



**Meeting Minutes – Workforce Working Group**

Date: November 14, 2017

Time: 11 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Prior Lake City Hall – Parkview Conference

**Work Group Members:**

Michelle Choudek (Chair)		Brenda Lieske		Patricia Timmons	<b>X</b>
Darren Kermes (Chair)	<b>X</b>	Kathryn Reeder	<b>X</b>	Jeff Pawlicki	<b>X</b>
Mike Beard		Kellie McElroy Hooper		Tim Wynes	<b>X</b>
Heather Fitzloff		Tim O’Neill	<b>X</b>	Cindy Walters	<b>X</b>
Madelyn Hertaus		Nick Slavik	<b>X</b>		

**Staff Members:**

Stacy Crakes	<b>X</b>	Mark Jacobs	<b>X</b>	Jo Foust	<b>X</b>
Barb Dahl	<b>X</b>	Jean Sinell	<b>X</b>		

**Guests:**

Bob Crawford	<b>X</b>	Kathy Nielsen	<b>X</b>		
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The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Crakes.

Introductions were made by attendees.

**Agenda Item 1: Updates**

- **Employer Survey.** Crakes noted we are moving forward with the hiring of a consulting group which will be conducting BRE phone surveys in Scott County. 400 businesses will be surveyed regarding the economic impact of the labor force shortage. The survey questions will be available later this month, with the calls to occur late November and throughout December.

Scott County is a place where people are stable, connected, educated, and contributing

- **Senator Klobuchar Staff Meeting.** Crakes reported staff from Senator Klobuchar's office will be at the Scott County Workforce Center this Thurs. November 16<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Representation from Shakopee schools and local Scott County representatives will be present.
- **MNCAPS Fall/Winter Project.** An initial meeting, with students in the MNCAPS program, was held to discuss the development of a website which would include all open, posted jobs by employers in Scott County. The inclusion of other items, such as transportation, which could be included on the site, was also discussed. Students will be working on a proposal through the end of this year with recommendations from students after the first of the year.

**Agenda Item 2: SCALE Meeting – Workforce Readiness Meeting Recap & Fast Facts.** A recap of the SCALE meeting, which was held on October 13, 2017, was provided, with Tim O'Neill providing statistical data and a panel of employers presented information on the workforce, labor shortages and their methods of recruiting and retaining employees.

Tim O'Neill provided an overview of the Fast-Facts which included, but were not limited to:

- There are an estimated 82,332 people in Scott County's labor force. The labor force grew from 33,352 in 1990.
- The Unemployment Rate in Scott County, as of September, 2017 was 2.5%. There were 2,100 people that were unemployed in Scott Co. This compares to 7.9% in January, 2010, during the great recession.
- Between 2006 and 2016, Scott County was the 1st fastest growing county in Minnesota. It was noted that 42% of population is in the prime working age group. Generation Z (Born between the mid 90's to mid 2000's) is just entering the labor force.
- Scott County experienced a 19% increase in employment with 7,700 new jobs between 2006 and 2016 This compares to a metropolitan rate of 10%.
- Scott County is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest employment county.
- Minnesota's population grew by 12.2% between 2000 and 2016, while Scott County grew by 60.5%.

O'Neil noted he has been presenting at other area metro high schools.

Jeff Pawlicki, Principal at Shakopee High School, shared information with the group on the Shakopee schools' career academy model. High school students may choose from six career academies including arts and communication, business and entrepreneurship, health and human services, science and tech, etc. with various pathways. Core classes are taken within those academies with additional elective courses. He noted this approach assists in defining career pathways for students, while meeting state requirements. He indicated the schools also invite business representative in to discuss career paths at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade level and they host information sessions for parents, students and businesses. The Shakopee Chamber of Commerce has a program coordinator. The high school is looking at hiring an academy coordinator coach at the schools. Every academy has an industry counsel which includes educators as well as business representation who provide input on the development of the curriculum within the academy.

**Agenda Item 3: Workforce IZI** –Kathy Nielsen provided an overview of “IZI” which stands for Intentional Social Interaction. She indicated the first Scott County IZI, which focused on public health, had approximately 140 people in attendance. Three additional IZI events are scheduled on early childhood development, workforce development, and housing, to be held in January, February, and March, respectively. The purpose is to conduct “community based participatory research”. Goals include broad based community input, obtaining 10% to 30% in attendance to join or be part of Live-Learn-Earn initiative, and identifying community partners. Each IZI is three hours long.

**Action Item:** Better connections between educators and workforce.

- Administrator participation – School district administrators will be invited to the December meeting.
- Understanding of criteria school districts are rated on. The group reviewed the MN Report Card, on MN Dept. of Education website. <https://rc.education.state.mn.us/>. Darren Kermes provided an overview of how to view graduation rates, test scores including MCAs, discipline – suspensions, etc. and discussed the areas in which MN Schools are rated on.
- Identify post-secondary institutions with high enrollment from our area. Tabled
- Statistical data on the earning potential for various career paths. Tabled

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.