

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB)**

June 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Board Member Attendees:

Brad Frome
Jacquelin Boles
Brian Courtien
Dawn Carter
Deborah Topcik
Ebony Stocks
Erica Berry Wilson
Erica LeMon
Gloria Brown Burnett
Ingrid Watson*

Allynn Powell
Jean-Paul Cadet
Senator Jim Rosapepe*
Joshua Harrold
Kari Pompilli
Margaret Shrager
Mary Manzoni
Natalie Mitchell
Troy Green

*Elected Official

Board Staff & Guest of the Board:

Walter Simmons
Shuana Davis
Amanda Wagner
Chris Anderson
Ericka Stevens
Eric Nelson
Jeffrey Dufresne
Jeffrey Swilley
Jennifer Friedman
Kerri Gatling

Khadijah Allen
Milena Kornyl
Patricia Wallace
Ptosha Davis
Annette Chisolm
Rebecca Webster
Robert Lerman
Beth Doyle

Welcome & Introductions

Walter Simmons

Economic Update & Forecast

Dr. Anirban Basu

- Explore the reasons for the lack of job growth in Prince George's County over the past three years.
- Analyze the impact of population and retirement on labor force shrinkage in the Baltimore and Washington areas.
- Investigate housing policy and townhome development controversy in Prince George's County.

Approval of Minutes

Brad Frome

Motion to approve April 19, 2023 minutes made by Brian Courtien; seconded by Mary Manzoni and carried unanimously.

Erica Berry Wilson – Abstained

FY24 Preliminary Budget Review & Approval

Jeffrey Dufresne

- The US Department of Labor had increased WIOA funding, resulting in a \$1.6 million increase in allocation for Prince George's County.
- For the fiscal year 2024 budget, Employ Prince George's has made adjustments to the allocation of funds between the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. Specifically, the split has been modified to allocate 65% of funds to the Adult program and 35% to the Dislocated Worker program, which is now more closely aligned with the available data. This decision was made considering the challenges associated with effectively utilizing the Dislocated Worker funds.
- The board staffing remained at level funded despite an increase in staff members.
- Additional funding has been provided for professional development for board members to attend conferences such as NAWB, NAWDP, Raising The Bar and others.
- Additional suggestions were asked of the board for allocating funds for new priorities, including 1 million dollars in WIOA Youth Grant and 1.2 million dollars in WIOA Adult and WIOA Dislocated Worker Grants.

(Motion on the floor from the Finance Committee to approve the fiscal year 2024 preliminary budget)

Brad Frome made a motion to approve the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2024 as presented in board packet. The approval was granted unanimously with no abstentions.

Local Training Provider List Quarterly Report

Ericka Stevens

- Employ Prince George's has received 144 applications.
- Collaborated with 62 training providers in offering a total of 80 training programs.
- The top training providers for Employ Prince George's include Prince George's Community College, El Poder de Ser Mujer, ASM Educational Center, Toni Thomas & Associates (Hope Project), and Keller Williams Properties, which has recently launched a new real estate career program.

WDB RFP & Contracts Update

Amanda Wagner

- During the most recent Board meeting, the Board approved KRA and IUPAT 51 as the new providers for the Economic Recovery Workforce Innovation Grant. KRA is a nationally recognized provider. KRA has expressed particular interest in working with foster care youth and has developed a program entitled Project Lyft Local Investment in Foster Care Transition. This program has been divided into five distinct areas, namely Ready to Work, Ready to Learn, Ready to Explore, Ready to Engage, and Ready to Advance.
 - KRA has set a goal of enrolling 75 foster care youth and job readiness training graduates. The aim is to achieve an 85% completion rate for occupational training and a 50% employment rate, which will commence on July 1st. Contract value: 875,000.00.
 - IUPAT 51 has established a two-pronged approach to address the needs of the Prince George's County community. The first component of this approach is focused on youth apprenticeship, while the second part centers on providing training opportunities for unemployed and underemployed residents. IUPAT's objective is to successfully enroll 20 youth apprenticeships and have 100 individuals complete the training component designed for the unemployed and underemployed. Additionally, the organization aims to achieve an 85% completion rate for both apprenticeships and the unemployed and underemployed training programs, with a 75% rate for full training completion and a 65-75% success rate for transition to employment. Contract value: 530,000.00.
- Eckerd's Contract Update
 - Propose to extend the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Youth Career Center Contract
 - Propose to extend the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Contract

(Motion on the floor from the Youth Services Committee to approve the contract extension for a term of 18 months for the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Youth Career Center Contract)

Brad Frome made a motion to approve the contract extension for a term of 18 months for the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Contract Youth Career Contract. The approval was granted unanimously with no abstentions.

(Motion on the floor from the AJC/One Stop Committee to approve the contract extension for a term of 18 months for the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Contract)

Brad Frome made a motion to approve the contract extension for a term of 18 months for the Eckerd's One Stop Operator Contract. The approval was granted unanimously with no abstentions.

Blueprint Prince George's County Update

Rebecca Webster

- Five Pillars of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future:
 - Early Childhood Education
 - High-Quality and Diverse Teachers and Leaders
 - College and Career Readiness
 - More Resources for Students to be Successful
 - Governance and Accountability
- The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Accountability & Implementation Board (AIB) is an independent unit of state government created to ensure that the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is implemented as intended. The AIB holds state and local governments accountable for implementing the Blueprint with fidelity and evaluates whether the Blueprint's outcomes are being achieved.

Under Pillar Three, the blueprint establishes:

1. Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students.
2. The purpose of the Program is to provide each middle school and high school student in the county with individualized career counseling services.

AND

- a. That each county school board will enter into a local career counseling agreement with the local workforce development board, the community college that serves the county, and, if appropriate, an American Job Center.
- b. Counseling provided under the local career counseling agreement shall help each student choose one or more post-college and career readiness pathways.

The long-term goal of this career counseling program, led by the Prince George's County Workforce Development Board, is that PGCPSS will see increases in CTE enrollments, CTE

program completers, and CTE credential attainment rates, along with increases in PGCPs registered apprenticeship programming and participation.

The next steps are to complete the MOU, begin hiring staff, and finalize programs and activities.

Adjournment

Walter Simmons

The next meeting will be held September 20, 2023