

**Kent/Allegan Workforce Development Board**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
Human Services Complex  
121 Franklin SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
**Wednesday ▪ September 10, 2014 ▪ 11:30 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Scott McLean, Dave Smith, Mark Bergsma, Ron Modreski, Birthale Archie, Mark Thomas, Nancy Marshall, Kim Fettig, Jay Dunwell

**ACSET Staff Present:** Jacob Maas, Dave Toorenaar, Jody Haagsma, Deb Lyzenga, Jane Kreha, Christina Dunlop

1. Call to Order, Chairperson Dave Smith at 11:34 a.m.
2. Public Comment – Agenda Items- NONE
3. Approval of July 16, 2014 Minutes

**Action Required**

**Motion – Mark Thomas**  
**Second – Scott McLean**  
**Item Approved by Vote- Motion Passed**

4. Additional Funding Awards

**Action Required**

**Motion – Jay Dunwell**  
**Second – Birthale Archie**  
**Item Approved by Vote- Motion Passed**

Goodwill Industries, Hope Network and City of Grand Rapids were chosen by the Prisoner Reentry Steering Committee to receive additional unallocated funds to continue running existing programs. Additional funding was awarded to Bethany Christian Services to continue running the Summer Youth Employment Foster Care program. Funding was also awarded to Kent Intermediate School District with the guarantee Workforce Development Agency will match the funding contributions from ACSET and KISD in a one-to-one match, allowing a pilot Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program to begin at the Lighthouse Academy. The board members requested future funding recommendations be linked to a specific area of the strategic plan when presented for approval. Dave Toorenaar and Jacob Maas answered board member questions.

5. Waiver Request for Food Assistance and Training Program **Action Required**  
**Motion – Birthale Archie**  
**Second – Nancy Marshall**  
**Item Approved by Vote- Motion Passed**  
A waiver request will be submitted to the Workforce Development Agency to request running the FAE&T program in-house, as the recent increase in staffing will allow for easy program operation; many current customers are already receiving food assistance, making them eligible for the funding and services. Funding will be used to provide case management, job search and job development.
  
6. Michigan Work Ready Communities Update **Information Item**  
ACT provides the National Career Readiness Certificate which allows employers to match potential candidates with open positions. The challenge is awareness of the certification to both employers and students alike. Local employers are invited to a kick-off event featuring Governor Snyder endorsing the Work Ready Communities initiative on September 22.
  
7. New WDB Functions Under the Workforce Investment Opp. Act **Information Item**  
The new legislation, an update to the Workforce Investment Act, leaves room for the Department of Labor to define how it will be implemented. More information will be available in January 2015 when guidelines are published. Some significant changes are: the WIOA focuses heavily on customers with disabilities, out of school youth and regionalization. The current demand driven system aligns Michigan Works! Kent and Allegan Counties with the WIOA pretty well thus far.
  
8. Combining Future WDB and Governing Board Meetings **Information Item**  
Governing Board members and Workforce Development Board members will attend the same meeting for the first half of 2015 in an effort to streamline the meeting process, as well as avoid duplication of meeting items and topics. The joint meetings will allow the separate boards to gain a larger understanding of the entire ACSET organization.
  
9. WDB Membership & Recruitment Strategies of New Member **Information Item**  
Additional Allegan County representatives will be added to the board. New board members from Barry County will also be added to reflect the addition of the county to the organization. Inactive board members will be removed. With three counties represented, a rotating meeting schedule will be implemented to accommodate the long travel times for those board members coming from Barry and Allegan Counties.
  
10. Planning for October Workforce Development Board Meeting **Information Item**  
Topics decided on for the October Workforce Development Board meeting include: new name to include Barry County, new board member recommendations, data on service center traffic flow, additional funding and waivers, October 29 ribbon cutting for new service center as well as an update on the strategic plan with metrics and board member feedback as to how to improve from current state.

11. Other Business

The Regional Prosperity Initiative of West Michigan has \$250,000 to grant to agencies with ideas of projects to improve the entire 13 county region. The final RFPs will be voted on at the GVSU Kirkhoff Center on October 10, with the hope to narrow the projects down from 10 to 3-4 finalists.

The state is coming to GRCC on November 5 to explain how the WIOA will affect changes to service delivery.

12. Public Comment- NONE

13. Adjournment at 1:10 p.m.

**Recorded by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Received by:** \_\_\_\_\_