



LANE WORKFORCE BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 24, 2020
3:00pm – 5:00pm

MINUTES

Present: Jennifer Adams, Sabrina Cunliffe, Justin Freeman, Fiona Gledhill, Bettina Hannigan, Phillip Hohnstein, Shondra Holliday, Shaun Hyland, Katie Jeremiah, Bailey McEuen, Grant Matthews, Sarah Means, Debra Miller, Stephen Parac, Stan Pickett, Tony Scurto, Margaret Theisen, Laura Vinson

Absent: Travis Brooke, Michael Caven, Julie Davidson, Noreen Dunnells, Solomon Harris, David Heavirland, Scott Littlejohn, Joshua McClaughry, Jeffrey McGillivray, Celeste Marshall

Staff: Kristina Payne, Anne Nestell, Ashley Espinoza, Cindy Perry, Lyle Lang, Tiffany Cink, Stephanie Lovell

Others: Heidi Larwick, Brianna Vincent, Matthew Sneed, Deanna Strachan-Wilson

Action Summary:	Motion	Seconded	Status
Approved Board Meeting Minutes, May 28, 2020	Margaret Theisen	Shondra Holliday	Unanimous Approval
Approved the Lane Workforce Partnership Local Strategic Plan July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024	Debra Miller	Grant Matthews	Unanimous Approval

I. CALL TO ORDER

Stan Pickett called the meeting to order.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Margaret Theisen made a motion to approve the May 28, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes. Shondra Holliday seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

IV. LOCAL STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVAL

The Local Strategic Plan contains operational and compliance plans for services that are delivered in an integrated manner at WorkSource Lane locations. It reflects Oregon’s WorkSource integration initiative that involves the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development and

the partner agencies, and encompasses policy direction from the Lane Workforce Partnership Board of Directors, the Governor, and the Oregon Workforce and Talent Development Board.

The Plan was developed with input from WorkSource Lane partner agencies as well as representatives from business, labor, economic development, and education. The Plan went out for a 30-day public comment period and we did not receive any comments.

Debra Miller made a motion to approve the Lane Workforce Partnership Local Strategic Plan for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024. Grant Matthews seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

V. LANE COUNTY SECTOR STRATEGY UPDATES

Ashley Espinoza, Sector Strategy Director for Lane Workforce Partnership, presented on all the work that is happening with the various sectors. The role of the Lane County Sector Strategy Team is to establish and sustain workforce sector partnerships that engage industry and community stakeholders as partners and drivers of training and education efforts to support business growth and career development.

Highlights of sector updates:

- **Technology**

The Technology Association of Oregon (TAO) is the force behind the regional tech industry - supporting entrepreneurs, connecting peers and decision makers, and helping establish the Northwest as a global hub for innovation. They do that through: Industry Promotion, Advocacy, Talent Development, and Building professional networks.

Sally Bell was hired as TAO's new Vice President & Executive Director for the Southern Willamette Valley.

- **Food and Beverage Manufacturing**

Lane Food and Beverage Sector Strategies leads collaborative development projects, promotes regional products and values, and creates opportunities to share knowledge and resources to solidify Lane County as a hub for diverse food and beverage companies.

[Oregon Business](#) published a feature story highlighting Eugene's Table and the work that went into launching Oregon's first regional food and beverage manufacturing partnership.

- **Construction – Aggregate**

Associated General Contractors (AGC) hosted a workforce luncheon for area contractors and Lane County CTE High School Teachers/LCC Construction Technology staff. The discussion focused on learning about the local construction related workforce initiatives/addressing how to best engage industry-education partnerships, identify possible gaps, barriers, and work towards ongoing next steps.

Multiple Lane County education, workforce, and construction industry partners created a registered BOLI approved youth apprenticeship program model that will be used to prepare high school students to be qualified/competitive applicants for a registered trades apprenticeship OR begin employment in the skilled trades. Lane PACT will pilot during school year 2019-20 at Mohawk and Springfield High Schools with projections for ongoing expansion at other Lane County High Schools.

- **Wood Products**

Surge of business through COVID-19. Working with the Business Service Team at WorkSource Lane to identify dislocated workers in industries affected by the pandemic.

- **Creative Sector**

The Creative Sector Strategy initiative led by ArtsCity, Lane Arts Council, and Lane Workforce Partnership works with artists, entrepreneurs, and creatives of all disciplines, including visual, performing and literary artists, to increase the economic impact, inclusivity, and quality of life in our community.

The Creative Sector is currently working on the following initiatives:

- professional development for artists;
- increasing community awareness about the importance and impact of our sector on economic and community development;
- building a network of creative and diverse talent.

The Economic Impact of the Nonprofit Arts and Culture Industry in the City of Eugene:

- 62.2 million in total economic activity;
- 2,401 total full-time jobs;
- 45.7 million total household income to local residents.

Viking Textile Maker Hub:

Discard Upcycling in partnership with Viking Sewing and Vacuum Spa and Stove have come together to launch Viking Textile Maker Hub (VTMH). The Textile Maker Hub will offer industrial sewing training, alterations, use of industrial sewing machines for textile craftsmanship, industrial sewing, and textile makers space.

