

**Program Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**November 11, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

- Members Present:** Mike Hesketh, Christine Tarquinio, Tamara Cook, Caitlin Blair
- Staff:** Latricia Swope, Alicia Pardo, Cindy Read, Michael Gritton, Chris Locke, Angella Wilson, Bailey Preston, Brian Luerman, Dana Moorner, Evelyn Woock, Katie Elliott, Lada Gasparac, Lori Hiser, Mike Karmen, Patrick Garvey, Regina Phillips, Sarah Ehresman, Stacy Roderick, Aleece Smith
- Contractors/Guests:** Andrea Wyatt, Ashley Pierce, Bria Henson, Eric Hicks, Lauren Abbott, Linda Witt, Renee Walters, Lynn Rippy, Yvonne Jones, Ashley Janicki, Rena Sharpe, Kimberly Boyd-Lane, Sherry Wade, Linda Ilnick, Lisa Thompson, Bria Henson

**Welcome and Introductions:** *Mike Hesketh*

Chairman Hesketh welcomed the Program Oversight Committee, staff and guests to the meeting. He asked Cindy Read if there were any changes to the agenda. She stated that Michael Gritton has been called to a meeting with the State at 10:00am, and so he would give his Executive Director's Report after the vote for the SummerWorks recommendation. Chairman Hesketh agreed. Cindy introduced Rodney Cross. Rodney is the new Operations Manager at the Nia Center due to Zakiyyah Raymore retiring over the summer. In addition, Andrea Wyatt introduced herself as the new job developer at The Spot. Everyone welcomed her, and Chairman Hesketh jumped right into the Agenda.

**Review & Approve Minutes from September Meeting Minutes - *Mike Hesketh***

A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Christine Tarquinio and seconded by Tamara Cook. The motion passed without opposition.

**Staff Recommendation: Renewal of Contract with WorkBay for Career Development Platform – *Regina Phillips***

Regina provided a brief summary to reacquaint everyone with KentuckianaEARNs. The presentation contained the background, progress, and projected plans for 2023. It also contained a testimonial video. During the presentation, she explained the navigation of the Kentuckianaearns.com website. Caitlin Blair asked about the wage rate being visible to the participants and if it is a requirement for employers to post the wage rate. Regina stated that it is located in the Job Description and will further explore on the second question. Cindy asked about if there was an option for Job Seekers to seek out employers willing to hire those with a criminal record. Regina answered yes. Chairman commented on the "Forgot Your Password" not being an option. He also asked about Shelby County being on board with this recommendation, and what vision for June 2023 would he be able to bring to the table of Shelby County. Michael Gritton stated that he had a meeting with a new Board member Cortney Burden from Bullitt County last week and will be presenting to the Chamber in January. Michael told the Chairman that in the new year they can come together to co-represent to the Chamber to spread awareness. Regina stated that there are multiple testimonial videos to share. Rena Sharpe from Goodwill posted a question in the chat about the process of keeping the positions fresh rather than outdated positions populating. Regina responded that the employer has an option for a closing date on their positions, and once they get to that point, the position will no longer be on the site. Bria Henson mentioned that the state is shifting from Focus as a job match system to LinkedIn, and how will this impact this particular project? Regina believed that LinkedIn focuses on the older adults that are 21 and over versus their target group which is 16 and up, but she will investigate to make sure LinkedIn and KentuckianaEARNs are complementing each other. Angella Wilson reaffirmed Regina's comments. This presentation will be made available to the committee.

The current WorkBay contract is paid for entirely by SummerWorks funding. The budget will not exceed \$163,050 for the third contract year. In addition to the platform's functionality, KW has appreciated the WorkBay team's responsiveness and solution-focused approach since the beginning of our contract with them. They continue to be a supportive and flexible technology partner.

KentuckianaWorks requests approval to renew the contract with WorkBay for an amount not to exceed \$163,050. The contract is effective December 15, 2022 to December 14th, 2023. A motion was made by Christine Tarquinio and seconded by Tamara Cook. Motion carried.

**KentuckianaWorks Program Budget Deep Dive – *Cindy Read, Michael Gritton, Lori Hiser***

Cindy shared her appreciation for Lori Hiser and Sarah Ereshman for putting the materials together for this Deep Dive. Cindy explained that the KentuckianaWorks budget is somewhat complicated in that we have 7 programs, funded by 34 different grants through 17 contracts. Each of our 8 governmental funding sources has different rules and regulations that must be followed. Additionally, we are different in that we don't provide direct services, per WIOA regulations. Instead we bid out contracts for service providers, usually every five years. Some interesting points are that WIOA now accounts for only 1/3 of our overall budget—a change in recent years due to the reductions at the federal level. KentuckianaWorks' response has been to see more diverse funding streams. We also looked at the distribution of WIOA funding among the 7 counties. According to U.S. Census data, 75% of the population in the region lives in Jefferson County. Since WIOA is the only funding stream that is allotted for all 7 counties, we want to make sure that our spending is fairly distributed among all the counties. A recent analysis confirmed that WIOA spending was aligned: 75% is spent in Jefferson and 25% in the other six counties. Michael Gritton explained that if we get out of alignment on spending, the POC and Board may need to advise on how to get back in balance.

**Executive Director's Report – *Michael Gritton***

Michael stated that he and Josh Williams, who works for the Healthcare CEO Council, have been in conversations regarding their proposal that the Metro Council is supporting. With that, \$40 million of American Rescue Plan funding may flow through the Healthcare CEO Council and has to be spent by December 2024. This would represent the balance of ARP workforce funding, and KentuckianaWorks would not receive any more. If approved, KentuckianaWorks will do all it can to help them be successful. Michael concluded the Executive Director's Report. Cindy also wanted to recognize and honor Chairman Mike Hesketh's winning the 2022 Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnerships by the Kentucky State Department of Education.

**Adjourn - *Mike Hesketh***

Chairman Hesketh thanked everyone for participating. There will not be a December meeting. The Program Oversight Committee will be meeting on January 19, 2023 at 9am. With there being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.