



Mission: "To passionately connect talent with employment opportunities"

Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2019 - The First Citizens National Bank

Attendance:

Bonnie Shaw - The First Citizens National Bank
Jennie Dranschak – Bridgestone APM Company
Riordan McClain – Ohio House Representative, District 87
Steve Seitz – Wyandot County Commissioner
Leanna Barnes – Vaughn Industries
Kyle McColly – Wyandot Solid Waste District
Amy Reece – Kasai North America
Vicky Babcock – Kasai North America
Angie Morelock – Vanguard-Sentinel Career and Technical Centers
Jason Eibling - Mid-American Therapy/Wyandot Chamber of Commerce
Amanda Fleming – Wyandot Chamber of Commerce
Greg Moon – Wyandot Economic Development
Tami Galloway – Marion Technical College
Michael Augenstein – Marion Technical College
Laurie Vent – Upper Sandusky Schools
Frank Gibson – North Central Ohio Region Industry Manufacturers Workforce Alliance

Call to Order:

Jason Eibling called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Guest Speaker:

Representative Riordan McClain began the meeting with a recap of current workforce related efforts at the state level:

- TechCred program (HB2) was developed to provide employers with funding (up to \$2,000 per employee) to offer training for "micro-credentials".
 - Program has \$15 million allocated per year for the next 2 years.
 - The next application window will be open during the month of January.
 - Micro-credentials are those that can be awarded in less than 1 year of training, and can be developed by an employer
- HB4 – provides the Office of Workforce Transformation the authority to work directly with employers to develop additional micro-credentials.
- School funding – new funding models for public schools are being debated to ensure a fair funding model is employed evening the playing field for schools across the state.
- Public agencies – legislation is pending that would require all public agencies to framework their function and effectiveness as well as the authority structure among those agencies.

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- Reciprocity – currently the state of Ohio has no reciprocity, or the ability for someone with an occupational license / credential from another state to transfer that credential into Ohio without going through Ohio’s required coursework and testing. Proposals are being debated that would allow the transfer of those qualifications without the additional training/testing.

Member Updates:

- WETF members then provided a quick update for Representative McClain of items currently happening within their own organizations:
 - Steve: Wyandot Ride Service, in its initial 70 days of operation, has provided a total of 575 trips. 63 were employment related, 200 medical related, 200 for shopping, and the remainder did not respond to the provided survey.
 - Bonnie: First Citizens recently performed an employee survey, and found that overall satisfaction among their employees was rated 5.9 out of 7.
 - Laurie: USHS and CHS have partnered to hire a new community liaison that will be responsible for working with students to find them job shadowing and internship opportunities as well as make connections between the schools and businesses. The individual will work 3 days at USHS and 2 days at CHS each week.
 - USHS is also communicating with Vanguard-Sentinel on possible ways to incorporate industry specific training within the high school.
 - Laurie also noted her service on a committee that is reviewing the state’s grade card rating system for public schools. They are working to provide realistic feedback to the state on what should or should not remain included.
 - Angie: VSCTC is working on options to better serve at-risk students, and ways to better engage them.
 - Frank: Has been working with a couple companies considering training assistance opportunities, but has found that the abundance of programs from many different agencies is making the application process very burdensome for those employers. He noted it would be beneficial if there was a way to streamline the application, or have a blanket application for these various state level programs.
 - Amy & Vicki: Kasai now has a new HR Manager that is emphasizing employee retention, and exploring new strategies. One recent implementation has been the development of an activities committee creating new ways of engaging associates internally.
 - Marion Technical College: One thing they noticed about the TechCred program was a general unawareness of it among the private sector. Many of those that did have an interest were turned off by the application process.
 - Leanna: Vaughn Industries continues to participate in any area event where they can engage students to describe what the organization does and the opportunities its various careers can provide. Recent events included the Career Days at Carey Elementary, USMS, and schools in Seneca County.

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Action Recap:

Members shared information about recent meetings they had attended to share information and progress of the WETF:

- Greg thanked those companies that participated in the Wyandot Manufacturing Day tours, which provided all county sophomore students the opportunity to tour two manufacturing operations.
- Bonnie explained that the Workforce Stability series was set to start next month. The Upper Sandusky sessions will take place in the Wyandot EMS building, and the Carey sessions will take place in the fire station building. Per Scott Moore, Greg noted there were about 10 individuals registered for the Upper Sandusky offering, but none for the Carey session as of mid-last week.
- Greg, Amanda, and Jason then gave a quick overview of the current community branding efforts that are underway. An RFP for consultants is scheduled to go out Jan. 2nd soliciting proposals for community imaging and branding for the county, City of Upper Sandusky, and Village of Carey. These branding efforts will lead to more consistent communication and a better representation of our communities to internal and external stakeholders.

Upcoming Events:

Information on applicable upcoming events was shared:

- Frank stated that the North Central Ohio Regional Industry Manufacturing Workforce Alliance would meet Thursday, Dec. 19th at the Crawford Success Center. All WETF members were invited to attend.
- Ohio TechCred Program – It was again announced that the next online application window for the program will be Jan. 1 – 31st.
 - A lot of discussion ensued regarding increasing applications from local businesses.
 - It was decided a notice of the program and application window would be sent to the HR Network, and that if possible the WETF would facilitate an information and education session covering the application process in January that will be targeted to local businesses.
 - Frank will check with OMA and Greg will check with Lu Cooke to see if there are any educational materials that could be presented for the offering.
- Greg mentioned that USHS was planning to schedule the second offering of an Employer Student Panel, which consists of a moderated session for the junior class. The panel includes representatives from various industries answering questions from the students. Greg asked for those WETF members that might be interested.

Meeting Adjourned:

The next meeting was scheduled for January 15th (3rd Wednesday of the month) same time and location.

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