



A Private-Public Partnership Serving Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties
222 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007-4628

**Workforce Development Board
Executive Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2006**

WDB Chair, Jerry Love called the meeting to order at 7:33a.m. at Michigan Works!/Upjohn Institute, 222 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Executive Members Present: Thom Brennan (PS), Susan Einspahr (PS), Lisa Godfrey (PS), Jerry Love (PS), Linda Marcon (PS), Mary Oudsema (PS), Marilyn Potgiesser (PS), Suprotik Stotz-Ghosh (CBO) Membership 9, Attendance-8 (89%), PS-7 (88%)

Executive Members Absent: Joe Herdus (PS)

Other WDB Members Present: Nasim Ansari (PS)

MW Staff Present: Kathy Olsen, Craig Schreuder, Bob Straits

Guests Present: Jack Mekemson (Goodwill), Dolly Roselip (Y.O.U./KRESA)

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Lisa Godfrey and supported by Marilyn Potgiesser to approve the WDB meeting minutes of June 1, 2006. Motion carried.

II. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. **One-Stop Service Center Plan** – Craig Schreuder requested approval of the One Stop Service Center Plan. The plan includes funding in the amount of \$127,298 for the operation of two service centers located in the Kalamazoo-St. Joseph Michigan Works Area.

Motion made by Marilyn Potgiesser and supported by Susan Einspahr to approve the One-Stop Service Center Plan for Program Year 2006. Motion carried

2. **MPRI Expansion** – Bob Straits reported the State of Michigan is expanding the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative (MPRI) to all counties in Michigan. The State is recommending service level areas similar to the Michigan Works service areas. For the MPRI administration, St. Joseph County would be combined with Kalamazoo County; however, services in St. Joseph County would be driven by the St. Joseph County Board and the St. Joseph County criminal justice system.
3. **21st Century Initiative to Promote Regional Economic Growth** – Bob Straits reported a Summit meeting is planned for Friday, September 14, 2006. Representatives from a five county area, representing economic development, workforce development and education are being invited to attend this all day event. WDB Executive Committee members were asked to save the date on their calendars.
4. **September WDB Meeting** - After some discussion, members agreed to change the September 7, 2006 full WDB meeting to Thursday, October 5, 2006. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m. Ron Kitchens from Southwest Michigan First will be asked to be the guest speaker for the meeting.

5. **RFP for Incumbent Worker Training Grant** - Members agreed to meet on Friday, August 18, 2006 at 7:30 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing the proposals submitted for the Incumbent Worker Training Grant.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation Committee – Suprotik Stotz-Ghosh reported the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee met with representatives from each of our subcontractors at the MW Service Center in June. The meetings have been helpful in providing a better understanding of operations. Dolly Roselip and Jack Mekemson expressed their appreciation to Board members for taking the time to meet with the partner staff.

C. Marketing Committee – Kathy Olsen reported Curt Mastos, HRDI staff, arranged for representatives from all our partners to take a field trip on July 26 to visit the Michigan Works service center in Jackson. Staff and MW partners in Jackson gave an enlightening presentation on business services.

III. Staff Reports - Bob Straits reported the Workforce Innovations Conference that he recently attended included an interesting workshop on customer service, the Disney Way where employees are empowered to give customers a positive and happy Disney experience. Significant changes are planned for the Welfare Reform Program; however, details are still being worked out at the State level. Locally, performance goals for WIA programs that ended on June 30, 2006 were attained in most areas. The Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Program has 71 participants in transitional employment and 45 in unsubsidized employment as of June 30, 2006.

IV. Member Time – Susan Einspahr reported yesterday’s issue of the Kalamazoo Gazette contained an article about current jobs. Marilyn Potgiesser reported staff at Bronson recently visited another hospital that partnered with a job center to hire their food service and custodial staff.

V. Citizen’s Time – Dolly Roselip reported she has meetings scheduled with both Borgess Hospital and Bronson Healthcare to further explore employer services.

VI. Next Meeting - The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 18, 2006 at 7:30 a.m. The next Monitoring and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2006 and the next WDB full board meetings are scheduled for Thursday, October 5, 2006 and Thursday, November 2, 2006 at 8:00 a.m.

VII. Adjournment – With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Robert A. Straits

Date

Jerry Love

Date