

Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development

MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 28, 2022

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Place: 900 N. Portland Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73107, Student Center, North & South Conference Rooms

Call to Order/Welcome

Chair Chuck Gray called the meeting to order and determined there was a quorum. He welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda.

Approval of April 29, 2022 Minutes

A motion to approve the April 29, 2022 minutes was made by Jim Curry, seconded by Marcie Mack. No further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Summary of Informational Items Discussed at the July 29, 2022 Convening

The summary was provided for informational purposes – there was no discussion or action taken.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jenna Morey to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Michelle Choquette. No further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Goodwill is More Than a Store – Presented by Jim Priest, CEO

Jim Priest, CEO, Goodwill, gave the following presentation: (For the full presentation, access this link – [Goodwill is More than a Store Presentation.](#))

- Who Are We? A nonprofit social enterprise whose mission is to help people overcome challenges to employment.
 - Part of an international organization started in 1903
 - We set our own mission and raise our own money
 - 25 retail stores and 17 Attended Donation Centers
 - Stillwater to Ardmore, Shawnee to Mustang
 - 800+ employees
 - \$41 million nonprofit
- We are part of the Circular Economy
 - Donations
 - Retail Stores
 - Outlet Stores
 - Recycle
 - Job Training
 - Community
- Who Are We Serving? Through the years, we have always assisted individuals with physical or mental disabilities, but we have expanded our outreach to:
 - The unemployed or underemployed

- Those lacking computer or other skills
- Disadvantaged youth (YEPP)
- Jobless veterans (VEPP)
- Those re-entering from criminal justice (REPP)
- We provide job placement and training for both employers and employees
 - State-of-the-art Virtual Forklift Training Center
 - Mobile Job Connection Center
 - MC3 Pre-Apprenticeship Curriculum in the Construction Trades at Joseph Harp Correctional Center – Goal is to prepare completers to enter a DOL-approved apprenticeship in the construction trade area of their choice upon release.
- Goodwill is a Second-Chance Employer
 - They provide commercial cleaning and unarmed security services
- Proudly Employee-First
 - Goodwill’s Begin@Home program provides wraparound services and referrals for employees challenged by issues in their private and home lives.
 - Goodwill utilizes the nonprofit WorkLife Partnership to provide 24/7 support and referrals to all 800+ employees PLUS one generation up and one generation down.
- Partner with Other Nonprofits
 - Jesus House
 - Pivot
 - Dale Rogers Training Center
 - City Rescue Mission
 - TEEM
 - United Way
- Goodwill and the Governor’s Council for Workforce and Economic Development

GOODWILL & THE COUNCIL

Council's Strategic Goals 2019-2022	How Goodwill is Supporting You
Expand Oklahoma's Workforce to Satisfy Industry & Economic Development Goals	Outreach to Employment-challenged Workers & Providing Employer Training
Upskill Oklahoma's Workforce	Goodwill Career Pathway Institute
Offer Workforce Solutions to Oklahoma's Businesses	Support And Solutions For Businesses Working With Challenged Employees
Build Oklahoma's Workforce System Capacity	Collaborations on Workforce Development & People Development

- Goodwill is More Than a Store

MORE THAN A STORE...

- *Recommend Us to Those Seeking Work/Upskilling and Employers Interested in Corporate Trainings*
- *Help Us Get the Word Out About Our Workforce Mission*
- *Collaborate With Goodwill!*



Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (AOPA) – Presented by Paula Kedy, Aerospace & Aviation Education Coordinator

Paula Kedy serves on the National steering committee for the AOPA “You Can Fly” curriculum. Ada Public Schools was the first of 29 schools in the nation to field test the AOPA High School Aviation Curriculum. Now, Oklahoma is number one in the nation for the number of schools that will teach the AOPA curriculum in the fall of 2022.

