



**Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB)  
Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2019**

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**Attendees:**

**EKWIB Members**

Betsy Clemons  
Derek Lewis – Proxy Mindy Miller  
Frank Dawahare  
Howard Blackburn  
Paul Dole – Proxy Becky Miller  
Sonya Bergman – Proxy Dylan Baker  
Tracey Smith  
Diana Jarboe  
Vic Adams  
Mike Caudill – Proxy Chris Bates  
Mike Lasslo  
Brent Sturgill  
Chuck Sexton  
Janet Slayden – Proxy Lucy Langdon  
Fran Feltner  
Keith Gabbard  
Vince Minix

**EKCEP Staff**

Trish Adams  
Sharon Poff  
Jeff Whitehead  
Bridget Back  
Tonya Collins  
Travis Winkler  
Owen Grise  
Michael Cornett  
Vanessa Collier

**Guests**

Duran Hall  
Joel Michalies

## **Minutes**

The Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB) held its quarterly meeting on December 12, 2019 in the boardroom at the Kentucky Career Center--JobSight, Hazard, Kentucky.

EKWIB's Chair, Howard Blackburn, called the meeting to order. Howard Blackburn asked for the roll call. Roll call resulted in 17 members being in attendance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2019 EKWIB meeting, which had previously been distributed to the members. Vince Minix made the motion to approve the minutes. Mike Lasslo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Jeff Whitehead, EKCEP's Executive Director introduced new WIB member, Diana Jarboe to the board. Diana is the Apprenticeship Project Director with KCTCS.

The WIB meeting continued according to the agenda. Each attendee received a "board packet" containing informational handouts prior to the call-to-order.

### **Youth Policies**

Jeff Whitehead briefly discussed the member of the Youth Committee and some of the work they have been doing. All WIB members were sent a draft copy of the Program Policies for the Eastern Kentucky Opportunity Youth Program prior to the meeting. Jeff Whitehead asked for any comments or concerns pertaining to the draft policies.

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the presented information. Vince Minix made the motion to approve. Frank Dawahare seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

### **Strategic Plan**

Jeff Whitehead began the discussion pertaining to the Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board's Strategic Plan for the years of 2019-2024. Jeff Whitehead thanked the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee for all their work on this document. The EKWIB Strategic Planning and Policy Committee has already approved the document. Jeff Whitehead asked if any of the committee had comments. No comments were received.

Jeff Whitehead discussed the East Kentucky Works Podcast, Trish Adams EKCEP's Industry Liaison is leading this process. Several "clips" of recent podcasts were played for the attendees. Jeff Whitehead also discussed the K-Tech Model for students.

Chuck Sexton, One East Kentucky, invited the attendees to a meeting on January 22, 2020 in Frankfort, Kentucky. Chuck Sexton said as a region the local business leaders and elected officials are going to travel to Frankfort, Kentucky to have a discussion with our legislators and

our state senators and others in state government. Chuck Sexton said one of the items to be discussed will be the expansion of highway 80 from Hazard, Kentucky to London, Kentucky.

The attendees watched a video pertaining to cyber security training. EKCEP is organizing and participating in the Cyber Security training program along with several other businesses in the region.

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to approve the Strategic Plan for years 2019-2024. Brent Sturgill made the motion to approve. Frank Dawahare seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

### **Local Plan Amendments**

Jeff Whitehead discussed the deficiencies found in the Strategic Local Plan. A handout was provided to each attendee. Owen Grise, EKCEP's Deputy Director discussed the feedback from the State on the submitted revisions of the Local Plan.

Howard Blackburn asked for a motion to adopt the amendments. Vic Adams made the motion to approve. Frank Dawahare seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

### **Reports**

Bridget Back, EKCEP's Research and Program Effectiveness Manager discussed two **grants** we have received since the September 2019 WIB meeting. Bridget Back discussed the total money available, \$30,000,000 for this program year and the expenses.

Bridget Back discussed the **participants** we have enrolled, assisted and placed in employment. The program year runs from July 2019 – June 2020.

Bridget Back also discussed the **employers** we have been working with in our areas.

Frank Dawahare asked Bridget Back if we look at the cost to place an employee into employment. Bridget Back said we do review those numbers and also the Department of Labor reviews the numbers. Bridget Back said, generally for over-all services, the cost is approximately \$9,000 per participant. These numbers depend on the type of services each individual needs. Jeff Whitehead said we will have our latest financial audit completed before our March 2020 meeting. Jeff Whitehead said we will have a more detail discussion in our March 2020 WIB meeting.

Jeff Whitehead discussed the Strategic Initiative for Transformational Employment (**SITE**). The SITE initiative will be working with the Justice Cabinet, the Chamber, the Cabinet for Family and Children and the workforce system to bridging people from recovery to employment. This is a Kentucky State initiative.

**Announcements**

2020 WIB meeting dates

**Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.