
Employer Engagement Committee Meeting
September 11, 2018**

Members Present

Lesla Barber
Jim Kolve
Annette Sweet

WDB Staff

Diane Simbro
Sharon Hillard

Members Absent

Corey Mehaffy
Diane Noah
Dennis Gill
Mac Wilt
Stephen Garner
Darin Arnsmeier
Clinton Flowers

CLEO

Glenn Eagan

Guests

Brandi Glover
Rita Brown
Lisa Marshall
Tom Christine
Bryan Trappe
Shari Schenwerk
Dana Keller
Sheree Prebe
Eric Davis
Jeanne Savel
Rory Brown
Mark Forster
Howard Clark

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Jim Kolve called the September 11, 2018 Employer Engagement Committee Meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. at the Missouri Job Center-Hannibal in Hannibal, MO.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and a signature sheet was signed by those attending. Three committee members were present, and a quorum was established. Eighteen individuals participated in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dana Keller moved to approve the agenda. Rita Brown seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tom Christine moved to approve the June 15, 2018 and June 19, 2018 Meeting minutes. Shari Schenewerk seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

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INTRODUCTIONS OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Everyone introduced themselves.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORT

Jim Kolve provided information regarding the Missouri Poverty Rates by County. Missouri's statewide poverty rate in 2016 was 14% which was an 8% change from 2015. Twenty three counties had a poverty rate above 20%. Seven counties had a poverty rate below 10%. Fourteen percent of Missourians live below the federal poverty level. Over 19% of Missouri children live in poverty. He said the information should be considered as ways to improve Employer/Employee engagement were discussed.

Jim thanked all those who had been working on the NCRCs and the Certified Work Ready Community initiative. He said Work Ready County Certification was a consideration of employers looking to expand or locate in the region.

Jim provided a *Realtime Pathway Summary* for August 2018 showing available jobs in the Transportation, Logistics & Advanced Manufacturing sectors. He also provided the *MERIC Missouri Realtime Labor Market Summary* indicating Missouri's top industry sector postings for July 2018. Number one on the list was healthcare. He noted that a MO Hospital Association meeting was scheduled for October 24, 2018 to discuss healthcare needs and how we can assist with possible apprenticeship programs, incumbent worker training, etc. to build the workforce for that sector. Regarding that meeting, Diane said Jill Williams had invited all of the hospitals in our 16-county region. A meeting was held in Hannibal last fall but only one hospital attended. In order to have a more central location, this next meeting will be held at the Home Town Café in Clarence, MO. If attendance is still low, Diane told Jill we were willing to meet with the hospitals in smaller groups. Jill plans to reach out to all of the hospitals to see who plans to be in attendance.

Jim said at the last meeting we talked about the Quincy Promise which is a project between Quincy and John Wood Community College. Private individuals had donated \$350,000 to pay 100 percent of the college tuition for students who want to attend John Wood Community College and who will commit to attending for two years and staying in the Quincy area workforce. He said the businesses were stepping up and the project had been extremely successful. Jim said this was a pretty smart move for them. However, the program ends in 2019 and he didn't know if it would be extended. There was another similar project called the Illinois Commitment that will help students from middle income families attend the University of IL at Champagne. The program starts in 2019 and any family that makes less than \$61,000 per year can send their kids to that college and not have to pay. Shari mentioned that the University of Missouri had a project where they will enhance student aid for low income students. Diane asked for more information about the MIZZOU project as it would help the region supplement its WIOA dollars. Jim said he didn't know if the efforts of the colleges was due to the labor shortage or if they were

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trying to find ways to keep the workforce in their regions. He said this may be something our smaller towns should consider. Rita mentioned that MACC had partnered with MIZZOU and Truman in providing some of their A+ Programs.

Jim said in an effort to increase the labor participation rate in the state of MO and to decrease the rate of recidivism, Diane and Shari were meeting with the MO Department of Corrections (DOC) to discuss how to assist individuals with workforce training prior to their release. Tom Christine said Louisiana, MO had a great program going with work release at Bowling Green and a lot of people in the community were getting involved. Moberly also had some things going on there. Dana Keller said Vandalia also had a work release program where the nursing home was assisting individuals with CNA training so they would have a CNA license upon release.

Diane said when they discussed this with DOC in Jeff City they mentioned that when individuals develop their home plan 6-months prior to their release, they must locate in the area chosen in their plan. So if we want to retain some of those folks in our area (in most cases, it is better that they don't return to their previous environment), we need to develop a process where we can be working with them prior to their release. She said we want them to be employed or in training upon release but they still have some work left to do in coordinating services for individuals who plan to locate to another area. Dana said there was a list of all the DOL registered vocational training opportunities in the state which was a starting point in providing them experience. Shari said they would be discussing how to provide the Work Keys/NCRC testing to these individuals today. Jeanne Savel provided information about programs in the St. Louis area that provide similar training services. Diane said this would be good information to give to those planning to go back to the St. Louis area. Jim said he gave Diane a copy of St. Louis region employers that will hire ex-offenders. Diane said the information would be forwarded to everyone.

WDB CHAIR REPORT

Corey was unable to attend so the WDB Chair report was not provided.

HOWARD CLARK- RANDOLPH COUNTY CARING COMMUNITIES

Howard Clark with Randolph County Caring Communities provided a presentation regarding a partner project called *Focus on Fatherhood*. The responsible father initiative "*Focus on Fatherhood*" began in June 2011 with funding provided by the Children's Trust Fund. The initiative was designed to embrace fathers where they are and enable them to improve their relationship with their children as well as the mother of their children. The education program is designed to increase the involvement of fathers in child nurturing and to enhance the parenting skills of fathers so they can help their children grow into healthy, responsible adults. It is a family strengthening and nurturing program that promotes the Strengthening Families Framework and Five Protective Factors model designed to increase family strengths, enhance child development, and reduce child abuse and neglect. More information can be

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found at focusonfatherhood@rcccpmo.org.

STATE WIDE INITIATIVES

Diane provided information regarding upcoming events which included the following:

- Missouri Hospital Association meeting scheduled for October 24, 2018
- Manufacturing Day to be held at J & J at Moscow Mills and in the Kirksville and Hannibal areas
- It was mentioned that a career night targeting the regional sectors was going to be held at the High School the first week of November
- An Hour of Code event is planned for the week of December 3, 2018
- A Disability Awareness event will be held next spring and will include a reverse job fair
- An Employer Round Table event will be planned for some time in November or December to discuss needs and barriers.

**NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE
CERTIFIED WORK READY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE
(Update on County Progress)**

Shari and Rita provided an update regarding the Certified Work Ready Community initiative. Seven of the Region's counties were now certified. Six were participating and three were not participating.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Tom Christine talked about *Coffee Talk* which is an opportunity for Veterans to come in and discuss their needs.

Shari Schenwerk said a new company called Mac Rac was opening in Moberly and would be having an open house / hiring event tomorrow September 12.

Sheree Prebe talked about a project with Hannibal Regional Hospital where high school kids were being provided work experiences that may lead to employment. Currently Gamm has two youth participating through the Summer Jobs League Program and two youth participating through the WIOA Youth Program. She said the youth usually begin the work experience with a job coach and then they are on their own.

Lisa Marshall provided information regarding recent and upcoming hiring events at the Warrenton Job Center. Some of the events held were for Bodine, New Florence and Coke.

Brandi Glover updated everyone regarding the Moberly Area Community College programs and initiatives.

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OTHER BUSINESS

It was decided that Rory Brown and Jeanne Savel would present information about their agency at the next Employer Engagement meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2018. Location to be determined.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:35 a.m.

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