



The Southwest Ohio Region
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

**SWORWIB MAY 2020 QUARTERLY MEETING
(Webex Video Conference due to COVID-19)**

**May 14, 2020
8:00 a.m. – 10 a.m.**

Minutes

SWORWIB Members Present: Uche Agomuo, Jackie Alf, Michael Beck, Heath Boucher, Paula Brehm-Heeger, Natasha Chesnut, Jamie D'Agostino, Chad Day, Renee Dean, Dwayne Dews, Margaret Fox, Shanel Gentry, DeJuan Gossett, Stephanie Hall, Melissa Johnson, Laurence Jones, Matthew Jones, Chris Xeil Lyons, Shawntay Mallory, Clara Matonhodze Strode, Peter McLinden, Renee McPhedran, Nick Milazzo, Detries Miller, Matthew Owens, Denisha Porter, Jerry Porter, Kevin Powell, Michael Prus, Eric Rademacher, Maureen Reilly, Jennifer Roeder, Trisha Rogers-Lowey, Samuel Ross MD, Harry Snyder, Carol Sorenson-Williams, Tyrone Stuckey, Stephanie Summerow Dumas, Amy Waldbillig

SWORWIB Members Absent: Khurram Altaf, Leo Chan, Scott Conklin, Mark Dierig, Chris Fridel, Diana Mairose, Tim McCartney, Bridget Patton, Diana Small, Roberta Thomas, Dani Watkins, Jennifer Winstel

SWORWIB Staff Team: Deborah Jordan, Sherry Kelley Marshall, Karen Saterfield

Resources: Tim Dingler, Kevin Holt

Guests: Shannon Albright, Ethan Arguello, Christina Black, Jules Camarda, Ericka Dansby Copeland, Mike Davis, Kim Durst, Lyndsi Fitzsimmons, Trina Jackson, Chris Lipscombe, Judith Moore, H.A. Musser, Gloria Stanford, Audley Smith, Brandy Taylor, Leta White, Larry Williams, Bridget Wolf, and an incomplete other "Rasel".

I. Opening - Welcome and Introductions

Having exceeded quorum, Chair Laurence Jones welcomed everyone to the May 14, 2020 Quarterly Board Meeting at 8:02 a.m; the first ever online quarterly board meeting. He thanked everyone for taking time out of their busy schedule to attend and reviewed online protocol. He then asked Saterfield to do the roll call. After completing the roll call, he reminded participants to use the mute/unmute function.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Jones reviewed the agenda and reminded members that the SWORWIB has two Agendas at each meeting. The first agenda approval is for the presentation of the order of business. The second agenda business item is for review and approval of "the consent agenda" which is used by larger boards to handle the business of the organization addressed in committee meetings or other venues in an efficient fashion in order to have time to focus on essential educational or training presentations and discussions. The practice is that everyone reviews the entire agenda before approval, including a close review of the consent agenda items, and then indicates during the "Approval of the Consent Agenda" any consent agenda item they wish to move from the consent agenda to "Other Business" for separate discussion. With no comments, concerns, questions or requests for agenda item changes, DJ Gossett moved, Chesnut seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Jones commented on the importance of Board Members being prepared and having read through the packet. He asked if there were any comments, changes or questions related to the consent agenda. There being no comments, corrections, additions or separate discussion about items on the consent agenda, Gossett moved, Xeil-Lyons seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion unanimously approved. The following materials provided in the board packet were therefore approved:

- 02.13.2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
- President's Report
 - Audit and Grant Updates
 - 2020 Meetings under COVID-19 Impact Update
 - FY2021 Consolidated Budget (*Note: HCJFS & HCBOCC conflicted*)
 - FY2021 1916 Budget (*Note: HCJFS & HCBOCC conflicted*)
 - FY2020 Scorecard Update
- Committee Report
 - OMJ Business Engagement
- OMJ Operator Report
- Administrative Entity/Fiscal Agent Report/Local Area Budget
- Youth Report(s): CCMEP/TANF & WIOA
- NewsWIB's (Separate Packet)