Paula was introduced to the aviation curriculum when she was sent to a symposium in Seattle, although she was not knowledgeable about aviation or aerospace. The more she listened, she saw that this would be a great opportunity for her students in Ada. They were talking about full immersion curriculum for high schools. If they couldn’t offer full immersion curriculum in Ada, they could offer STEM programs that would lead her students to somewhere. One of the gaps that she could see as a teacher is that they were tasked by the State Department of Education to teach the skills, but part of the problem is that we expect those kids to figure out what to do with those skills after they graduate. Paula said that we’ve got to build pathways and to make sure that kids start earlier to get ready for the workforce in an industry. At the symposium they said that if anyone wants to field test the curriculum they should apply. Paula applied and in 2017, Ada High School was the only high school in Oklahoma field testing new curriculum for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association for grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. A full four-year pathway. That curriculum actually offers two pathways, one a general aviation pathway and the other a USAA Drone pathway. So they built a program that quickly attracted students with integrated curriculum of engineering, science, and math. They also formed the Ada Schools Aviation Program Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, to provide scholarships for flight training. Paula said in order for this to work, everyone has to work together, industry with schools, economic development councils, etc. She said that they received an FAA workforce development grant to use for training teachers. Since 2017 when they had one high school, they now have 57 high schools teaching aerospace and aviation education curriculum to kids in 9th – 12th grades. Oklahoma is number one in the nation for high schools teaching aerospace and aviation education.

ReMerge of Oklahoma County – Presented by Jenna Morey, Executive Director

Jenna Morey, Executive Director of ReMerge of Oklahoma County presented the following information: (For the full presentation, access this link - [ReMerge of OK County Presentation to the Governor's Council.](#))

- ReMerge is a non-profit serving Oklahoma County and is an alternative to prison for mothers and pregnant women who are facing charges for nonviolent crimes.
- A ReMerge Mother
 - Average age – 32
 - Average age left childhood home – 15
 - Average ACE Score – 4.8
 - Black – 24%
 - White – 56%
 - Native American – 16%
 - Hispanic – 2%
 - Multi-racial – 4%
- Risk Factors Leading to Incarceration
 - Violence and Abuse
 - Trauma
 - Substance Abuse
 - Unemployment & Poverty
- Diversion Works

- Assessment & Stabilization
- Treatment & Education
- Demonstration of Skills & Recovery
- Maintenance of Acquired Skills
- ReMerge Continuing Care
- Wraparound Services
 - Basic Needs
 - Health, Wellness & Sobriety
 - Family
 - Education & Employment
- Work is Vital
 - Joblessness is the #1 Risk Factor for Reoffending
 - 33% of Justice-Involved Women are Unemployed
- The Future of Work in Oklahoma
 - 70% of Jobs in Oklahoma will Require Education or Training Beyond High School by 2025
 - 2% of Current ReMerge Moms Have Any Form of Postsecondary Education
- ReMerge Workforce Readiness and Career Pathways Initiatives
 - Career Path Planning
 - GED/HiSET Preparation and Completion
 - Eight 12-Week Career Readiness Courses
 - Resume Creation
 - Microsoft Office Training
 - Catalyst Cookies
 - Etc.
- ReMerge Works
 - 172 Graduates
 - 432 Children Impacted
 - \$42M Savings to the State of Oklahoma
 - 4% Recidivism within 36 Months of Graduation

Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development Update

Don Morris, Director, Office of Workforce Development, gave the following update:

- OOWD has relocated from the OSU-OKC campus to the Department of Commerce building to be closer to our teammates.
- September was Workforce Development Month in Oklahoma – hopefully, everyone was able to see some of the multiple television and radio appearances as well as the great job our team did with social media to promote awareness of all of the services we provide to people and businesses.
- November is Registered Apprenticeship Month. We are running a social media campaign based on busting myths about Registered Apprenticeships. For example, we find people who think that the paperwork is too cumbersome on the employer’s part, but in reality, our team actually does all of that paperwork as well as providing financial incentives for starting new programs. Please search for OklahomaWorks on any social media platform and continue to share these important programs.
- The annual Partners’ Conference was held September 28-30 and was a great success that involved multiple partners. This event is held annually and put together by committee to help sharpen the skills of the team members across the system.
- The annual Alumni Celebration event will be held at the Capitol building on Thursday, November 17 to recognize and appreciate the participants and business leaders from each local area for their great accomplishments which enhance and build the Workforce System.

