



LANE WORKFORCE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 25, 2023

3:00PM – 5:00PM

MINUTES

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| In Attendance: | Julie Davidson, Solomon Harris, Shondra Holliday, Heidi Larwick, Scott Littlejohn, Josh McClaughry, Bailey McEuen, Jeff McGillivray, Grant Matthews, Stan Pickett, Laura Vinson |
| Absent: | Jennifer Adams, Allan Benavides, Travis Brooke, Bettina Hannigan, David Heavirland, Phil Hohnstein, Josh McClaughry, Miles Pendleton, Tony Scurto Shaun Hyland, Katie Jeremiah, Sarah Means, Holly Powell, Teri White |
| Board Staff: | Ashley Espinoza, Anne Nestell, Tiffany Cink, Cindy Perry, Lyle Lang, Jesse Quinn, Stephanie Lovell |
| Others: | Michelle Webber, Dana Merryday, Amanda Wagner, Walter Simmons |

I. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS

Shondra Holliday called the meeting to order.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

The attendance did not meet the minimum requirement for a quorum to be established.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Shondra Holliday provided an overview, stating that the action item summaries from LWP Board, Executive Board, and Lane Council meetings have been outlined on pages 6 to 7 within the board packet. She specifically pointed out that the General Operating Budget for Program Year 2023 – 2024, spanning from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, was officially adopted during the May 18, 2023, Executive Board Meeting.

Heidi Larwick inquired about the budget's availability to the entire board. In response, Tiffany Cink said that the budget is included in the materials for the May 18, 2023, Executive Board meeting. These materials can be accessed on LWP's website. Additionally, Ashley Espinoza noted that further details regarding the budget will be shared during the full board meeting scheduled for September 2023.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Espinoza shared that if you have any questions concerning the content provided in the Executive Director's report included in the packet, please reach out to her. She is available to meet one on one.

- Jennifer Adams, current LWP Board Chair and Ashley Espinoza met with all nine prospective board members vying for the five open positions. These positions consist of four representatives from the business sector and one from a community-based

organization. A recommendation resulting from these discussions will be presented to the Lane Workforce Council for their consideration during the meeting scheduled for June 15th, 2023. The newly appointed board members will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2023. Efforts are also underway to schedule a makeup board training session for individuals who were unable to attend today's session, and this training will encompass the incoming board members as well.

- LWP staff remains integral partners/collaborators in both statewide and local initiatives, actively contributing to the enhancement and collaborative development of a more accessible, streamlined, and recognized public workforce system.
- Ms. Espinoza holds a position on the Board of Directors for Connected Lane County, where she presently serves as co-chair of a subcommittee dedicated to refining the profile of a K-12 graduate. This subcommittee is actively engaged in assessing the extent of students' exposure and identifying areas of deficiency. Inquiries have been directed towards both community and industry partners, encompassing:
 - How can youth demonstrate their aptitude?
 - What mechanisms do employers use to access and provide evaluative input?
 - In instances where gaps or opportunities for additional growth are identified, to what extent are employers willing and capable of assisting an employee or candidate, particularly within a competitive labor landscape?
- HOPE Community Corporation and Lane Education Service District (Lane ESD) have embarked on a collaborative venture to construct cost-effective manufactured homes at the Hope factory within Lane County. This facility will be situated at the St. Vincent de Paul West Eugene site. In conjunction with the HOPE initiative, Lane ESD secured a grant from BOLI to establish a pre-apprenticeship accelerator program in the manufacturing sector.
- Ms. Espinoza encouraged board members to stay connected through LWP's social media platforms, where we share updates on the programs we champion and collaborate on, along with highlighting the impactful efforts of our partners. Additionally, relevant information can be accessed on LWP's website.

VI. CWEI CONTRACT REVIEW/NEXT STEPS

Amanda Wagner conveyed that she, along with Walter Simmons, has collaborated closely with the LWP team over the past six months. The process commenced with an in-depth study and assessment of the Oregon and Lane County Public Workforce System. Subsequently, the CWEI team initiated bi-weekly meetings with the LWP team, focusing on a comprehensive exploration of the 17 functions inherent to a workforce board. This process involved strategizing how to effectively implement these functions while concurrently conducting stakeholder interviews to strengthen the system moving forward.

Yesterday, the LWP team participated in a staff training session conducted by CWEI. This session involved a thoughtful review and discussion of the insights garnered from the interviews.

Looking ahead, CWEI hopes to continue its collaboration with LWP. The initial phase only scratched the surface of the potential avenues for advancing the workforce system. Prospective areas for consideration include the refinement of meeting formats and board engagement, the establishment of committees and task teams, optimization of system functions, integration of best practices, formulation of a national engagement strategy, and more.

CWEI's extensive network across the county has provided valuable exposure to LWP, and Ms. Espinoza has also been able to make new connections at the national level.

In response, board members expressed their gratitude to the CWEI team for their dedicated expertise and the considerable time invested in collaborating with LWP.

