

MHHCWB BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ANNUAL MEETING
December 13, 2022 ~ 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Members Present:

C. Brown	E. Demetrian	E. O'Keefe
C. Burton	K. Dodds	C. Royal
D. Butterfield	M. Galat	P. Samra
E. Cassidy	G. Golash-Kos	J. Sullivan
J. Cook	S. Haritas	M. Wise
E. Cummings		

Others Present:

MassHire Staff	Pam Eddinger	
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MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting Materials

Mailed Out: Agenda, Minutes of the September 13, 2022 Meeting, Executive Committee Report (including 2022 Board Self-Assessment Survey Comments), Directors & Officers List

Screen Shared: N/A

I. Welcome & Business Items

A. Approval of the Minutes

Chair Meredith Wise, called the meeting to order and welcomed members. Meredith welcomed guest Pam Y. Eddinger, PhD, President of Bunker Hill Community College and Co-Chair of "Jobs and a Flourishing Economy for All" (A Transition Policy Committee for Gov.-Elect Maura Healey), along with Board member Dr. Christina Royal, PhD and President of Holyoke Community College. A roll call was then taken for attendance and Meredith began the meeting by asking for a motion to accept the September 13, 2022 meeting minutes. (Please see Attachment A, MHHCWB Board of Directors' Meeting Votes which is considered an addendum to these minutes.)

- **Action Taken:** A motion to accept the minutes from the September 13, 2022 meeting was seconded and approved via roll call vote.

B. Executive Committee Report

Meredith went on to the Executive Committee Report who met on November 9, 2022 as page 4 in the agenda packet for their review. In the interest of time she focused on the following three items:

- Rudy D'Agostino, CPA of Meyers Brothers Kalicka, P.C., had reported on the results of the FY'22 Audit; which once again resulted in 3 clean, unmodified opinions of the financial statements, of the agency's internal controls and for each major program; with no deficiencies or compliance issues to note; no adjusting journal entries required of the

financial statements, and no findings or questioned costs. Diana Carr and the Finance/Audit Committee were congratulated for their work.

- Gina Golash-Kos had provided the Strategic Planning Committee report which included their review of the progress in the 1st QTR of the Strategic Plan KPIs and on focused discussion on the critical employer role in workforce education following the recent Board of Director's meeting presentation by William B. Bonvillian from MIT and that David added comments, which centered on the importance of employer support for education and training as well as on the role of the providers, particularly community colleges, and the K-12 system. Meredith also noted that a new Strategic Plan will be developed as of July 1, 2023.
- Lastly the committee reviewed the 2022 Board Self-Evaluation comments and discussed in some detail each bucket of comments but mainly focused on the bullet related to Board member attendance given the lack of a quorum at meetings this past year and possible paths to addressing this issue. Other comments will drive strategic thinking topics at board and committee meetings during 2023

C. Election of Directors & Officers

Meredith turned the meeting over to Governance Committee Chair, Craig Brown, who referred to page 6 in the agenda packet and recommended the following actions be approved:

1. Members with Terms Expiring December 2022

Craig noted that the Governance Committee had reviewed attendance for those members whose terms expire this December against the Board's By-Law policy and discussed their re-election at their meeting and with the Executive Committee. They are as follows:

Name	Title	Company / City
1. Cleveland Burton	Assistant Student Personnel Officer	Westover Job Corp, Regional
2. Dan Butterfield	President	US Tsubaki Automotive, Chicopee
3. Dr. John B. Cook	President	STCC, Springfield
4. Mike Galat	VP of Employee Services	Big Y Foods, Inc., Regional
5. Fiore Grassetti	President	Pioneer Valley AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, Regional
6. John Mitchell	President	Mitchell Machine, Springfield
7. Edward O'Keefe	Business Rep	SMART Local 63 Union, Regional
8. Joseph Peters	Vice-Chair	Universal Plastics, Holyoke
9. Patricia Samra	VP, HR Operations & Total Rewards	Baystate Health

- **Action Taken:** A motion to re-elect the above members at the Board December Annual meeting, for terms ending December 2025, except for Joe Peters who is resigning from the Board at the end of the month, was made, seconded and approved, with following abstentions Cleveland Burton, Dan Butterfield, Dr. John Cook, Mike Galat, Ed O'Keefe, and Patty Samra.

