



APPROVED
May 2, 2024

**Northern Middle Tennessee Workforce Board
 Innovation Committee
 Meeting Minutes
 February 8, 2024, via Zoom 2:00 PM**

Members Attending	Members Absent	Staff & Guests Attending
Seth Thurman	Anne Fugate	Marla Rye
Tony Adams (joined late)	Richie Brandon	Andrea Dillard
Selittia Johnson	Greg Jones	Meagan Dobbins
	Jessica Largen	Kim Rye
		Sherry Maynard

The Northern Middle Innovation Committee met via Zoom on February 8, 2024. Attendance was taken, and a quorum was not established. Instead of an official committee meeting, the Northern Middle Staff gave a brief informational updates and plan to give a report at the full Board meeting. Seth Thurman, chair, was in agreement.

Contract Service Provider Update

Andrea Dillard gave a quick update about the career service providers' performance. EDSI exceeded its enrollment goal in the first quarter but did not meet its enrollment goal for the second quarter. Due to the aggressive enrollment in the first quarter for adults and dislocated workers, many were sent to CDL training, their spending was aggressive, and now they must change their tactic and enroll individuals using the work first model and focus their efforts on placing participants directly in a job. This would also increase the Labor Force Participation Rate. EDSI is meeting its exit rate, positive exit rate, and placement wage goals. Their cumulative enrollment rate does not meet the 50% goal. MAC did not meet its enrollment goals for the second quarter. Due to them exceeding their enrollment goals during the first quarter, their YTD enrollment is still above their goal. They are on track to meet all of their set goals.

Next, Andrea reviewed the Federal Score Card. The end of the first quarter was finalized and all goals were met at 100%. The second quarter goals are all at 100%, but the quarter isn't finalized yet. The third quarter predictive report shows the employment rate for second quarter after exit for adult and dislocated worker are met at 90% and employment rate for fourth quarter after exit for adult, dislocated worker, and youth are met at 90%. There is still time for these goals to be met at 100%. The other goals are met at 100%.

Eligible Training Provider Requests

Andrea did not review the ETPL due to this being an informative meeting. It will be reviewed at the full Board meeting and they will vote on the changes then.

CSP Procurement

Marla told the committee the original intent was to release the procurement by February 14, 2024. However, the state has engaged KPMG to study the American Job Centers, will make recommendations about centers that may need to close and improvement in services. It is difficult to release an RFP when it isn't clear what direction the report will take. Marla said it would be beneficial to hear the results of the study before releasing the RFP and wait until the Summer Youth Program ends on August 30, 2024, to make a change in contractors, if needed. Marla proposed releasing the RFP

on April 1 and having a contractor selected and ready on July 1, then having a transition/evaluation period with the contractor taking over on October 1, 2024.

Marla mentioned that someone from the state will attend our February Board meeting and plans to give details regarding the Business Engagement Plan for all AJC partners. This plan will help improve our services to businesses and industries. She told the committee that the Northern Middle WIOA Plan will be released soon for public comment and she encouraged members to review and offer comments.

Andrea reminded the committee that two of the truck driving academies weren't able to meet at least one of the two standards that the Board set. Because of this, 160 Driving Academy and Tennessee CDL were deactivated. 160 Driving Academy contacted the Board staff, provided additional information and requested they be reinstated. This request was presented to the Executive Committee and they agree to reinstate them provided they meet with the Board staff quarterly and their performance monitored. At the end of this year they have to meet both performance standards. They have been meeting their probationary requirements. Lockhart Trucking was deactivated and they closed their business in January.

Adjourn

Marla reminded the Committee that the Board meeting is on February 14, at TCAT Clarksville. With no other questions, Seth Thurman adjourned the informational meeting.