VII. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

- Shondra Holliday (Lane County Medical Society): Ms. Holliday shared an exciting collaboration. Lane County Medical Society is partnering with Connected Lane County and Lane Community College (LCC) to present a training opportunity at the end of June. The training is tailored for individuals currently in entry-level roles within medical practices, as well as those wanting to venture into the medical field. Anticipated participants include approximately 30 students from Connected Lane County and 15 to 20 individuals currently employed by medical practices. The training session will be facilitated by Lane Community College.
- Laura Vinson (Lane County): Ms. Vinson shared that Lane County is hosting two interns from Connected Lane County.
- Solomon Harris (CEI Coatings): Mr. Harris mentioned that his company has collaborated with Connected Lane County to provide opportunities for job shadowing.
- Julie Davidson (Oregon Employment Department): Ms. Davidson expressed interest in connecting with Heidi Larwick regarding the possibility of hosting interns from Connected Lane County at the WorkSource Center. Ms. Davidson also shared significant information: starting July 1, 2023, the State is reintroducing work requirements for recipients of SNAP food benefits categorized as Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD), encompassing individuals aged 18 to 49. This requirement involves an 80-hour work search obligation. There exist certain exceptions that enable the removal of this mandate. Failure to comply with the mandate by the obligated individual will result in a loss of benefits after a three-month period of non-participation, a condition applicable until 2025.
- Jeff McGillivray (UA Local 290 Plumbers & Steamfitters): Mr. McGillivray shared an ongoing initiative involving the recruitment for apprenticeships, which opens every three months. The current apprentice count stands at 760 statewide, with 72 apprentices situated in Lane County. Notably, Oregon Tradeswomen has been effectively delivering pre-apprenticeship training in the Portland region for more than three decades and is extending its reach to Lane County for the first time. UA Local 290 Plumbers & Steamfitters has a long-standing partnership with the Oregon Tradeswomen and will serve as the host for this program within Lane County.
- Stan Pickett (Delta Sand & Gravel): Mr. Pickett reported a positive outcome resulting from grant funding provided by LWP. Specifically, the company has successfully trained five new CDL drivers into their workforce who are now actively operating on the road. Additionally, efforts are underway to further enhance the skills of existing employees, with a focus on training in equipment operation and concrete finishing.
- Grant Matthews (Lane Community College): Mr. Matthews shared some recent milestones. A groundbreaking ceremony was held last Friday to mark the commencement of the Lane Industry & Trades Education Center (ITEC) construction. The construction phase is set to begin this summer, with the anticipated completion date slated for November 2024. The building will host an array of instructional programs and services, encompassing apprenticeship training, aviation unmanned aircraft systems, construction technology, manufacturing technology, and an interdisciplinary fabrication laboratory. In addition, LCC achieved a significant accomplishment in April, obtaining State approval for its first Bachelor's Degree in Applied Business Management. Pending accreditation agency approval, the degree program is scheduled to be offered in the fall of 2024.
- Scott Littlejohn (Littlejohn Insurance): Mr. Littlejohn shared that he is planning to onboard three new team members this fall. Additionally, Ms. Espinoza took the opportunity to acknowledge that this would be Mr. Littlejohn's final board meeting and expressed gratitude for his service.
- Bailey McEuen (Homes for Good): Ms. McEuen updated the board on her involvement on an internal committee with Homes for Good that is tasked with crafting a comprehensive

strategic plan, encompassing both a strategic and DEI equity plan. One of the primary objectives of this committee is to establish pathways toward self-sufficiency. For this year, two strategies have been identified: 1) concentrating on rural communities and 2) youth. These two areas align closely with the discussions held during today's meeting. Efforts are underway to make a more substantial impact on the development of affordable housing in rural regions, with active engagements in the Blue River community and ongoing collaboration with the Coalition of Rural Housing Developments. Concurrently, the resident services team is dedicating significant efforts to engage youth within our programs.

- Heidi Larwick (Connected Lane County): Ms. Larwick shared exciting initiatives for the upcoming months. This summer proves to be engaging, with approximately 200 youths being employed across the county. A seven-week paid internship program, scheduled to start in June, is set to offer valuable opportunities. For those interested in hosting interns, Ms. Larwick extended an invitation to get in touch. Connected Lane County is in the process of concluding their pilot manufacturing accelerator program, which functions as an unofficial yet comprehensive pre-apprenticeship. This four-month program involves two months of in-person training followed by two months of practical experience with a company. Participants receive compensation during their involvement, and the program has yielded positive outcomes. Additionally, CLC is gearing up to launch a healthcare program in late June, followed by a tech program in the fall. These offerings are set to occur on an annual basis. Another venture is the Invention Lab, catering to freshmen and sophomores. This five-week program introduces participants to manufacturing, technology, and computer science in an engaging environment. CLC is currently renovating an 11,000 square foot facility at the Booth Kelly Center in Springfield. This facility will house manufacturing, technology, and computer science activities and will also function as a drop-in workforce center for youth. In April, CLC organized a hiring fair tailored to graduating seniors - approximately 650 youth attended.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was noted.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Holliday adjourned the meeting.