IV. Presentation: Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates (JCG) In-School Youth Awards for Speeches

Chair Jones asked Marshall to introduce the speakers. Marshall congratulated Shannon Albright of Shroder Paideia High School and Gloria Stanford of Taft Information Technology High School for taking 1st and 2nd place respectively in the State for their oratory skills as part of JCG and Jobs for Ohio's Graduates and Jobs for America's Graduates. Marshall then asked them to each present their award-winning speech. Despite some technical challenges, they in turn gave their speeches with many positive comments afterwards. Leta White reported that the students will each receive a gift card in recognition of their achievement from both the SWORWIB and JCG. Marshall asked if White would also get a photo and video of them giving their speeches so they can be posted on www.SWORWIB.org which White confirmed. Marshall congratulated the students on presenting in this difficult setting. Chair Jones concluded by saying they were inspiring and uplifting, a reminder why he is part of this Board.

V. Chair Report

From his report, Chair Jones highlighted that now is the time when Board members are asked to share their thoughts and suggestions on the performance of President Marshall with the Chair by phone, email or in-person over the next month and definitely no later than June 10, 2019. The Officers will review the collected comments and prepare the evaluation summary. Chair Jones will meet with President Marshall to conduct the annual review, so all paperwork is completed by the end of our fiscal year on 6/30/2020. His report also noted that we are among a handful of workforce boards and OMJ operators who have continued to be open to serve in a limited capacity at the center throughout the "stay at home" order. Finally, he said our funding is stable; and recertifications are complete thanks to Marshall burning the midnight oil.

VI. Nominating Committee Announcement

Chair Jones asked Matt Jones to report. Matt Jones reminded everyone that the SWORWIB Annual Nominating process begins in May each year. We welcome nominations from current board members and other supporters of the SWORWIB and therefore have attached a nominating form that we request be used to nominate candidates for the SWORWIB two-year term of January 2021-December 2022. He thanked members from last year's committee and asked members to let him know if they are interested in serving the current Nominating Committee whose work is from May to November. The nominating process is prescribed but somewhat flexible. We receive nominations from solicitation letters Marshall

sends to various groups, from Board member recommendations, and from community contacts. Those whose terms are expiring at the end of the year will receive a communication from Marshall about your willingness to extend your service so we know how many new members and what demographics we're seeking. M. Jones concluded by saying we are also seeking a few officers so please let him or Marshall know about any of the above. Chair Jones thanked M. Jones for his announcement.

VII. President's Report

Chair Jones asked everyone to unmute to sing "Happy Birthday" to Marshall whose birthday is tomorrow!!! At the conclusion, he noted it wasn't the most beautiful rendition in sound but truly heartwarming in intention. Marshall thanked everyone, including the barking dog, who chimed in on the Webex.

There being no additional explanations for the Consent Agenda Items, Chair Jones requested Marshall present her President's Report:

- Policy Reminder about Grant Letters of Support: Any requested grant letters of support from individual Board members are to be directed to the President for submission to the funding source and inclusion in the Grant Update Report viewed by the full Board. With Rademacher's assistance, the SWORWIB was able to advance a case for two possible apprenticeship programs in Hamilton County – one with UC for IT and manufacturing and another with Easterseals. This strategy of supporting two seemingly conflictual grant proposals has worked effectively with Marshall's efforts to draw attention to the differences in each proposal that still serves our market well.
- Policies: LLSIL, WIOAPL 19-02, & 19-03, Supportive Service Policy (Separate Packet): Marshall reviewed these policies briefly. With no comments, concerns, or questions, Beck moved, Snyder seconded the motion to approve the policies as presented. Motion unanimously approved. Relative to the Updated Apprenticeship Supportive Services Policy, the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Policy Board will continue to expand our support of the apprenticeship career pathways for post-secondary training and education for our employers in Hamilton County and southwest Ohio region. Our job-seeking candidates through expanded supportive services, as eligible and based on the expanded supportive services under this policy are able to access up to a \$1000 limit, within the expectation that all candidates will be evaluated for what is most essential to their success as apprentices. Supportive services include: clothing, protective shoes, weather appropriate protection, basic tools, reasonable apprenticeship enrollment fees, driver's license renewal or a one-time driving insurance premium payment. This is our way to do more to support new apprentices in occupations that result in higher wages and growth in skillset development. We want to identify the ten most in-demand industries as the economy starts re-opening. Holt added that we should be well-positioned under this expanded policy to better serve challenged individuals to pursue apprenticeship. With no comments, concerns, or questions, Milazzo moved, Boucher seconded the motion to approve the policies as presented. Motion unanimously approved.
- SWORWIB Contracts and Leases
 - The 1916 Building Lease is under renegotiation currently.
 - Great Oaks Office Lease: Our contract is renewed through September 2022 and also involves a move to another office due to re-structuring program deployment at Building 100. Marshall expressed gratitude to Snyder of the location elsewhere in Building 100 and for the cost-efficiency and collaboration.
 - SWORWIB System Management Contract Renewal: We advocated for a 2+1+1 contract arrangement for the OMJ Center contract and Marshall advocated strongly in favor of 2 + 1 + 1 contract for SWORWIB system management of Area #13 rather than the prosecutor proposed 1+1+1 options. No decision yet.
 - SWORWIB 1916 Building Management Contract Renewal: Marshall similarly noted that the SWORWIB have a 2+1+1 contract for building management, particularly since the SWORWIB receives none of the building funds for our management of the 45,000 sq.ft. building and multiple parking lots.
 - 1916 MOU Partners – Marshall reported that COVID is likely to negatively impact at least a few of our 19 MOU partners resulting in our having less funds with which to manage the sizeable property.

- **New Federal Workforce Legislation:** Marshall reviewed the highlights of the proposed “Relaunching America’s Workforce Act” proposing \$15 Billion Dollars in workforce funding. She also shared possible grants from the Department of Labor to support retraining for dislocated workers. Marshall noted that we will make every effort to impact training and re-training, but COVID’s impact and large employment impacts and people being laid off will be challenges if federal funds are not timely.
- **Other:** Marshall reported that there would be major procurement efforts in June and July to reprocure the security cameras, new fiscal monitoring requirements for the OMJ Center, contracted service providers for the SWORWIB related to webmaster services, bookkeeping services, administrative support services, photography, design and marketing services to mention a few. Procurement is always posted on the SWORWIB website at <https://www.sworwib.org/requests-for-proposals/>

VIII. Public Comments and Announcements

Chair Jones asked if there were any other questions, announcements or comments from the Board members or the general public in attendance.

- Leta White shared that JCG hopes to place 60 to 70 youth in summer jobs. She is asking for ideas and opportunities for work experience this summer. The youth will be paid by WIOA resources. Please email her at: lwhite@cycyouth.org or call (513) 312-9635.
- Chair Jones reiterated that these are challenging times for U.C. youth as well. The ask is out there to employers to help young people from high school and college get real work experience.
- Marshall thanked the Board Members in construction fields for participating in our booklet about the construction industry which will be printed and distributed to schools. There will also be a related podcast on construction industry efforts posted on the SWORWIB website. A special thanks was noted for Board Members Jackie Alf and Michael Prus and their strong efforts to engage young people and others in the future construction workforce.

IX. Next Board Meetings

Chair Jones reviewed the upcoming Board meetings with hopes we might be together in person and re-do our birthday celebration song for Marshall. But, if not, we will be more experienced with a virtual meeting. He noted there will be two presentations scheduled currently for the August meeting. The next two quarterly meetings are likely to be Webex efforts:

August 13, 2020: Quarterly Board Meeting 8:00 - 10:00 am

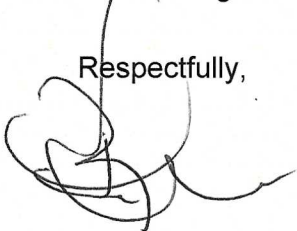
November 12, 2020: Quarterly Board Meeting 8:00 – 10:00 am

X. Adjournment

Chair Jones thanked everyone for their grace and patience, noted all were gaining more than half an hour in their day as we ended early. He asked if there was anything else for the good of the order. There being no other comments, Xeil-Lyons moved, Snyder seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion unanimously approved.

The meeting ended at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully,



René McPhedran
Secretary