

Broome Tioga Workforce NY WDB Meeting

June 30 , 2020

12 noon

WDB meeting held by Zoom pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Orders to minimize physical gatherings due to COVID-19.

Called in **WDB Members Present:** Maureen Abbott, Len Basso, Allen Buyck, Tom Crowley, David Goodness, Barbara Kane, Jonathan Layish, Justin Marchuska, Chris Powers, Jenna Rosenberg, Karen Shelp, Frank Stento

Excused: Michael Atchie, Michael Dundon, Janet Hertzog, Allyn W. Jones, Jack Lance, Paula Perna, Teresa Rennia, Brian Scanlon, Ken Smith, LeeAnn Tinney, Shawn Yetter

Called in - staff: Robert Murphy (RCM – Host, BTWF-Broome), Andrew Fagan (Tioga CCE), Christian Harris (NYS DOL), Rebecca Harris ( BTWF-Broome), Sheri McCall (BTWF – Tioga), Holly Tracy (Broome CCE), JP Tschang (BTWF-Broome)

Handouts emailed: Agenda, WDB 3/20/20 meeting minutes, Executive Committee 3.20.20 and 6.24.20 meeting minutes, Youth contracts fiscal status as at 5/31/20, Tioga CCE May 2020 report, Binghamton MSA report May 2020, Budget WIOA PY2020, Budget Broome-Tioga Allocation PY20.

- I. Karen Shelp as Chair called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.
- II. Introduction of Members and Guests:  
Board members and guest lists were read out and those present noted.
- III. Review and approval of 3/20/20 meeting minutes:  
Motion to accept WDB 3/20/20 meeting minutes. Len Basso 1<sup>st</sup>, David Goodness 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.
- IV. New Business
  - a. Update on COVID 19:
    - RCM reported that Broome Career Center personnel were 100% back at the office.
    - The challenge now is personnel with daycare or family issues due to the pandemic.
    - Tioga Career Center personnel were working remotely and processing UI claims, they were fully back in the office as of June 18.
    - On July 1, the second Opportunity Impact Training Program (OITP) class which had started on Mar 2 and suspended on March 20 will resume at the Career and Community Services Center (CCSC) computer lab.
    - There have been made available masks and hand sanitizers. Also policies regarding movement of traffic in and out of the Resource Room and social distancing.
    - On the Job Training (OJT) contracts have proceeded, two employers from the Board have assisted in placing trainees: Len Basso for Willow Run and Justin Marchuska for Marchuska Brothers Construction. Becky Harris as contract specialist was commended for keeping up the good work.
    - Remote counseling has taken place with customers.
    - Currently County personnel are assisting DOL with C3E appointments/calls to clear the backlog.
    - There will be a drive through job fair at CCSC sometime in July, maybe July 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. Other WIB directors would like this drive through event to be filmed to see how it works out.

- Sheri McCall noted that Tioga County had yet to receive guidance from DOL on handling appointments. There had been approximately 400 downloads for appointments in the latest round.
- RCM will follow up with Jen Slade of DOL on guidance for the calls/appointments.
- When Pandemic Unemployment Insurance (PUA) ends at the end of July, there will be a rush to the Career Centers to seek jobs.
- Len Basso queried if there would be an extension to PUA up to December.
- RCM replied that it would be unlikely to be for the same situation i.e. to stay at home, but rather to encourage people to return to work.

b. Notification of renewal of Board members' terms:

- The following Board members had their terms renewed:

Board Member	Term expiring
Len Basso	12/31/2022
Tom Crowley	12/31/2022
David Goodness	6/30/2023
Allyn Jones	6/30/2023
Jonathan Layish	12/31/2022
Teresa Rennia	12/31/2022
Jenna Rosenberg	6/30/2023
Frank Stento	12/31/2022

- Board members from Tioga County will have their terms renewed in the upcoming July 2020 Legislative meeting: Chris Powers, Brian Scanlon and Karen Shelp. Anticipated term expiry of 6/30/2023.
- Thanks was extended to Sheri McCall for looking after this.

c. Youth program status:

1) Broome CCE:

