

FINGER LAKES WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:30-10:00am  
Via Zoom

**ATTENDANCE:**

Members: Baker, K., L., Brooks, Z., Culeton, D., Davis, Doebelin, B., M., Eighmey, S., Facer, T., Fisher, Freid, L., House, Kauffman, M., R., Knecht, S., Maloy, D., Manikowski, M., Morgan, B., Mueller, J., Murphy, J., Nye, R., Pellerite, J., Percy, B., Plympton, R., Ramos, V., Rowe, M., Rusinko, Tiberio, E., Wright, J.  
Guests: Celso, J., Davis, J., Hamm, J., McGraw, Sloane, T., Vrabel, J., A., Whirtley, M.  
Staff: Lesterhuis, A., May, J., Sowards, D., Springmeier, K., Woloson, M., Weise, J.  
Absent: K., Bekisz, Brennan, L., Burnell, M., Davids, DeVault, J., Parish, L., Scheetz, A.

At 8:30 a.m., Mr. Rusinko called the meeting to order. Introductions were waived due to the format of the meeting.

**COVID-19 & Reopening Update**

- a. Education – Dr. Ramos shared that she has met with the other district superintendents and they have submitted regional templates for reopening with the following levels: Level I – all students and staff returning for in-person classes; Level II – in-person but medically frail students and staff at home; Level III – limited capacity, hybrid schedule; Level IV – everything virtual. Dr. Nye stated that FLCC is planning for reduced capacity, featuring mostly remote learning, but they are also submitting plans for all contingencies.
- b. Government – Mr. House stated that all Wayne County employees have been deemed essential and staff returned in early May. Seasonal staff have not been brought back, though. Wayne County is currently under a hiring freeze. Additionally, Ms. Tiberio shared that Ontario County has offered remote work and voluntary layoffs to employees. Ontario County has not moved ahead with their 2021 budget planning as the state is withholding funds.
- c. Business – According to Mr. Mueller, spring has been tremendous for crops and milk prices are starting to settle and are now better than before COVID-19. Mr. Kauffman stated that Eastview Mall as a whole is still closed, but stores with independent, outside entrances have been allowed to reopen. He hopes that malls in the region will be allowed to reopen in Phase IV, as the closure has greatly affected mall tenants.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Finance & Audit Committee – Mr. Doebelin shared that the cash flow problem created by the Department of Budgets holding funds has somewhat improved. At the moment, cash requests are only being held for approximately two weeks.

Governance & Membership Committee – Ms. Springmeier again informed the Board of Ms. Burnell and Ms. Scheetz's plans to not extend their terms on the Board. Ms. Scheetz has recommended Michelle Jungerman, of Ontario ARC, to fill her position on the Board, and Ms. Parish has been in contact with New York Chiropractic College regarding representation on the Board.

Marketing & Communications Committee – Ms. Culeton shared the committee will be meeting again in July and asked that if the Board has anything for the committee to consider, to please share with staff and herself.

Performance & Evaluation Committee – Mr. Plympton stated that the latest numbers seem to show that the unemployment rate has plateaued. He also shared that at the most recent meeting, the committee approved the resolution regarding updates to the Demand Occupation List, which is now before this Board. The committee will meet again on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Economic Development Committee – Ms. Springmeier disclosed that at the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the committee received updates from the counties regarding reopening plans and what economic developers are doing to help businesses. Mr. Manikowski states that manufacturing is strong in Ontario County and now that elective procedures are allowed to take place, much needed revenue is being brought into the healthcare sector. On the other hand, tourism and hospitality has been hit hard, with some businesses being shuttered permanently.

FAME – Mr. Plympton stated that as far as manufacturing, things are bouncing back fairly quickly, but markets are likely to remain soft until 2021. The FAME Annual Event was hopefully to take place in the fall, but it still remains in question. Optimax is a strong supporter of the 5% Pledge, but due to COVID-19, they have only been allowed to bring back a small number of interns – those who have worked at Optimax previously, thus needing less oversight.

Mr. Knecht shared that ITT is performing mandatory temperature checks on all employees as they enter the building. ITT is an essential business and while some employees were working remotely, all employees will be back to work this week.

Ms. Eighmey notified the Board that Anthony Road was allowed to reopen over the weekend, with seated tasting tables. The reopening went well and customers and employees stated that they felt safe and everyone cooperated by wearing masks.

Ms. Morgan shared that del Lago hopes to reopen with Phase IV, and they will ensure that patrons and staff submit to temperature checks and social distancing.

Director's Report – Ms. Springmeier shared her concern that the HEROS Act will likely not pass in the Senate, thereby not affording the WIB with additional funds. She also stated that the state still has not released funds for the Summer Youth Employment program and that WIB staff has returned to the office with a hybrid schedule, allowing for social distancing.

**NEW BUSINESS/CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2020

Resolution #27-19 Approval of FLWIB/CEO Administrative Agreement July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022

Resolution #28-19 Approval of the Demand Occupation List effective 7/1/2020

Resolution #29-19 Approval of Renewal of the SkillUp Program with NYWIRED for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Resolution #30-19 Approval of Intensive and Training Providers and Programs

Amended Resolution #22-19 Authorization of Budgets and Contracts WIOA Title I Youth Funding

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

**A motion to approve Minutes from May 20, 2020 and resolutions 27-19 through 22-19 as a block was made Mr. Facer and seconded by Mr. Manikowski. All in favor, motion carried.**

*CNA Training in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic* – Mr. Todd Sloane, Director, Workforce & Career Solution, Finger Lakes Community College

Mr. Sloane gave the Board an overview of the issues created for CNA training due to COVID-19 and the state guidelines and restrictions that were lifted to ensure skilled nursing staff were ready to join the workforce and help combat the pandemic in the region. FLCC developed an online program that allowed for Service Employees International Union (SEIU) recruited candidates to receive a fast-tracked CNA certification, which began in April and is scheduled to be completed in 2 weeks.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Ms. Springmeier took the opportunity to thank Mr. Rusinko for serving as Board Chair for the last two years and also said goodbye to Ms. Burnell and Ms. Scheetz. Mr. Plympton also thanked Mr. Rusinko for his service to the Board and thanked Ms. Freid for volunteering to serve as Chair of the Performance and Evaluation Committee.

**Next Board Meeting** – Wednesday, September 16, 2020, *location tbd.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Nye and seconded by Mr. Pellerite. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer May  
Executive Assistant