



Workforce Development Area 16
 Belmont, Carroll, Harrison & Jefferson Counties

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Workforce Development Board Meeting
9/12/25 10:00 am
 GoToMeeting
Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order: Meeting** called to order by Nicole Paulette, Board Chair at 10:04am.

2. **Roll Call**

Board Member Attendees: Jeremy Morris, Ed Good, Jake Hershberger, Jeff Vaughn, Sherri Lewis, Mark Trew, Dean Petersen, Nicole Paulette, William Moore, Matt Townsend, Emily Freese, Dave Wheeler, Kevan Brown, Marc Manheim, and Karla Martin. Quorum established.

Non-Member Attendees: Deb Knight, Mike Schlanz, Rebecca Safko, Rob Guentter, Jacob Barr, Rich Gualtiere, Alex Logan, Jana Kizito, and Lisa Duvall.

Welcome to new WDB16 Board members Jeremy Morris, Matt Townsend, Emily Freese, and Dave Wheeler!

3. **Approval of Board 6/13/25 Minutes**

Motion 16-2025 Motion to approve 6/13/25 Meeting Minutes

1st Good 2nd Hershberger

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not heard	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Approved

4. **Financial/Participants Reports and Transfers**

Rebecca provided the financial report based on the July 2025 statement.

Transfers:

- A. \$14,240.38 Adult and \$32,746.57 Dislocated Worker (DW) from Harrison Co. to Jefferson Co.

Motion 17-2025 Motion to approve financial report and transfers.

1st Martin 2nd Wheeler

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Approved

5. Staff to the Board Report

Rob provided a written report on the following topics:

- WIOA Reauthorization: Rob added update about US House Appropriations committee party line vote to cut Title 1 (WIOA) by 63%, and eliminate all funding for Adult Basic Education, Youth, Re-Entry, and Senior Employment Services. He added that the Senate does not share all of these cuts, and ultimately this will go to conference committee.
- Local and Regional Workforce Plan update: Plan covers Areas 14, 15 and 16. Area 14 and 15 Boards have already approved the Plan.
- WDB16 2-year Board appointments/recertification
- OMJ Center Recertifications
- New operator report format
- ARC ARISE Apprenticeship update
- 4-year Youth Elements Assessment

6. Operator updates

All Operator reports are on the new common report format this meeting.

Belmont Co: Mike Schlanz reviewed the Belmont OMJ service numbers (16 adults, 3 dislocated workers, and 71 CCMEP Youth) and noted the 15 businesses they are working with. Additionally, 31 youth completed the summer CCMEP program. Mike also provide some details about the State of Ohio Mystery Shoppers who visited the OMJ in person and virtually. Belmont scored higher than the state average for customer service and had a very good review. Finally, Belmont has also been awarded \$320,000 of state Growing Rural Independence Together (GRIT) funds to serve clients. This is their first award.

Carroll Co: Alex Logan said they have had 180 OMJ visitors this period and that they are serving 3 adults, 11 CCMEP, and 1 GRIT clients. 17 businesses are using the OMJ for job postings. They have also been offering Career and Leadership training including Interviewing with ChatGPT, Healthcare Career Fair, and Financial Literacy. Carroll Co OMJ and other county services are moving to the Moody Ave. building in November or December. They have been awarded \$93,000 of GRIT funding.

Harrison Co: Jacob Barr reviewed their service numbers including 1 adult, 0 dislocated workers and 17 youth. They helped sponsor and support a clothing voucher program at the Ohio Valley Mall that provide clothing for over 500 TANF clients. They are also applying for GRIT funding this year.

Jefferson Co: Jana Kizito went over the Jefferson Co submitted report (13 adults, 3 dislocated workers, 190 youth, and 22 GRIT clients) and added that they have over 93 youths and adults on a waiting list due to limited funding. The August 6, 2025 job fair at

Steubenville HS was well received with 74 vendors and 120 job seekers. They have also been awarded \$350,000 of GRIT funding.

7. Recognition of past Board Members

Motion 18-2025 to recognize past WDB16 Board members (Ed Mowrer, Hunter Yarnell, Darla Montelone, and Bonnie Rutledge) for their service and dedication to workforce development in our area.

1st Trew 2nd Vaughn

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Approved

8. CCMEP County Plan Updates 2025

CCMEP Plans for each county have been completed and submitted to the state for approval. Once approved, they will be posted on OMJ16.com

9. Staff to the Board 6-month contract extension

Motion 19-2025 to extend the Staff to the Board contract from January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026 for a fee of \$61,660 (identical to the current July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 6-month contract)

1st Good 2nd Trew

The Board indicated that they are concerned about a clean transition to a new Staff to the Board /Director and the Board Chair will appoint an ad hoc Transition Committee to finalize a job posting/RFP and plan for a smooth transition. Members of the committee will include the Executive Committee, Dave Wheeler, and any other people appointed by the Chair.

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Vote Not Heard	Yes

Motion Approved

10. Local and Regional Workforce Plan

Motion 20-2025 to approve the 2025-2029 Southeast Ohio Workforce Development Plan which includes WDAs 14, 15 and 16.

1st Manheim 2nd Wheeler

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abstained	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Vote Not Heard	Yes

Motion Approved

9. Other Discussion: Mike Schlanz shared that Rebecca Safko is retiring as the Workforce Director of Area 15. She has been a great partner with Area 16 during her tenure. She will be continuing as contracted fiscal consultant for Area 16 via Belmont Co DJFS (WDA16 Fiscal Agent). Thanks Rebecca for ALL you do!

10. Motion to Adjourn

Motion 21-2025 to adjourn.

1st Good 2nd Vaughn

Roll Call Vote

Morris	Good	Hershberger	Vaughn	Lewis	Petersen	Paulette	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Manheim	Moore	Townsend	Freese	Wheeler	Brown	Martin	Powell
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Approved

Next Meeting: 10:00am, Friday December 5, 2025 (GoTo)

A proposed 2026 meeting schedule will be presented at the December meeting.

Adjournment- 11:20am

Nicole Paulette

Board Chair

12/06/25

Date