

EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 19, 2009

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

George Kovtun
Ken Austin
John Bozymowski
Jennie Tunnell

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Moran
Gary Polulak
Dave Brandt

OTHERS PRESENT

John Bierbusse
Linda McLatcher
Marsha Prose

Mr. Kovtun called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 19, 2009 EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES

JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2009 AS PRESENTED; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

a. Informational Items

i. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The federal government has released to the States funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (known otherwise as the economic stimulus package). The time frame is a three-year period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. The State of Michigan has not yet released any funds to the various MWAs as action may require state legislation prior to release. Based on the formula of previous allocations, Mr. Bierbusse presented estimated figures for the local board.

The summer youth program is funded nationwide at \$1.2 billion; Michigan has received \$74 million; the local allocation is estimated at \$5.4 million. While funds may be used year-round, the emphasis is on the summer program. The allocation may be used for this summer and next; however, the Department of Labor is strongly encouraging maximum expenditures this summer. Approximately 2,000 economically disadvantaged youth ages 14 through 24 will participate through summer jobs in public and nonprofit organizations earning the current minimum wage. A strong educational component will also be incorporated for in-school youth. Provisions of the Workforce Investment Act require 30% of funds be dedicated to older youth, a segment of the population that has always proven difficult to service. Staff expects to utilize economically disadvantaged older youth as summer job coaches who will, at a higher rate of pay, provide supervision to younger participants. Posting for temporary full-time youth facilitators has been placed on the Michigan Talent Bank with more than 150 responses.

The adult program is funded nationwide at \$500 million; Michigan has received \$31 million; the local allocation is estimated at \$2.5 million. Funds will be used to provide services for up to 650 economically disadvantaged adults in demand and emerging occupations.

The dislocated worker program is funded nationwide at \$1.2 billion; Michigan received \$76.5 million; the local allocation is estimated at \$5.4 million. It is anticipated to retrain up to 1400 adults who have been permanently displaced from their jobs.

ii. Plant Closures

Four closures were reported. Enterprise Automotive Systems in Warren, a Tier I supplier of metal removal to auto and military facilities, will permanently close the Hoover Road facility June 1st affecting 50 employees.

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While declining a worker orientation, the company reported they participate in the Peer-to-Peer program where fellow workers attend a 2-day training event to gather information regarding employment and training services and return to explain these services.

Advance Accessory Systems (SportRack) in Shelby Township, Sterling Heights and Port Huron began laying off in February affecting 186 employees. A worker orientation was held February 27th with 130 employees in attendance

The Detroit Newspaper in Sterling Heights announced layoffs at the end of April affecting 50 employees including press and machine operators. A worker orientation was held March 6th with 43 in attendance.

Nisshinbo Automotive Corporation in Sterling Heights will be closing manufacturing operations beginning in April through September affecting 47 employees. The company has hired an out placement firm. A worker orientation will be held March 27th.

Staff continues to work with Chrysler Corporation. The Sterling Heights Stamping plant has been trade certified affecting approximately 1500 employees. The Warren Truck Plant has been trade certified affecting approximately 3400 employees.

W K Industries in Sterling Heights received trade certification affecting 50 employees; a trade orientation will be held March 23rd. Magna Power Training in Sterling Heights became trade certified affecting 35 employees; a trade orientation is scheduled for March 30th. Cadence Innovations in Clinton Township, Chesterfield Township and Fraser has been trade certified affecting 1250 employees. A trade orientation is scheduled for March 26, 27, 28 and 30.

Ms. McLatcher reported she has received notice that General Motors is applying for trade certification also.

IV. *Jobs, Education & Training (JET) Plus*
a. *Recommendation to Modify FY'09 Plan*

The JET Plus program services customers receiving cash welfare benefits and is a pilot program offered through six (6) Michigan Works Areas. The goal is to increase the number receiving occupational training. There are two components; the community outreach model which targets those individuals who lack a high school diploma or GED, and the campus centered model at Macomb Community College which offers services in a single, integrated environment. A reduction in funds was made in December; however, notice has since been received of a 48% reduction this month. The State program is now reduced to \$21 million; the local reduction is \$1,680,783.

In order to provide opportunities to develop training at Macomb Community College, the majority of funds were reduced from the community outreach component. The campus centered component enrollment goal was 140 but will be reduced to 120 by the end of the year. Currently, there are 58 enrolled at the college.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO MODIFY THE JET PLUS PROGRAM AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. *No Worker Left Behind (GF/GP)*
a. *Incentive Award Plan Modification*

When the No Worker Left Behind incentive award was announced, the State requested that Michigan Works Agencies identify participants enrolled in long-term, 2-year programs to receive up to \$10,000 per enrollee. While this MWA could identify many, a list of 15 names was submitted requesting a total of \$150,000. Due to the high demand for these funds statewide, a formula to prorate allocations was made and our local funding was reduced to \$30,000 with an additional \$5,000 for website upgrading.

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after review and discussion, **KEN AUSTIN MOVED TO MODIFY THE NWLB INCENTIVE AWARD PLAN AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b. Update on Arab American Chaldean Council English as a Second Language Contract

Last summer a Request for Proposal was released seeking programs to address English as a Second Language, job readiness and employment activities. The Arab American Chaldean Council responded with a proposal seeking \$220,000; however, it was recommended at the time to integrate services into the No Worker Left Behind initiative and WIA services.

Discussions continued with the Council resulting with a proposal to expand services to include NWLB/WIA services, which was submitted for consideration. The proposal includes ESL services; job readiness/employment services; WIA eligibility determination; case management for occupational skills training and job search; and follow-up for one year beyond program exit. The service provider agrees to provide sufficient staff to operate a program beginning April 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011. The initial costs for April 2009 through June 30, 2009 allow for start up costs including increased staff, computer hardware and software, etc. The program will be housed in their facility in Warren. Staff sought permission to negotiate.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE CONTRACT NEGOTIATION WITH THE ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN COUNCIL AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carne
Recording Secretary