

MINUTES

Strategic Programs Committee Meeting

1 pm, Thursday, December 5, 2024

Fox Valley Job Center – Menasha, 1802 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI

<u>Members in Attendance</u>: Mindie Boynton, Ryan Long, Jennifer Marks, Chair Sarah Pantol, Shannon Schultz, Debbie Warga, and Craig Wehner.

Members Excused: Robyn Hallet.

Others in Attendance: Terri Green, and Anthony Snyder, Fox Valley Workforce Development Board.

Call to Order: Chair Pantol called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

<u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> (*Action Item*): A motion was made by Mr. Schultz, and seconded by Ms. Warga, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the 12/5/24 Meeting Agenda; Minutes of the 11/7/24 Strategic Programs Committee Meeting; and the Fall 2024 Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Rapid Response Monitoring; motion carried.

Tour of Job Center: Ms. Warga led the group on a tour of the job center and resource room. The resource room will have over 6,000 visits in 2024. After the tour, the committee discussed Job Center Operations, our workforce development outreach in local libraries and the possibility of two JobPods coming to our region in 2025.

<u>New Board Position at Oshkosh State Correctional Institution</u>: The Wisconsin Department of Corrections has made a request to contract with the FVWDB to establish a full-time role of Job Center and Re-Entry Specialist at the Oshkosh State Correctional Institution beginning 1/1/25 until 12/31/25. Mr. Snyder distributed the job description and the role is expected to be filled in early January 2025. Mr. Snyder encouraged the committee to share with their network.

Congressionally Directed Spending Project: Mr. Snyder reported on the award status of our \$4.6 million dollar grant sponsored by Senator Tammy Baldwin that will be contracted sometime after 2/1/25. Currently, Board staff and the other participating workforce development boards are working on the application, which has a due date of 1/30/25. The committee discussed some ideas on how this grant, with a "human centered design" focus could benefit workforce partners, employers and others in the region.

WIOA Youth Contract Budget (Action Item): Mr. Snyder shared the budgeting philosophy for Program Year 2024 in light of continued reductions to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding. While the Board has already finalized the PY24 budget and provided our subrecipient, Forward Service Corporation (FSC), with spending amounts for this year, FSC requested a review of youth funding. Mr. Snyder sought input from the committee as Ms. Marks, the Board's liaison to Forward Service Corporation (FSC) reviewed enrollments and service delivery. Ms. Green and Mr. Snyder shared some ways to potentially increase the FSC contract, noting that doing so may negatively impact our work experience and training goals. A motion was made by Mr. Schultz, and seconded by Mr. Long, to recommend an increase to the FSC Youth Budget, noting that this change may result in failure to meet PY24 goals on Work Experience and Training; motion carried. Ms. Marks abstained.

<u>Grant Review</u>: The committee had the opportunity to review the most recent report of grant outcomes. Chair Pantol recommended that future grant reports be included in the Consent Agenda.

WDA4 One Stop Operator/Job Center Updates: The committee had the opportunity to review the most recent minutes of the Board's One Stop Operator (OSO) and the dates for upcoming mini job fairs in 2025.

<u>Committee Member Round Robin on Workforce Issues</u>: Throughout the meeting, as well as at this time on the agenda, Committee members provided input on various workforce challenges and ideas for focus. Chair Pantol suggested a future topic of under-employment.

Next Meeting: 1 pm, January 9, 2025, via Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.

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