The owner and operator of Discard Upcycling, Mitra Gruwell, is currently designing an industry recognized sewing training program that can be taught in the Textile Maker Hub to train students in the basic skills and safety protocols being sought out by our local textile manufacturing businesses.

VI. STATUS OF LWP GRANT APPLICATIONS

Cindy Perry, Director of Workforce Investments for Lane Workforce Partnership reviewed the status of submitted grant applications.

Youth Apprenticeship Readiness (May 2020)

- Applied for \$1,999,999
- Focus: Expansion of CTE training for Construction/Aggregate Sector with a focus on rural areas.
- Partners: Lane ESD, Lane Community College, Chemeketa Community College, BOLI, Willamette Workforce Partnership, and East Cascades Works
- DOL Grant – No Oregon agencies received an award

National Dislocated Worker Grant (June 2020)

- DOL Grants: State applied and was awarded \$6M to assist with COVID-19 Restoration and Recovery.
- Two grants – Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery
- LWP Awarded \$241,680 for each project.
- Disaster Recovery
 - Subcontract with Lane County Health & Human Services
 - Community Service Works and Peer Support Specialists to outreach to most vulnerable populations
- Employment and Training
 - WIOA Service Provider – Lane County Health & Human Services to provide career services to 200 dislocated workers with a priority given to those impacted by COVID-19.

Reimagine Workforce Preparation (August 2020)

- Department of Education Grant Opportunity
- State Workforce Boards are the eligible applicant – award decision pending
 - Grant awards between \$5 - \$20M;
 - Priority given to COVID-19 High Impact States;
 - LWP submitted our concept paper to the State.
- Primary focus – Advanced Technology Mechatronics Training for Lane County Manufacturing
- Partners: Lane Community College, Food & Beverage Sector/Eugene's Table, Wood Products Sector

Sorenson Impact Foundation (August 2020)

- Applied for \$229,831 – award decision pending.
- Focus: COVID-19 Restoration and Recovery Assistance for Latino-owned businesses in Lane County.
 - Solutions:
 - Support Huerto de la Familia with funding for a Latino Business Service Navigator;
 - Develop a Latino-owned business sector partnership – modeled after the successful Industry Sector Partnerships.
- Partner: Huerto de la Familia

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Pickett reviewed Executive Board/Council action items and Executive Board meeting minutes from May 21, 2020 and June 26, 2020 and Lane Council meeting minutes from May 21, 2020.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- LWP 2019/2020 Year-At-A-Glance and LWP Workforce System Year-End Report

Ms. Payne reviewed the 2019/2020 Year-at-a-Glance and the Workforce System Year-End Performance Report. There is a lot of information provided in these documents and Ms. Payne encouraged board members to look through them and if there are any questions or concerns, please reach out to her.

- Corona Relief Funds Investment

Kristina Payne shared a letter she wrote to Steve Mokrohisky, Lane County's Administrator, requesting support from the Corona Relief Funds to assist with On-the-Job Training. In that letter, Ms. Payne detailed how economic development and workforce development go hand-in-hand and as we work get our community back on its feet, it will be imperative that we join forces and leverage successful programs that get people into good paying jobs, with benefits, and career paths.

Lane Workforce Partnership recently invested resources into a contract with the Eugene Chamber of Commerce to help expand the successful On-the-Job Training program. The intent is to introduce the OJT model to businesses who are not currently engaged with our services and thus expand training and employment opportunities throughout the community.

Ms. Payne said that an investment of Corona Virus Relief funds in the amount of \$250,000 will support the training of approximately 75 individuals.

- Timeline for Adult RFP

This year we are coming into our Request for Proposals (RFP) for our Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Program. Rather than just having staff work on the RFP, we want to involve board members in the process. We are looking for volunteers to be a part of the Focus Group. If you are interested in doing this work with us, we would really like to your ideas and voices at the table. We want to truly serve all of Lane County so we need to look at how technology can be used, different spaces can be used, etc. There are ways we can better assist our whole community. This will be an opportunity for us to look at how we do our work through a new lens. Please reach out to Ms. Payne if interested in participating.

IX. PRESENTATION: CONNECTED LANE COUNTY WIOA YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

Heidi Larwick, Executive Director of Connected Lane County presented on the WIOA Youth/Young Adult Program.

Connected Lane County is the primary provider for WIOA Youth/Young Adult Services in Lane County and has formed a partnership with Bethel School District, South Lane School District, South Eugene and Sheldon High Schools, and Looking Glass. Specifically with South Eugene and Sheldon High Schools, we are working with unhoused youth as well as students who have really disengaged.

Partnership Goals:

- Support 202 youth (75% Out-of-School and 25% In-School) through the pathway which entails identification and completion of education requirements; financial foundations course (through DevNW); career readiness webinars; virtual job shadows; and work experience and internships;
- Bring in new high wage, high demand businesses into the work experiences;
- Create county efficiencies by partnering together.

There is potential to bring in more partners and really expand the program to reach more youth/young adults.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was noted.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pickett adjourned the meeting.

Lane Workforce Partnership is an equal opportunity employer. With 48 hours of notice, auxiliary aids and services, and alternate formats are available to individuals with limited English proficiency free of cost. Requests can be made directly to LWP or with the assistance of TTY: Oregon Relay Services at 1-800-735-2900.