

# North Missouri Workforce Region CLEO Caucus

## Minutes of Meeting

### March 6, 2023

#### In-Person/Virtual

The North Missouri Workforce Region Chief Local Elected Officials met in open session on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. The meeting was conducted in-person at the Livingston County Library, there was also a virtual option via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by CLEO Chair Phillip Ray at 1:00 PM. Roll Call was conducted for the Caucus and a quorum was established with 11 Commissioners in attendance.

#### **Presiding Commissioners Present**

Mark Shahan Adair County	John David Lomax Marion County	Sid Conklin* Randolph County	Terry Helmick* Shelby County
Brad Jarvis* Andrew County	Scott Nelson* Buchanan County	Kyle Carroll DeKalb County	Phillip Ray Grundy County
Ed Douglas Livingston County	Robert Munden* Putnam County	Chris May Sullivan County	

\* Attended via Zoom

#### **Presiding Commissioners Absent**

Steven Krueger Clark County	Les Cardwell Knox County	Wayne "Fid" Murphy Jr Lewis County	Joseph Kaimann Lincoln County
Dean Still Macon County	Curtis Wheeler Monroe County	Ryan Poston Montgomery County	Bill Allen Picke County
John Lake Ralls County	Jeremy Lefler Schuyler County	Joe Gildehaus Warren County	Curis Livengood Atchison County
Dale Akey Caldwell County	Patrick Clark Clinton County	Jim Ruse Daviness County	Mike Sager Gentry County
Jack Hodge Harrison County	Tom Bullock Holt County	Dick King Linn County	Jerry Allen Mercer County
Bill Walker Nodaway County	Jubal Summers Worth County		

#### **Guests**

Gregg Roberts WDB of North Missouri Chairperson	Bill King Adair County 1 <sup>st</sup> District Commissioner
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#### **WDB of North Missouri Staff**

Brent Stevens	Jeanie Griffin	Kerry Savage
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## **Open Session Meeting**

CLEO Chair, Phillip Ray and WDB Executive Director, Brent Stevens welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

### **A. Funding Update for the Region**

Executive Director Brent Stevens discussed the year-over-year funding comparison for the region. He shared the following changes: Adult had a decrease of 1%, Dislocated Worker had a decrease of 10%, and Youth had an increase of 34%. He shared the allocation comes from the USDOL to the State of Missouri. The state of Missouri then uses a formula that takes into account several factors in determining regional allocations.

Questions were asked from the Commissioners regarding the allocation and the ability to utilize the funding, specifically the Youth funding as that has been a funding source that has been underutilized in the past. Director Stevens shared that this has not been an issue recently and praised the work and connections of the current youth sub-recipients. He also mentioned the state is operating a waiver to allow up to 50% of the youth being served to be considered in-school, without the waiver, only 25% of the youth were allowed to be in-school youth.

### **B. Meeting at CCAM**

Director Stevens shared with the Commissioners that work is being done to allow each workforce region to host a regional meeting during the County Commissioners Association of Missouri's annual conference. The North Region is tentatively set to meet at 11 AM (prior to the conference beginning) on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The commissioners praised this effort and agreed it would be a good time to meet. It was brought up that this could cause issues for some who are required to attend a MO Dot certification training. Director Stevens said he would look into that.

### **C. Update on the Work of the New Board**

Director Stevens walked through a presentation to update the Commissioners on the work of the new Board. He started out by explaining the process the Board used to establish Sub-Regions as well as outlined the RFP process and discussed who the new sub-recipients are.

WDB Chair Gregg Roberts asked Director Stevens to explain the relationship between the Board and North Central Missouri College. WDB Chair Roberts expressed how the arrangement adds extra support to the Board as well as the financial oversight.

Commissioners asked questions regarding the sub-regions that were answered by Director Stevens. It was noted these sub-regions do not have to be permanent, but time should be allotted to allow them to settle in to see if gaps are identified. It was also noted that the goal of the new sub-regions is to better enhance the service availability by establishing locations throughout the region that do not have a traditional Job Center available. The commissioners agreed this is a good vision and asked that data continue to be shared regarding customers being served.

Director Stevens also explained the Board has worked hard to adopt new policies for the region. He outlined two specific policies that he said would be of interest to the Board. The first policy was

regarding the priority of service which now allows the WIOA Adult program to serve individuals up 200% of the poverty level. WIOA states that a minimum of 50.1% of Adult customers must meet the poverty rules, and allows the local regions to set further limits. This expansion of services will allow the region to serve more adults in the low-middle income category. The commissioners praised this change and thought it would allow the services to be used by more of the population.

Director Stevens also shared information regarding the Incumbent Worker policy and how it could benefit local employers.

Commissioners asked questions about the policies which were addressed by Director Stevens.

WDB Chairperson Roberts, explained it is his goal as Board Chairmen to ensure local policies do not create obstacles to the programs beyond what are required by DOL.

Director Stevens also discussed recent layoffs in the region and outlined the Boards efforts to support the effected employees.

#### **D. Open Discussion**

WDB Board Chair Roberts spoke up and thanked the Board Staff and Sub-recipient staff for their work during the transition. He mentioned that there was a lot of work done by the Board Staff to complete the merger and stated that the State is very pleased with the work that has been done with the Merger, and stated they are very supportive of the Board moving forward.

CLEO Chair Ray thanked the commissioners for their attendance and support of the Workforce Programs, and said he was glad to be a part of the progress. He asked that the CLEO's continue to get information regarding the efforts and praised the work being done. He also noted that if any commissioners see things in their counties that could benefit from workforce programs, they reach out to the Board and engage with the staff.

A motion was made by Kyle Carroll and seconded by Ed Douglas to adjourn the meeting.

The Meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM.