



*Mission: "To passionately connect talent with employment opportunities"*

### Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2021 – Google Meet (Virtual)

#### Attendance:

Jason Eibling - Mid-American Therapy

Greg Moon – Wyandot County Economic Development

Amanda Fleming – Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Bonnie Shaw – First Citizens National Bank

Angie Morelock – Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Centers

Emily Kotterman – Kalmbach Feeds

Jennie Dranschak – Bridgestone APM Company

Amy Wood – North Central Career Ready

Mike Augenstein – Marion Technical College

Laurie Vent – Retired (Upper Sandusky Schools)

Dave Courtad – Wyandot County Commissioner

#### Call to Order:

Jason Eibling called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

#### Action Recap/Partner Updates:

Members shared updates and recent information relevant to the WETF:

- Angie Morelock – Less than 1 month until their graduation ceremony (May 12<sup>th</sup>).
  - The Lt. Governor announced Vanguard-Sentinel as one of the sites for the High School Tech Internship Pilot Program. The program will offer reimbursement to employers for a portion of the interns wages, and will initially be open to 100 students at the 12 identified sites.
  - [Workforce.Ohio.gov/HSTechInternship](https://workforce.ohio.gov/HSTechInternship) is where more information can be found, but Vanguard-Sentinel will be sharing more information soon for local businesses that are interested in engaging in the program.
- Amy Wood – Working on phasing in area school districts that would like to be a part of the NCR business advisory council.
  - She is also working with Spire to develop an online presence and landing page for NCR.
  - Remote EDx Partnership Grant – focused on earning industry recognized credentials. Partnered with Vanguard-Sentinel and Terra State to offer the program. It is still under development and will likely run through next year.
- Emily Kotterman – Kalmbach Feeds has seen an increase in office staff interest due to the Cooper Tire buyout by Goodyear. In the production workforce, there has been a near drastic decline in interest and new hires showing up for work. Unemployment benefits have been noted as one of the causes. 15-18 people are currently needed in the warehouse and production areas.
  - Angie mentioned there is a community job board on the Vanguard-Sentinel website to communicate job opportunities to students. That is open to any employer in the region.

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- Job Board - <https://www.vsccl.k12.oh.us/community-job-board/>
  
- Laurie Vent – Not a whole lot that she has heard on the workforce side, but she is hearing a local need for home health aides.
- Dave Courtad – The county is currently dealing with a lot of infrastructure projects at its various facilities. Walmart has raised its starting wage to \$15.00 per hour.
- Kyle McColly – Explained these calls are a great way for him to understand what the local needs are, and now to figure out how the City of Upper Sandusky can better play a part. Kyle is also feeling similar pain as local employers in trying to hire employees for the City. He asked WETF members to share any ideas they may have to help alleviate their workforce needs.
- Bennie – First Citizens just opened its new Delaware branch, and hired some very experience staff for the location successfully. The staff at its Upper Sandusky location has remained consistent lately and the organization is in a good position. The transactional side is where much of their focus has been lately.
- Amanda Fleming – The Chamber has been experiencing a lot of success with their “What’s Up Wyandot” podcast on both the sponsorship side and the content side. Bridgestone APM Company is one of the companies who brought in individuals with different experience levels to talk about their positions on air for recruiting purposes. It has been a great way to get information to those primarily ages 18-34. Freedom Caregivers will be featured in an upcoming podcast as well.
  - There are a few downtown businesses relocating to new spots in town, which will open further downtown retail space for new businesses.
- Mike Augenstein – Danielle Smith is hosting a TechCred update session with MTC & Tri-Rivers tomorrow for local employers that may be interested. Mike will forward the invitation to the WETF members.
  - The MTC mobile lab is heading to Carey High School on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a good opportunity for students to sign up with MTC for College Credit Plus courses and will be an opportunity for Wyandot Ohio Means Jobs staff to engage with students as well.
  - MTC is also joining the Wyandot County Office of Economic Development, and Mike will be the representative for the College.
- **Attraction & Retention Sessions Follow Up**
  - Bonnie attended the sessions and was very happy with the content and the presenter. She also noted that having access to the session recordings was very helpful as she was unable to attend one of the weekly sessions.
  - Greg explained that Jennie and Bridgestone APM had actually worked with Denise to offer further sessions, and one of them was overlapping with the WETF meeting this morning. Other companies also asked for Denise’s contact information and it seemed were engaging her for further training.
- **WIN – Community Branding Effort**
  - The WIN is carrying out a branding effort that will result in logos for the City of Upper Sandusky, Village of Carey, and County of Wyandot, but will also result in a template for other outlying Wyandot County communities to use.

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- Poggemeyer Design Group has been contracted to carry out the effort, which will formally kick off next Thursday.
- The effort will involve feedback from the entire community in shaping what will become the new identity and visual representation for Wyandot and its communities.
- This project was noted as needed to enhance workforce attraction.
- **Manufacturing Day Videos**
  - Greg advised that the videos for Kalmbach Feeds and Custom Glass Solutions were complete, but the project is taking a long time and videos are still underway for Vaughn Industries and Liqui-Box.
    - He may just share the 2 complete videos for students this year so at least something is available.
  - Greg would also like to place each company’s video on their respective Community Opportunity profile so they are accessible at any time by students and job seekers.
- **Community Opportunity Push / HR Network**
  - The Community Opportunity platform is being marketed in multiple ways. With the growth of the site since Richland County was added, Greg would like to make sure Wyandot County employers continue engaging with the site.
  - There are now over 2,000 active student profiles so whenever a local company puts information into the site it is accessible by all of those students, which is a great way to engage area youth.
  - Greg will be using the HR Network to push some of this information.

**Industry Partner Spotlight:**

- Jennie Dranschak – Training Manager, Bridgestone APM Company
  - Jennie was caught in another meeting this morning.
  - Greg will reach out to her about providing an update at the May WETF meeting.
  - Kalmbach Feeds has multiple facilities between Upper Sandusky and Carey that produce feed for livestock as well as items such as dog food. Bee food is also a newer product being offered.

**Upcoming Events & Programs:**

- OH TechCred
  - Jason explained another round of TechCred was open for the month of April, and encouraged those interested to seek it out. His company has successfully utilized the program in the past.
- Thoughts on in-person meetings
  - The consensus was to start meeting in person again.
  - Jason, Amanda, & Greg will work to find an appropriate space to convene.
- Northwest Career Ready
  - Amy had to leave the call for another meeting, but we will work to see if she can provide an NCR overview at next month’s meeting.

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**8:50 am: Other Programming to Plan:**

- Employee Retention Sessions (Scott)
  - Follow-up still needs to be made with Scott.
  - Bonnie will contact Scott.
- Systems approach to hiring and keeping skilled talent by Michael "Mac" McVey
  - Mac is willing to offer these sessions whenever we would like him to.
  - It was suggested we confirm with Scott when he would like to offer his sessions first, and then work with Mac to schedule his at a different time.
- Work-based Learning Session with/for schools & businesses
  - Maybe next year.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

The next regular meeting will be May 19<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) in-person.

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