West Virginia Workforce Development Board
October 17, 2018
Charleston Marriott Hotel, Charleston WV

Board Members: Stephanie Ahart, Penny Brown, Ray Burke Jr, Steve Cox, Russell Fry, Roy Hamilton, Tim McLean, Daniel Poling, Randall Rapp, Roy Smith, Stephanie Smith, John Sorrenti, Chandler Swope, Marijane Waldron, Reverend Matthew Watts

Attendees: Rachel Bowman, Regina Brogan, Valerie Comer, Carol Jackson, Angela Fry, Claudia George, Monica Hamilton, Martha Hinchman, Jake Hunt, Chad Ketchum, Amy Hall, Nancy Ligus, Rick Martin, Robin Morgan, Drema Smith, Carolyn Stuart, Edwina Tanner, Christopher Treadway, Pisnu Bau-iam, Richard Agesa, Lucinda Curry, Beth Calwell, Senator Glenn Jefferies, Ted Boettinor, Steve Roberts

Attending Via Phone: Eunice Bellinger, John Moses, Geoffrey Sawyers, Diane Strong-Treister, Kim Tieman, Brian Ulery

Guest Speakers: Carolyn Stuart, Interim CED/FCS Assistant Director WV State University
Christopher Treadway, SR Director Research & Policy, WV Higher Education Commission
Jeff Green, Deputy Director, WorkForce WV
Rachel Bowman, Manager, WorkForce Programs WorkForce WV
Valerie Comer, Deputy Director, WorkForce WV
Drema Smith, WV Department of Transportation, Human Resources
Robin Morgan, Region 1 Workforce Development Board

I. Introduction, Opening Remarks and Approval of Minutes: John Sorrenti, Board Chair

Meeting brought to order at 10:10 a.m. by John Sorrenti. John made the opening remarks and had everyone introduce themselves. He then introduced and welcomed Russell Fry as the first speaker.

II. Welcome and WorkForce WV Update: Russell Fry, Executive Director, WorkForce WV

Russell welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for being present. He then gave a brief update on WorkForce WV.

- Russell started off by mentioning that WorkForce WV has 50 programs available for those in need. One of those being the subject of a new grant. The grant would pay for job training for those who have went through the recovery program.
- Russell also stated that he had a couple comments on the most recent US Department of Labor Quarterly Performance Letter for WorkForce WV.
  - The first being that, for the four quarters ending June 30, 2018, West Virginia met three WIOA performance measures and exceeded eight. The State also exceeded two Wagner-Peyser measures and met one.
  - The second being that, The Coal National Dislocated Worker Grant, As of June 30, 2018, the grant closed fully expended ($15,046,460) and exceeded the number of planned participants under this project (2,226 against the goal of 1,700).

Russell then did a brief overview of the agenda for the meeting.
III. **Employment Needs of Participants in Recovery:** Carolyn Stuart, Interim CED/FCS Assistant Director WV State University

- WVSU developed a program in relation to employment services for individuals seeking substance abuse disorder treatments, but they are looking for someone to fill the position as their “Extension Agent/Educator, Workforce Development.” When the position is filled, they will still need to create partnerships so that the program will be successful in all aspects. The Vice President of WVSU secured funding for a permanent position, the institution is actively looking for someone to fill this position.
- The Extension Agent/Educator will work collaboratively with a team of extension and research professionals and workforce development leaders to provide dynamic program leadership for their local program. The candidate must maintain professional competence through study, participation in professional development activities, and the application of knowledge and skills on the job. Additionally, Extension Agents/Educators are expected to always adhere to high ethical and professional standards.

A handout of the job summary and qualifications for the position was provided to all attendees along with a copy of the presentation.

For more information to the presentation, please contact:

Carolyn Stuart, Interim CED/FCS Assistant Director
WV State University
carolyn.stuart@wvstateu.edu
(304) 204-4018

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti introduced Christopher Treadway as the next speaker.

