

**EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**January 15, 2009**

**I. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

George Kovtun  
John Bozymowski  
Jennie Tunnell  
Dave Brandt  
Ken Austin

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mike Moran  
Gary Polulak

**OTHERS PRESENT**

John Bierbusse  
Linda McLatcher  
Marsha Prose

Mr. Kovtun called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 20, 2008 EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DAVE BRANDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2008 AS PRESENTED; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**III. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)**

**a. Award of Additional Dislocated Worker Funds**

Due to a significant increase in training obligations, Mr. Bierbusse announced that upon petitioning the State of Michigan for an additional \$3.2 million of dislocated worker funds, notice was received of approval. The State is awarding an initial \$1.3 million or 40 percent of the total request. In order to be eligible for the remaining funds, the board must demonstrate that at least 50 percent of all available adult and dislocated worker funding has been expended on an accrued basis and/or can demonstrate 85 percent of all available adult and dislocated worker funding is obligated. This will be established when a quarterly report is submitted and staff will immediately request additional funds.

**b. PY'08 Adult and Dislocated Worker Enrollments**

Members reviewed statistics comparing enrollments from last year to this for both the adult and dislocated worker programs. The comparison reflects a significant increase in services to economically disadvantaged adults. The increase of dislocated worker customers was not as high, but Mr. Bierbusse stated that the number will increase significantly upon start of classes at Macomb Community College where a demand for training is very high this year.

**c. Plant Closures**

Four closures were reported. The Crown Group in Port Huron is closing that facility and offering the 40 affected employees the opportunity to transfer to their Shelby Township site. An orientation was held January 6<sup>th</sup> with 24 employees in attendance.

Ontario Die Company of America also located in Port Huron closed their plant affecting 29 workers. An orientation was held December 18<sup>th</sup> with 13 in attendance. The company has since been trade certified and a trade information meeting for affected employees is scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Black River Plastics in Port Huron has not filed a WARN notice; however, employees reported to the Port Huron Michigan Works Office stating that the facility was permanently closed the week of December 15<sup>th</sup> affecting approximately 150 employees. Staff has not yet been able to locate management, but employees may receive services through the Port Huron Michigan Works office.

## **Education & Adult Programs Committee January 15, 2009**

L&L Products in Romeo announced a second round of layoffs affecting 138 employees. This reduction is expected to be temporary and bumping rights will be available. An orientation was held January 7<sup>th</sup> with 23 employees attending.

Trade certifications were received for American Die Corporation in Chesterfield. Information was sent to the 15 employees affected and a trade information meeting was held January 6<sup>th</sup> with 6 people in attendance.

Trade certifications were announced for Chrysler Mack Plant; Chrysler Transport, Chrysler LLC Featherstone, Chrysler LLC Headquarters, Chrysler LLC Technology Center; and American Axle. While all these locations are outside the Macomb/St Clair area, the corresponding MWAs are taking the lead on informational meetings and will be assisted by Macomb/St Clair MWA staff for customers located within our geographic bounds.

### **IV. STATE GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE (GF/GP) No Worker Left Behind**

#### **a. Recommendation to Submit Request for Incentive Grant**

The State has allocated \$1 million to be awarded during FY'09 as incentive awards to Michigan Works agencies who enroll individuals into longer-term training leading to an Associate's Degree or higher. We may receive \$10,000 per qualifying trainee. Staff identified 15 customers who qualify and submitted a request for \$150,000.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE GF/GP NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND INCENTIVE GRANT PLAN AND TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Also, a request has been submitted to the State for an additional \$5,000 to improve the board's website to meet all *No Worker Left Behind* requirements.

#### **b. Award of Additional No Worker Left Behind Funds**

Mr. Bierbusse reminded members of the request approved by the board and submitted in December for additional dislocated worker funds. Staff was required to prove that *No Worker Left Behind* dollars were obligated prior to requesting additional funds through a competitive process. Notice has been received of approval for an additional \$627,500 to serve 283 customers. With the start of the semester at Macomb Community College, customers will increase immediately.

### **V. Jobs, Education & Training (JET) Plus**

#### **a. Recommendation to Approve Plan Modification**

Since approval of the JET Plus program, the State has rescinded \$9 million statewide. The local impact is the loss of \$756,360. Staff recommended that funds be reduced from the community outreach model component of the program leaving the campus-centered model intact.

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

### **VI. Trade Adjustment Assistance**

#### **a. Enrollment Report**

Members reviewed handouts of trade program certifications and enrollments for the 2008 calendar year. Staff stressed the importance of contacting affected employees through this prescribed program in order that people apply as quickly as possible to secure their benefits.

Handouts addressed trade certifications for companies within the Macomb/St. Clair geographic boundaries, along with certifications for businesses outside the two counties where residents may have been employed; and companies certified prior to January, 2008.

**Education & Adult Programs Committee  
January 15, 2009**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carne  
Recording Secretary