

Executive Board Meeting
January 14, 2021 at 12:00pm
Hilton Garden Inn

The Executive Board of the Jefferson-Lewis Workforce Development Board met on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at the Hilton Garden Inn. All members were present; Matt Cooper, John O'Driscoll, Rod Castillo, Jody Pettit, Director Mayforth and One Stop Manager, Angel Munson.

The group discussed the unemployment figures in the area and how the employment picture is looking better in the North Country compared to most parts of the US. Losses continue in the hospitality, food service and retail sectors.

The board has three new members Karla Stefanini, Joseph Wessner and Dave Zembiec. Don Alexander retired on December 31, 2020. Angel & Cheryl attended the drive by retirement acknowledgement and presented Don with a personalized bottle of wine thanking him for 14 years of service to the WDB.

Angel Munson presented the One-Stop report. With Covid-19, numbers are down as we limit the number of people in the building. Most of the services provided are assisting community members with unemployment issues and questions.

Director Mayforth thanked Rod Castillo and his company for helping with directing staff on how to put virtual services on our website for the public to use. With a small staff, we needed to be provided with direction and we are now on our way to producing PowerPoints and videos on various job seeking skills.

We discussed the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Due to a Covid-19 issue with the fiscal manager's family and her need to be quarantined, we will have a partial fiscal report. We need to have full votes on the resolutions that were voted on by the executive board due to the lack of a quorum at our last meeting. Director Mayforth presented the Training and Employment Guidance Letter # 7-20 in which local boards need to define "low income." The staff recommends that it be minimum wage plus 50 cents. There is now an added performance measure that 50.1% of funding must be spent on low income individuals. Included in this measure are individuals receiving public assistance, Veterans receiving public assistance and eligible spouses under these categories. Since minimum wage goes up every year to make the definition of low income as minimum wage plus 50 cents will eliminate the need to address this every year. This definition will also change our On-The-Job policy which will also be revised at our next meeting.

Our January 21, 2021 a full board meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Since many people don't have the Google Meets ability, the Jefferson County IDA will kindly be allowing us to utilize their Zoom account. We want to thank the JCIDA for helping us with this virtual platform.

Meeting was adjourned.