IV. **WV Climb:** Christopher Treadway, SR Director Research & Policy, WV Higher Education Commission

- West Virginia’s Climb campaign is designed to equip 60 percent of West Virginians with a Certificate or Degree by 2030. Reports claim that 97% of jobs labeled “good” or jobs that provide median wages in the upper one-third in their occupation classification that have been created nationally since the economic recovery, went to those individuals with at least a bachelor’s degree. Less than one-third of West Virginians hold an associate degree or higher. West Virginia Climb’s goal is to challenge all of West Virginia’s public colleges and universities to seek out new and innovative ways to make the college dream a reality for more West Virginians.

The website is [www.wvclimb.com](http://www.wvclimb.com)

A copy of the presentation was provided to each attendee. For more information to the presentation, please contact:

Christopher Treadway, SR Director Research & Policy,
WV Higher Education Commission
chris.treadway@wvhepc.edu

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti introduced Jeff Green as the next speaker.

V. **West Virginia WorkForce Overview:** Jeff Green, Deputy Director, WorkForce WV

Labor Force Participation - The percentage of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and older that is working or actively looking for work.
• Suggested Reading
  – Labor force participation: what has happened since the peak?
  – Where Have All the Workers Gone?
  – Where is everybody? The shrinking Labor Force Participation Rate
  – Labor Force Participation Rate and Why It Won’t Improve
    https://www.thebalance.com/labor-force-participation-rate-formula-and-examples-3305805
  – 22 Percent of men without college don’t have jobs. Here’s why they’re being left behind.
  – Labor Force Participation Dynamics
    o Interactive tool and annual report

A copy of the presentation was provided to each attendee. For more information to the presentation, please contact:
  Jeff Green, Deputy Director,
  Workforce WV
  Jeffrey.A.Green@wv.gov
  304-558-7024

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti the introduced our next speaker, Rachel Bowman.

VI. Lunch Speaker / Performance: Rachel Bowman, Manager, WorkForce Programs WorkForce WV

• Key terms
  – State Management Information System (MIS) – MACC Effective Control and management of WIOA programs require accurate and timely record keeping. Valid data provides necessary information to managers regarding the effectiveness of current programs and facilitates planning of future programs. The MACC is the state’s recognized data system for WIOA performance, data validation, and participant information.
  – Reportable Individual- A reportable individual is someone who:
    o Provides identifying information
    o Only uses the self-service system
    o Receives information-only services or activities
  – Participant – A participant is someone who:
    o Meets the definition of reportable individual
    o Has received one of the allowable services
    o Has satisfied all applicable programmatic requirements for the provisions of services, such as eligibility determination.

• Background
  – WIOA, signed into law in July 22, 2014, is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
  – Section 116 of WIOA established performance accountability indicators and performances reporting requirements to assess the effectiveness of States and local areas in achieving positive outcomes for individuals served by the workforce development system.
- WIOA required all States and direct grantees of the Departments to collect and report information on all the participants described in TEGL 10-16, Change 1
  * TEGAL 9-17

Rachel also handed out copies of the WV WIOA Performance Measures for Program Year 17-18 to everyone along with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation. For questions, please contact:

Rachel Bowman, Manager, WorkForce Programs
WorkForce WV
Rachel.E.Bowman@wv.gov
304-558-7024

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti then introduced our next speaker, Valerie Comer.

VII. Overview of Board Member Duties / Workforce Development System Report: Valerie Comer, Deputy Director, WorkForce WV

- Valerie Comer discussed the State Board Member Functions:
  - Valerie read and explained in detail the Functions of the State Board members as outlined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 via PowerPoint that was given to everyone.
  - We usually have a business speak at about every meeting; how we can serve them better. They talked about how their business operates, the type of people they need to hire and how we can help them in recruitment. Jeff breaks down demand occupations in each region, so we know how to implement the most effective training.

