



**Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB)
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2022**

Attendees:

EKWIB Members

Vic Adams
Trina Allen
Mike Lasslo Proxy-Bob Shurleff
Sonya Bergman – Vice Chair
Howard Blackburn – Chair
Brent Sturgill
Betsy Clemons
Frank Dawahare
Paul Dole
Paul Patton
Keith Gabbard
Meriwether Hall
Kevin Chesnut
Vince Minix

EKCEP Staff

Jeff Whitehead – Executive Director
Ernie Weems
Tonya Collins
Michael Cornett
Trish Adams
Sharon Poff

Guests

Minutes

The Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB) held its quarterly meeting on September 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom

EKWIB's Board Chair, Howard Blackburn called the meeting to order. The roll call resulted in 14 members being in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2022 meeting, which had previously been distributed. Sonya Bergman made the motion to approve the minutes. Trina Allen seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes from June 15, 2022 were emailed to all EKWIB members. Paul Dole made the motion to approve the minutes. Brent Sturgill seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

EKY FLOOD Update

Jeff Whitehead, EKCEP Executive Director began the discussion surrounding the disaster relief grant that was received from the Department of Labor and the State. EKCEP has been focusing on disaster clean up and humanitarian aid. We are working with employers, non-profits and other agencies who will serve as disaster relief employers. We can assign eligible participants to those employers.

Jeff Whitehead provided the current statistics for the EKY FLOOD grant. We have 415 applicants on the portal; 153 of those are eligible as participants and currently we have 30 people working, this has all happened in six weeks.

Brent Sturgill thanked EKCEP for being reactive to the situation. Brent Sturgill discussed the Fall SETA conference and how this project was highlighted during one of the sessions.

Jeff Whitehead thanked Trina Allen's team and all the folks from UI for the help they provided.

Ad Hoc Committee on hold

Jeff Whitehead told the group that due to the flood we have not forgotten the committee, it's just on hold. Jeff Whitehead discussed the Ad Hoc Committee and the reason it was formed. A new Ad Hoc Committee meeting date and time will be communicated to the members as soon as time permits.

Frank Dawahare asked the question of "how is our current spending on direct services versus indirect"? Jeff Whitehead answered "from a budgeting side we are around 50/50". Jeff Whitehead said he was all for spending more money on people.

Program Updates

Jeff Whitehead provided an update on the SITE (Strategic Initiative for Transformational Employment) program, the ERN (Employer Resource Network) program, IPS (Individual Placement and Support) program, the Youth Program and H1B Grant.

Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Brent Sturgill made the motion to adjourn.