Also, a new required Western MA representative from MA Rehabilitation Commission to replace Jorge Messmer, who retired in 2021, has been hired.

- **Action Taken:** A motion to elect Wendy Andino-Williams for a term ending December 2024 was made, seconded and approved.

2. Election of Officers:

A slate of Officers needs to be voted on at the December meeting and the Governance and Executive Committees approved the following as proposed candidates:

- Chair: Patricia Samra (1st year of 3-year term)
- Vice-Chair: TBD
- Treasurer: Eugene Cassidy (1-year term)
- Clerk: Craig Brown (1-year term)
- President and Chief Executive Officer (non-voting): David M. Cruise
- Vice-President of Administration and Workforce Systems (non-voting): Christine Abramowitz
- Vice-President and Comptroller (non-voting): Diana Carr
- Vice-President of Workforce Operations (non-voting): Steven Trueman

- **Action Taken:** A motion to elect the slate of Offices as noted above was taken, seconded and approved, with the following abstentions, Craig Brown, Gene Cassidy, and Patty Samra.

II. President & CEO Report

David began by thanking Meredith for her service as the Chair and welcomed Patty Samra as the new incoming Chair and they both said some words of the importance of the opportunity to serve,

He then noted that he has met with most Board members to discuss engagement and how to make meetings more meaningful to them and they also noted a request to provide more detail on the work we do on job retention & creation via our training programs. He added, on that note, work in manufacturing with a cohort of 15 incumbent workers; and several programs in healthcare for 14 unemployed for CMA occupations; a behavioral health career pathways for both unemployed and incumbents; unlicensed social workers and in nurse residency. In addition we have about 85-90 ITAs via our WIOA grants.

III. Board Discussion: The Transition to a New State Administration

Meredith re-introduced Pam Y. Eddinger, PhD, President, Bunker Hill Community College Co-Chair, “Jobs and a Flourishing Economy for All” Transition Policy Committee for Gov.-Elect Maura Healy and Christina Royal, PhD, President, Holyoke Community College Member of the Transition Team for Gov.-Elect Maura Healy. A summary of their comments are as follows, first by Dr. Pam Eddinger and then by Dr. Royal:

- Pam acknowledged Dr. Cook and Dr. Royal as members of the Board from STCC and HCC.
- She then outlined all the committees by name on the transition team and how they all could support “Jobs and a Flourishing Economy for All” for all parts of the state – not just Boston centric.
- So far they held 2 big committee meetings to process ideas following surveys prior to the meetings which were staffed by staff & students; e.g. Kennedy School; to project ahead on how ideas could be implemented. A website has been set-up for taking in others comments and ideas for use of the ARPA funding
 - (Note: <https://www.masslive.com/politics/2022/11/here-are-the-healey-administrations-transition-policy-committees.html>)
- Christina then added that the goal is to assist Gov.-Elect Healey to move forward policies put forward during the campaign.

- She emphasized regional equity for all and in affordable housing, healthcare and education.
- She noted the importance of apprenticeships as a good model and Pam supported that option as a national model.
- Pam added she is Chair of the DOL Advisory Board for Apprenticeships under DOL Secretary Marty Walsh that focuses on areas beyond trades; and is addressing how to reduce the red tape to be involved.
- Hampden County was recognized as a leader in this model and Patty Samra added Baystate Health's involvement in this model.

The Board thanked both Dr. Pam Eddinger and Dr. Christina Royal for their time and information.

With no further business, Meredith called the meeting to a close at 4:30pm.

Submitted by David Cruise