**Meeting Minutes**

**Larimer County Workforce Development Board Meeting**

October 14, 2020

8:00 – 9:30 am

Zoom Video Conference

**Our Economy Economic Development**

1. **Welcome (*Joyce Saffel)*** 
   1. Roll call and verification of a quorum

***WDB Members Present (19):***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Teri Brogdon (proxy) | Julie Cila | Carol Cochran |
| Stu Crair | Bill Dowling | Ann Hutchison |
| SeonAh Kendall | Eric Lea (proxy) | Heather Lelchook |
| Richard Martinez (Ex) | Tracy Mead | Mike O’Connell |
| Nancy Patton | John Robinson | Sylvia Robinson |
| Jean Runyon | Joyce Saffel | Jackie Sindelar |
| Margie Wagner |  |  |

***Members Absent (4):***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Steve Johnson | Tiffany Link | Steve Moos |
| Michelle Vance |  |  |

***Associate Members, Guests and CDLE Staff Present (10)***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Jesus Borrego | Jacob Castillo | Adam Crowe |
| Alan Cohen | Cheryl DeGrave | Erin Hottenstein |
| Marcy Kasner | Laura Levy | David Slivken |
| Laura Zulanas |  |  |

* 1. Review agenda
  2. Public comment on topics not on the agenda
  3. Announcements
     1. Reminder - board member training through Larimer County Board of County Commissioners
     2. Welcome new WDB member
        1. John Robinson serving as a labor representative
     3. Workforce Symposium recap
     4. Wild and Scenic Film Festival presented by the Larimer County Conservation Corps

Joyce called the meeting to order and verified that a quorum was present. Everyone welcomed John Robinson to the WDB. John will serve as a labor representative. The Workforce Symposium was well received with great attendance. The Wild and Scenic Film Festival transitioned to a virtual event this year. It was a very successful event, raising record money for Larimer County Conservation Corps programming.

1. **WIOA Operations (Jacob Castillo)** 
   1. Board Certification
   2. LCEWD Monitoring
   3. Local Plan Update

The Larimer WDB received certification and the local plan was accepted. CDLE recently performed program and fiscal monitoring. LCEWD should receive those results prior to the December meeting.

1. **LCEWD Budget and Program Updates (Jacob Castillo)**
   1. Program budget
   2. The Works Team and Employment First transition
   3. LCEWD moving forward

Budget and program updates were tabled until the December 9, 2020 meeting.

1. **The Regional Economy (Jacob Castillo)** 
   1. Unemployment rate and claims
   2. Labor market participation
   3. BR&E survey results

Jacob provided an update on the regional economy. While unemployment remains around 5.9%, the labor market participation rate is most concerning.

1. **Economic Response and Recovery** 
   1. Larimer County Recovery Update(Laura Levy)
   2. Recovery update (David Slivken)
   3. Reignite Our Economy Plan (Ann Hutchison)
   4. SBDC Update (Mike O’Connell)
   5. Regional economic development activity (Adam Crowe)
   6. Q & A

The Larimer Recovery Collaborative helps coordinate short-term and long-term recovery efforts in Larimer County. Regional teams are working to identify needs and innovative solutions or funding sources.

Poudre River Public Library District is responding to community needs. They are focusing on K-12 learning, economic recovery, healthy communities, and equity diversity and inclusion.

Reignite our economy is a draft economic recovery and rebuilding plan for Larimer and Weld counties, developed by regional economic development stakeholders. The plan will serve as a guiding document for the region and can be customized to meet local goals and objectives.   
Recent spikes in COVID-19 activity could result in business restrictions. NoCO Recovers, an alliance of Northern Colorado Economic Development programs, maintains current COVID-19 resources.

1. **WDB Planning for 2021 (Jacob Castillo)**
   1. What economic trends or changes should LCEWD be aware of that   
      could impact what services we offer in the future?
   2. What guidance or recommendations do you have for our department or the WDB as we plan for 2021?  
      Members discussed trends and recommendations for the WDB in 2021.
      1. Changes in consumer behavior, especially in money management and socializing. Businesses may need training on this new model.
      2. Very little expertise available for reskilling.
      3. Mental health aspects of employment.
      4. Some IRS regulations conflict with PPE requirements. Businesses that received loans may be overleveraged.
2. **Next Steps (Jacob Castillo)**The WDB Executive Committee will review economic trends and guidance discussed today to continue the 2021 planning.
3. **Adjourn (*Joyce Saffel)***Meeting adjourned at 9:26 am.