

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING

Location: Virtual Meeting & Cook County Courthouse
Date: May 24, 2023
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Facilitator: Burl Ives

Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** 10:016 am by Chair Ives

- II. **Roll Call:** Present in person: Burl Ives, Rick Goutermont, Paul McDonald, Stacy Hawkins
Present virtually: Ricky Rouche, Travis Leiviska
Excused: Tom Proulx
Staff Present: Marie Domiano - virtual, Randy Lampton - virtual, Tara Helms – in person.

- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Move to approve 5-26-23 agenda by Commissioner McDonald, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. No discussion. Unanimously passed and approved.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Move to approve 4-26-23 minutes by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. No discussion. Unanimously passed and approved.

- V. **Old Business:** No old business.

- VI. **New Business**
WDB Removals/Recruitment: Ongoing investigation into workforce development board composition to meet legal requirements of WIOA. The Executive Board conducted an evaluation to ensure composition meets the intent of WIOA law and landed on recommendations for removals and additions to make sure there is adequate representation from all counties. LEO approves all expenses for JET. WDB is lopsided. The bylaws indicate representation. Union reps, education reps, and all counties are not represented and looking to realign that board. Currently business qualified people are businesses of 1, and not representative. Conflict of interest exists some members are being paid by other sectors of the board. Talks with MN DEED, regarding JET and LEO clarification on duties. MN DEED is in support of how operations are currently run and support realignment of board. Secondly WDB thinks they should be in control of JET and LEO and how money should be spent, and commissioners are not in support of that stance. Meeting to talk with WDB meeting on June 8th. Members that are to be removed to not have optimal policy making optimal hiring authority and have employees and create job opportunities in demand industries. Move forward to get board more balanced. Rick Goutermont is in full support of the suggested changes. Stacy Hawkins agrees and wants representation from Cook County. Paul McDonald supports representation changes as well. Ricky Roche wants to add another from the falls. Suggested Greentech manufacturing, they have 56 employees and are growing. American Pete and element manufacturing would be great additions in Aitkin County per Commissioner Leiviska.

Move to approve list of recommendations provided to commissioners named “WDB restructuring proposals” by Commissioner Goutermont seconded by Commissioner Roche. Unanimously passed and approved.

Joint Powers Agreement – Final Approval: Attorney approved final edits. Minor changes to spelling or updated legal references only. Send Redline Form of the document to the county administrators for review by auditor and attorneys then commissioners will sign off on the clean updated document. Will take a few months to move through system for approval. Commissioner Leiviska Section 11, III ABC twice, will need to update. Make sure all counties are listed.

Kermeen Nomination Review: Jenny Kermeen nomination to support customized training options. Commissioner McDonald is in full support of nomination. Commissioner Leiviska also supports educational and credential background of nomination. Move to approve nomination by Commissioner McDonald, Rick Goutermont seconds. Unanimously passed and approved.

Funding Summary: Spend out grants that are ending June 23rd. 2-year grants need to be 80% spent or they require a waiver, which our Operations Director will complete. All grants that are ending on track to be spent out as planned and obligations and expenses spent out. County grants will be upping now with staff time being spent to them staff wages go there for other overhead, everything goes up for county expenses for next quarter. VERSO grant ending now, might need to give back some of that money as we can only have 10% admin costs. We are a subcontractor for the City of Duluth for the VERSO grant. Money does go back and can be reallocated.

Upcoming Meetings:

VII. **County Updates:**

VIII. **Next Meeting:**

- June 28, 2023: Commissioner Proulx, Carlton County
- September 27, 2023: Commissioner Goutermont, Lake County
- October 25, 2023: Commissioner McDonald, St. Louis County (Confirmed)
- November 22, 2023: Commissioner Roche, Koochiching County (Confirmed)

VIII. **Adjourn:** Commissioner Ives adjourned at 11:27 am.

Tara Helms, Recording Secretary

Tom Proulx, LEO Secretary