- Valerie Comer discussed the Workforce Development System Report
  - Is a summary document published annually that gives a public account of the current operations, structures, activities, finances, and future direction of One-Stop Centers of WV. It provides the specific funding amounts and highlights of funding across agencies and programs that reported.
  - Purpose - With the original passage of House Bill 4083 in 2002, then Senate Bill 461 in 2016, the West Virginia Legislature required an annual report regrading the source, use and outcomes of all funds received for workforce investment activities in the state.

A copy of the presentation was provided to all attendees. For questions, please contact:

Valerie Comer
Deputy Executive Director, WorkForce West Virginia
Valerie.V.Comer@wv.gov
(304) 558-7024

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti then introduced Drema Smith as the next speaker.

VIII. Roads to Prosperity Program: Drema Smith, WV Department of Transportation, Human Resources

- 2017A GARVEE Projects
  - The series 2017 A Notes will fund 18 Bridge Replacement and 12 Interstate Pavement Rehabilitation projects across the State with $259 Million proceeds of the notes.

- 2018A GARVEE Projects
  - The Series 2018 A Notes will fund 19 bridge and 17 roadway improvement projects across the State with $90 million of proceeds.

- 2018 Parkways Projects
  - The series 2018 Bonds will fund 6 projects in Nicholas, Mercer and Wyoming Counties, which are three of the counties adjacent to the Turnpike with approximately $172 million of proceeds.

- What about Jobs?
Division of Highways State Jobs – Engineers – Appraisers – Operators – Carpenters – Laborers - Transportation Workers/CDL Drivers, Mechanics, Transportation Engineering Technicians – Painters – Consultant – Inspectors - Contractors – Many are signatory to unions

○ Contact Information
  Leslie Adkins, DOH Recruiter
  Leslie.R.Adkins@wv.gov
  (304) 558-3111

  Nancy Casto, Contract compliance Office
  Nancy.J.Casto@wv.gov
  (304) 558-3931

A copy of the presentation was provided to all attendees. For questions, please contact:

  Drema Smith, WV Department of Transportation,
  Human Resources
  (304)558-3111
  drema.l.smith@wv.gov

A question and answer session was held after the presentation. John Sorrenti the introduced Robin Morgan as the next speaker.

IX.  **WDB Speaker:** Robin Morgan, Region 1 Workforce Development Board

   • Region 1 Overview
     ○ Area Served
       – 11 Southeastern counties: Fayette, Greenbrier, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers, Webster, and Wyoming
     ○ Vision Statement
       – To promote effective economic and workforce development partnerships that develop and sustain productive workers for business and create prosperous communities for our citizens.
     ○ Governing Body
       – Region 1 Workforce Development Board consists of individuals from business, community-based organizations, economic development, education, labor, and One-Stop partner agencies. The business sector represents 51% of the R1WDB membership.

A copy of the presentation was provided to all attendees. For questions, please contact:

  Robin Morgan, Region 1
  Business Services Manager
  Workforce Development Board
  200 New River Town Center, Suite 200
  Beckley, WV  25801
  Office: 304.255.3932

A question and answer session was held after the presentation.

X.  **Other Business / Adjournment:**

Reverend Watts thanked Russell Fry, Valerie Comer and all staff on an excellent presentation. Our job description, as board members, according to the federal statute of the 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is impossible. Our State Plan, which is a 300 - page document, outlines what our duties are as members. I have invited a few colleagues to attend today’s meeting including the creator of the Alliance for the Economic Development of Southern West Virginia.
One thing I am asking the Board to consider as a possible pathway forward is to establish the development of a plan to improve labor force participation as our top priority or, one of our top priorities. Reverent Watt’s volunteered to put together a plan on how to improve labor force participation in the state and would like to present that plan at the next Board meeting.

Second, we can not move the state education forward with the lowest participation rate in the nation. We have a $2.8 billion job making organization with 40,000 jobs but we can’t find people to take them. That’s a major problem.

John Sorrenti asked that Reverend Watts be placed on the next meeting agenda so that the entire board can hear his plan.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.