



**Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB)
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2021**

Attendees:

EKWIB Members

Vic Adams
Trina Allen
Jared Arnett
Sonya Bergman – Vice Chair
Howard Blackburn – Chair
Kevin Chesnut
Betsy Clemons
Frank Dawahare
Paul Dole
Frances Feltner Proxy-Beth Bowling
Keith Gabbard
Meriwether Hall
Chuck Sexton Proxy-Ivy Stanley
Derek Lewis Proxy-Mindy Miller
Diana Jarboe
Vince Minix
Paul Patton
Anna Larson
Tracey Smith
Brent Sturgill

EKCEP Staff

Jeff Whitehead – Executive Director
Owen Grise
Bridget Back
Michael Cornett
Ernestine Weems
Melissa Quillen
Trish Adams
Sharon Poff
Tonya Collins
Travis Winkler

Guests

Jenni Hampton

Minutes

The Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB) held its quarterly meeting on September 16, 2021. The meeting was conducted via video communications, "Zoom".

EKWIB's Board Chair, Howard Blackburn called the meeting to order. The roll call resulted in 20 members being in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 EKWIB meeting, which had previously been distributed. Brent Sturgill made the motion to approve the minutes. Sonya Bergman seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Jeff Whitehead, EKCEP's Executive Director welcomed Anna Larson to the EKWIB. Anna Larson represents Kentucky Skills U.

Jeff Whitehead began the meeting according to the agenda that was previously provided electronically to all EKWIB board members.

PY 2021 Budget Presentation, Financial Report, and Programmatic Review

Tonya Collins, EKCEP's Director of Finance began the discussion surrounding the 2021-2022 budget.

Training

Jeff Whitehead discussed the OneUp internship. Currently, seventeen employers from our region are host employers for interns that recently graduated or are getting ready to graduate from post-secondary education. Michael Cornett EKCEP's Deputy Director for Employer Engagement and Program Operations commented that one intern from our pilot internship has been hired by the employer. Nine more employer hosts have applied to participate in the program and have been approved by the committee.

EKCEP Employer Engagement & Digital Economy

Jeff Whitehead discussed Teleworks USA and the digital economy. Michael Cornett told the attendees that workshops and hiring events have been moved to remote learning. By doing this, it has opened up the door for organizations outside our region and even our state.

Opioid Recovery Initiatives (SITE and eKART)

Jeff Whitehead discussed the Employer Resource Network and the importance of Success Coaches.

Prosper Appalachia/Berea

Jeff Whitehead discussed an attachment which was included in the “board packet” that entails their Vision, Mission, Values, and Goals. Frank Dawahare asked the question, are these staff positions in the programs part of the EKCEP staff? Jeff Whitehead answered the Prosper Appalachia staff are contracted.

Jeff Whitehead and Tonya Collins welcomed any questions or comments from the meeting attendees pertaining to the items covered.

EKCEP Funding Available for July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Tonya Collins provided a graph which reflected the available funds by category for the budget period. Jeff Whitehead asked if any board member would like to see more detail or have any discussion surrounding the information provided. Sonya Bergman stated it was very thorough.

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented. Sonya Bergman made the motion to approve. Paul Patton seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Eastern Kentucky Demographic Analysis

Bridget Back, EKCEP’s Deputy Director for Operational Effectiveness, Grant Acquisition, Reporting and Review provided an overview of the data that is available on KyStats and how to access the information.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be December 9, 2021.