- A State Board event at Tinker was held on Monday, September 26. It was a fantastic tour and learning event. We are planning more of this type of event in 2023 and I encourage you to attend these to show support for employers but also to show the state that we understand and fight workforce issues in all industries.
- We started a new tradition today of holding a Coffee Hour for Council members and the OOWD team prior to the Council meetings to allow time for socialization and teambuilding.
- Don stated that as we look forward to 2023, OOWD will be putting together an on-line survey to determine how the Governor's Council can best bring the most value to members as well as moving the Council's mission forward. The survey will give members a chance to provide input on a variety of aspects of this process ranging from meeting dates and times to how we ultimately accomplish our goal of advising the Governor on critical matters of workforce.
- Don thanked Council members for all that they have done in 2022. He looks for a restful and happy holiday season and then coming into 2023 with the vim and vigor to tackle the tough issues and accomplish the heavy lifts needed to change the lives of more participants and fill Oklahoma jobs.

Financial Update

Connie Littleton, Director of Fiscal Compliance and Operations, Office of Workforce Development, presented the following information: (For the full PY21 Financial Overview, access this link - [Financial Overview PY21.](#))

- PY21 State Level Expenses
 - PY21 Expended Expenditures - \$3,189,830
 - Workforce Salary & Fringe - \$1,299,830
 - Operating Expenses - \$755,000
 - Programmatic Support - \$1,765,000
- PY21 Local Level Reported Expenses-Formula Funding, All Programs Combined
 - PY21 Expended Expenditures - \$14,154,469
 - Administration - \$1,123,297
 - Board Program - \$1,212,877
 - DPT - \$5,369,844
 - Service Provision - \$5,241,285
 - Support Services - \$488,106
 - System Costs - \$719,069
- Youth Work Experience
 - Western WDB – 24%
 - Central WDB – 21%
 - South Central – 18%
 - Southern WDB – 13%
 - Northeast WDB – 4%
 - Green Country WDB – 2%
- Participant Training Adult
 - South Central WDB – 48%
 - Central WDB – 44%
 - Green Country WDB – 29%
 - Northeast WDB – 26%
 - Western WDB – 25%
 - Southern WDB – 20%
- Participant Training Dislocated Worker
 - South Central WDB – 48%
 - Central WDB – 44%

- Green Country WDB – 29%
- Northeast WDB – 26%
- Western WDB – 25%
- Southern WDB – 20%

Core Partners WIOA Titles Update

- Title II – OK Career and Technology Education – Dr. Lee Denney, Interim State Director
 - They have 12 Skills Centers that specialize in delivery of Career and Technology education to inmates under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.
 - Under Title II – the Adult and Family Literacy Act, they have High School Equivalency classes and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, Citizenship, Correctional Institution education and English Literacy. They enable adults to become employable, productive, and responsible citizens.
 - From FY21 to FY22, they’ve seen an increase in students they serve and also those who have achieved an educational functional level and an increase in measurable skills gains.
 - As of today, they are serving 5,862 students and they are seeing a steady increase in the numbers that they serve and predict that they will surpass last year’s numbers.
 - They continue to outboard with other agencies GED and HiSET – in order to help more people earn those certifications.
 - Their conversion to Parchment is complete - Parchment is the credentialing services used to issue high school equivalency (HSE) credentials in the State of Oklahoma for both GED or HiSET tests.
 - In PY20-21, 7,676 served, and in PY21-22 8,392 served.
 - Next week they will be announcing a new state director for CareerTech.

