

# LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING

Location: Virtual Meeting & Virginia CareerForce  
Date: September 8, 2022  
Time: 11:00 a.m.  
Facilitator: Marie Domiano

## Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** am by Commissioner Adee at 11:12 AM
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Commissioner Proulx, Commissioner Mills, Commissioner Walsh (in person), Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Niemi (in person), Commissioner Adee  
Absent: Commissioner Ives
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Move to approve 9-8-22 agenda by Commissioner McDonald, seconded by Commissioner Mills, no discussion, unanimously passed and approved.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting 7-14-22:** Motion to approve with no corrections or additions by Commissioner Proulx, second by Commissioner Mills, no discussion, unanimously passed and approved.
- V. **Old Business:** No old business.
- VI. **New Business**
  - a) **Funding Summary: Randy Lampton** - All county and MFIP and DW funds will be expended by the end of the year. Carry over buffer due to federal sequestration. Next meeting will include all the new grant amounts for the next fiscal year.
  - b) **Labor Market Information: Carson Gorecki – DEED:** More people living in MN, than in 2010. However, there are less workers. We are down to just 55,502 workers in the state. The state's unemployment rate held at 1.8% in July 2022, in May of 2020 it was 11.3%. People have stopped looking for work, or are not returning, even with more jobs, people are not looking. Retirements are a large part of those not returning. Our labor force is down to 8511 people. Estimated 4295 unemployed persons in the region. Part time is included in calculations. Why and who left the labor force? Older workers have left and not returned. Lifestyle changes or adjustments factoring things like childcare or Covid and long term Covid is an issue, and a significant share of people that are simply not seeking work. Most people out of the labor force simply do not want a job (94%). Still 5.6 m (about 6000 in NE MN) state they do want a job. 64% haven't looked in the last year. The share of workers out of the labor force for family responsibilities more than doubled for 25- to 54-year-old. Largest loss in labor force was between 55-64, around 29% of the decline in the last 2 years. Caregiving, ill, disabled, can't find a job, in school, retired, in military, other reasons are the top reasons why prime-age American's aren't working, Share of non-working population aged 25-54 as of March 2021. Covid as a continued drag, estimated 2-4 million Americans out of work because of long COVID.
  - c) **Staffing Update**
    - a. **Termination – Duluth:** Fraud in Duluth office, had a second full time job. Conducted several meetings and extensive investigation, employee refused to provide documentation upon request and ultimately lead to termination as of August 22, 2022. Continuing through existing grievance procedure. Risk exists that she could be reinstated. Will keep posted.

- b. **New Hire – Grand Rapids:** Hannah Madden was added to the Grand Rapids team as a youth counselor. Has a diverse background in education, youth, community involvement, and truancy.
  
- d) **WDB Conflict of Interest:** Pre-ets staff left, started competing companies, one of those staff people that left, her husband is our WDB chair. Private sector focused and does not understand his role. There have been some concerns in his behavior regarding his conduct and interest in advocating for his spouse’s company, rather than promoting and supporting JET’s programs. Voting member is the issue. Must abstain from discussion or voting if there is a conflict.
  
- e) **International Falls Location Change:** DEED has a new vision, JET response to this has been to reduce physical footprint. Currently at Rainy River Community College, will move to modern coworking space. Many changes to how we are operating in response to COVID and the direction DEED is moving. Renting one long term office space for staff to share, and will adopt teleworking schedules to accommodate those to staff to pilot. Office on first floor, no elevator, office must be on first floor. Trying to reach the more at risk population makes sense in the move.
  - a. **Cyber Security Insurance:** We do not have current policy.
  
  - b. **Cyber Security Infrastructure Funding:** Is there funding available? Solutions or ideas to tap into county resources. Most of the counties use MCIT Minnesota counties insurance trust and association of Minnesota counties. McDonald, reach out to Jermey Craker IT director for help.
  
- f) **New Participant Targets Initiative Success:** Performance evaluations regarding state and federal performance levels, shared targets with staff and had staff already met their goals. Participant targets met after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Success that staff are driven and want to do well.

VII. **County Updates**

VIII. **Next Meeting:** 11/10/22 @ 11am

VIII. **Adjournment: Motion** to Adjourn by Commissioner Walsh seconded by Commissioner Niemi motion unanimously passed and approved. Adjourned at 12:37pm



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Tara Helms, Recording Secretary



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Commissioner Thomas Proulx (Sep 21, 2022 11:41 CDT)

Tom Proulx, LEO Secretary






# 9.8.2022 LEO Minutes

Final Audit Report

2022-09-21

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