



# NORTH CENTRAL WORKFORCE BOARD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2019 @ 8:00 AM

North Central Chamber of Commerce

**Present:** Adam Duggan ( for Rachel Frick-Cardell), Paulette Carroll, Christine Cordio, Dale DelleChiaie, Beth Goguen, Melissa Graf, Theresa Kane, Adam Garber, Linda Lajoy, Jennifer Tate, Melissa Fetteroff, Chris Hendry, Donata Martin, Maribel Cruz, Karen Sowsy, Barbara Mahoney, Mary Ma-Luchese

**Staff:** Jeffrey Roberge  
Kelley French  
Mary Chase  
Michael Gerry  
Connie Cook  
Anthony Wilson

**Guests:** Meredith Geraghty-New Vue Communities  
Adam Duggan-MWCC

**Absent:** Whitney Andrews, Brian Finn, Roy Gilbert, Christopher Mattioli, Mary Jo Bohart, Mohammed Khan, Meagan McCaffrey, Roy Nascimento, Nikki Peters, Kevin Reed

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Mahoney and she welcomed all in attendance. Barbara introduced new members Chris Hendry from Health Alliance-Leominster and Adam Garber from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. After introductions Barbara requested a vote on the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Maribel Cruz made a motion to accept the minutes and Theresa Kane seconded.

Barbara Mahoney then asked for a vote of the February 27<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting minutes including the fiscal and executive report. Maribel Cruz made a motion to accept the minutes and Paulette Carroll seconded.

Barbara then turned the meeting over to Jeff Roberge. Jeff informed the board that the format for meetings will change in that all materials for meetings will be provided to members electronically prior to board meetings. Members will receive information at least 1 week prior to each meeting so that information can be reviewed and members have the opportunity to respond, ask questions or request follow up prior to scheduled Board meetings.

During meetings, time will be given for Board members to ask questions or engage in follow up to the information provided electronically. Jeff indicated that meetings will no longer include direct reading of materials to Board members as part of the meeting. Printed packets will also no longer be distributed, although copies of any information can be provide at the request of a member.

Additionally, meetings will focus on community partnerships and workforce development partners and as such, each meeting will consist of at least 1 guest speaker who can provide relevant workforce development information to members. Jeff indicated he would also like members to have the opportunity to be “featured” at meetings and he indicated that he would reach out to members requesting presentations to the group.

Anthony Wilson introduced himself as the new program coordinator hired by the Board to support the Advanced Manufacturing Training Grant being managed by the MHNCWB. Anthony provided an update of progress in the training opportunities in our region.

Jeff Roberge provided an update on the regional healthcare consortium that has been put together with the central workforce board and several employers in the healthcare industry. Jeff explained the needs of the industry, the focus on this sector as part of our regional blueprint and the steps being taken at the secretariat level to address the skills gap and training pipeline needs. Jeff indicated that he believes grant dollars will be coming in FY20 similar to the manufacturing training grants.

Jeff Roberge and Theresa Kane updated the Disability Training Grant starting at the end of March and running through May. Trainings will be held at the Career Center in collaboration with MRC. The grant will support training in Pharmacy Tech and graduates of the program will be offered interviews at CVS.

Jeff Roberge and Adam Duggan from MWCC informed the board that grant acquisition is in the early stages to support workforce training for re-entry populations.

The Board will be sponsoring a Youth Job Fair at the Leominster Boys and Girls Club on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Kelley French thanked Donata Martin for use of the facility and partnership supports for this event.

The Youth Works-GROW Awards will take place April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Chocksett Inn in Sterling. The Board will be recognizing employers and educators for their commitment to supporting youth employment initiatives in our region.

Scott Percifull from the Career Center provide updates on the career center activities including an employer digital marketing event on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Meredith Geraghty from New Vue Communities presented to the members on services provided by the agency to support low income adults.

Barbara Mahoney made motion to adjourn. Melissa Graf accepted and Linda Lajoy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.