- Title III – OK Employment Security Commission – Trae Rahill, Chief of Staff & Chief Operating Officer
 - Shelley Zumwalt will be transferring to the Department of Tourism as their new Executive Director. The OESC Executive Staff Team has taken over responsibilities until a new director can be hired.
 - AJs – OESC is working on things internally to focus on employer relations
 - Employer Councils with industry
 - Upskilling – interacting with employers and also those who are criminal justice involved
 - Digital Transformation is coming along, still needs a lot of work. Two projects – (1) employer portal launching today, (2) launching next Tuesday is a fraud detection and prevention software that uses an electronic process to verify claims.
 - They have been on an executive road trip to all of their local offices and they have heard phenomenal feedback on how much better it has been.
 - Q&A

- Title IV – OK Department of Rehabilitation Services – Stephanie Roe had to leave due to an emergency but left the following update to be included in the minutes:
 - October is Disability Employment Awareness Month - October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month in recognition of the critical part workers with disabilities play in a diverse and productive workforce.

DRS Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired offer employment programs that empower dependable, job-ready clients with disabilities to

step up and fill labor gaps in Oklahoma. When that happens, DRS clients become self-sufficient, taxpaying citizens who reduce or eliminate their need for government services.

People with disabilities are the largest and most diverse minority group, representing all abilities, ages, races, ethnicities, religions and socio-economic backgrounds.

In 2021, DRS' Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired helped 10,529 jobseekers with disabilities with career counseling, vocational education and training, medical services required to become employed, and assistive technology geared to their specific needs and career goals.

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services also served 3,211 participants through Transition and a Pre-Employment Transition Services grant partnerships with the National Center for Disability Education and Training at University of Oklahoma Outreach. The mutual goals are to prepare and empower youth with disabilities to transition successfully to post-secondary education and employment.

- Career Expo - As part of the celebration for Disability Employment Awareness month, DRS' Business Services Program hosted "Ready, Set, Hired!" an innovative Career Expo that connects hiring officials with job seekers with disabilities. DRS' co-hosts were Green Country Workforce and Northeast Oklahoma Workforce. This event was a huge success!
- Externships with Business and Critical Occupations - DRS is hosting externships with businesses so that employers experience first-hand what services we offer to clients and businesses. We are hosting critical occupation presentations for OKDRS clients. These presentations are planned with the idea of offering DRS clients a better understanding of in demand occupations in Oklahoma. This is done in partnership with businesses across the state who talk with our job seekers about their industry.
- Upcoming Events:
 - *Oklahoma Transition Institute, November 1-2* - Educators, parents, rehabilitation leaders, advocates and students are invited to the Oklahoma Transition Institute. OTI, hosted by the Oklahoma Transition Council, will focus on best practices, resources and collaboration to empower high school students with disabilities successfully transition to post-secondary education and employment.

The event will be:

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., November 1-2, 2022-

OTI 2022 will be the first ever hybrid event with participants attending in person at the Metro Tech Business Conference Center on the Springlake Campus or virtually through the Whova event application.

Springlake Campus is located at 1900 Springlake Drive in Oklahoma City.

Participants must register at

https://whova.com/portal/registration/oklah_202210/. The cost to attend is \$25 per person.

OTI sponsors include Central Oklahoma Workforce Innovation Board (COWIB), Metro Technology Centers, Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

(DRS) Transition Services, Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Oklahoma Association of People Supporting Employment (OK APSE), Oklahoma Career Tech, Oklahoma Department of Education Special Education Services, Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council, Oklahoma Transition Council, OU National Center for Disability Education and Training, and Tech Now.

- Save the Date! People with Disability Awareness Day 2023 - March 7, 2023
The DRS Communications Team is planning the 29th People with Disabilities Awareness Day. Over the years, 12,988 Oklahomans have attended our annual event. Please mark your calendars for March 7, 2023.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor's Council will be on January 27, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Emrich*