- Holly Tracy summarized Broome CCE's activities over the last quarter.
- 38 youth were enrolled compared to the 60 that had been budgeted.
- 27 youth have secured employment to date with employers such as UHS, Willow Run, McDonald's, Tru Gen, UPS, Inst-Cart, Epilepsy Pralid and Achieve.
- 2 youth earned a Forktruck certification in May/June
- New enrolments had been difficult during this period.
- There have been 10 OJTs for PY19.
- Success stories include Kurtis who was hired by Rumble Ponies but unable to start work because of COVID. Instead, Kurtis secured employment at McDonald's and is doing extremely well, utilizing the Customer Service and Serve safe certifications earned through CareerBound.
- Julie was hired by UHS for a Sterile Processing position and just started recently due to COVID but is doing great. Julie became interested in the job during an employer presentation from UHS.

2) Tioga CCE:

- Andy Fagan presented Tioga CCE's activities over the last quarter.
- Tioga CCE had opened up on June 1; Lisa was working at Tioga Career Center while Tina had been doing follow-up phone calls.
- 31 youth were enrolled compared to the 25 that had been budgeted.
- Some youth had lost jobs due to COVID.
- The budget for PY20 had been submitted using the carry-over amounts from PY19.

- Andy thanked Sheri for continued partnership in moving the program forward.
- Lisa was commended for doing a good job on the video and online clip for the web-site.
- Tioga CCE was now concentrating on formatting appropriate job descriptions especially for local food positions in farms. There was a new position filled for personnel to ensure safety measures are followed in farmers markets.
- Andy will be retiring from Tioga CCE on July 15, 2020 to concentrate on being Chemung County CCE's Executive Director with potential personal trips to Ireland.
- T. Hanson will take over Executive Director of Tioga CCE as of July 20, 2020. T is from Owego and has extensive community-related experience.
- RCM thanked Andy for his dedication and contribution to Tioga CCE throughout these years.

d. Youth Program fiscal status @ 5/31/2020:

- A handout had been emailed earlier regarding Broome and Tioga CCE's fiscal status as at 5/31/2020.
- Broome CCE's claim was up to May 31, 2020 and at \$126,346.70 was 8% underclaimed compared to previous quarter's of 29% underclaim. Youth W.E. was 18% overclaimed compared to previous quarter's 1% underclaim.
- Tioga CCE claimed \$85,892.23 up to April 30, 2020 and was 22% underclaimed. Last quarter was 37% underclaimed so this was an improvement. Youth W.E. was 12% underclaimed compared to previous quarter's of 30% underclaim.
- Overall, JP reported that claims had been up to date considering the circumstances and were substantiated.
- RCM thanked Sheri and JP for their valued input and work to keep the Centers fiscally viable.

e. Approve transfer of \$20,000 from PY19 Admin to PY19 DW:

- Due to COVID 19 circumstances, more funds will be needed in the Dislocated Worker (DW) program than previously thought.
- Motion was made to approve transfer of \$20,000 from PY19 Admin to PY19 DW. Al Buyck, 1<sup>st</sup>, Len Basso, 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

f. Approve Tioga County contract for PY20 for \$222,630.77: PY 20 Adult \$73,416.10, DW \$74,287.68, Youth \$49,678.12, Admin \$25,248.87:

- Motion to approve Tioga County contract for PY20 for \$222,630.77: PY 20 Adult \$73,416.10, DW \$74,287.68, Youth \$49,678.12, Admin \$25,248.87. Maureen Abbott 1<sup>st</sup>, Barbara Kane, 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

g. Approve extension of Broome CCE contract for Broome Youth Program to June 30, 2021 and renewal amount of \$130,000 for PY20:

- Motion to approve extension of Broome CCE contract for Broome Youth Program to June 30, 2021 and renewal amount of \$130,000 for PY20. Barbara Kane, 1<sup>st</sup>, Len Basso, 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

h. Approve extension of Tioga CCE contract for Tioga Youth Program to June 30, 2021 and renewal amount of \$100,000 for PY20:

- Motion to approve extension of Tioga CCE contract for Tioga Youth Program to June 30, 2021 and renewal amount of \$100,000 for PY20. Al Buyck 1<sup>st</sup>, Maureen Abbott 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

i. Approve NY Wired contract extension for \$25,000 from 7/1/20 – 6/30/21 for online training services for jobseekers:

- Motion to approve NY Wired contract extension for \$25,000 from 7/1/20 – 6/30/21 for online training services for jobseekers. Len Basso 1<sup>st</sup>, David Goodness 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

j. Approve Budget for PY20: \$1,669,257 in total (attachment given):

PY20 Adult	\$534,589.20
PY20 DW	\$355,063.50
PY 20 Youth	\$612,678.60
PY 20 Admin	\$166,925.70

- Motion to approve budget for PY20 in the amount of \$1,669,257 broken down as follows: PY20 Adult \$534,589.20, PY20 DW \$355,063.50. PY20 Youth \$612,678.60, PY20 Admin \$166,925.70. Al Buyck 1<sup>st</sup>, Justin Marchuska 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

k. Grants update:

1) OPIOID Recovery - \$3m applied for

- This would aid the Recovery to Work efforts.
- Currently awaiting DOL response.
- Broome was one of 5 counties upstate deemed eligible to apply for this grant.

2) POWER - \$1m applied for

- This grant is for Broome and Tioga counties and eligibility is based on coal-impacted areas.
- The ending of coal-fired operations, Goudey Station being one of them, enabled this region to be eligible for the grant.
- We hope to build a career pipeline for in demand jobs with this grant.

3) ARC/CFA WDI - \$300k applied for

- A career pipeline is also the aim for this grant with collaboration between middle school, high school, BOCES and SUNY BCC among others.
- It should be a sustainable pipeline incorporating unions, workers and educators so as to ensure funding in the future.
- Different careers should be identified not just advanced manufacturing, for example trades, agriculture, healthcare and IT.
- A career in skilled trades in Broome or Tioga County can be financially more rewarding than debt-laden degree careers.

4) Welding - \$150k applied for

- This grant is through the ARC.
- Large corporations need experienced welders and are poaching them from one another.
- Manufacturers need more specialized industrial welding and are willing to work with educators to streamline the curriculum to meet their needs.
- RCM will work together with Al Buyck and Jim Mullins of BT BOCES as well as companies like CMP and BAE Systems for this grant.
- July 29<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for a new grant.
- The federal budget for WIOA was cut by 20% for some programs so we need to look for new grants.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> round of talks should hopefully produce more funds for workforce training.

V. NYSDOL Statistical Analyst Presentation – Christian Harris

- Christian went over the Binghamton MSA labor statistics circulated earlier.
- He clarified that data gathering occurs in the middle of the month, hence March's statistics would not have reflected COVID-19's impact as much as it should have.
- In April 2020 as expected the private sector jobs decreased and unemployment increased.
- Binghamton had 15.1% unemployment, the historical low had been 10% in 2008.
- In May the unemployment dropped to 10.6%, Southern Tier had the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest unemployment after the Capital Region.

- June may see an improvement though a return to pre-COVID levels of employment is questionable.
- Initial claims are dropping – there are different approaches noted - some claimants want to ride it out and some are not used to claiming UI.
- 83% of claimants in our region are making more money on UI and PUA than in their former jobs.
- Leisure and hospitality are the hardest hit, trade as well. All are affected in some way. E.g. healthcare due to elective procedures not being performed.
- Jobs that involve telecommuting fared not too badly.
- Phase 4 openings hopefully will not see a second wave of infections.
- Sheri McCall commented that some high schoolers were making \$720 per week, more than they have ever made. After 26-39 weeks of collecting unemployment benefits, it may be difficult to re-engage in productive pursuits.
- David Goodness shared that in a government webinar he attended, a bill was sponsored similar to the Works Progress Administration in 1930s where people were paid to go to work rather than stay at home. But some people may still not return to work due to perceived risks. It had been suggested that the targeted age group for this bill be 20-40 year-olds. Perhaps contact tracing and other newly created jobs could be applied for.

VI. Any other matters

- a. Future WIB meetings in 2020 –
  - Sep 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Dec 18<sup>th</sup>
- RCM said the meeting time is open to suggestions, morning may be considered as well.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Al Buyck 1<sup>st</sup>, Justin Marchuska 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 12:59 pm.