

**MAY 29, 2018 – 3PM**  
**OHIO VALLEY EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE**  
**COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MONROE CO. DEPT. of JOB & FAMILY SERVICES WOODSFIELD, OHIO**  
**Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Carl Davis, Monroe County Commissioner	Gary Rossiter, Noble County Commissioner
Tim Price, Monroe County Commissioner	Virgil Thompson, Noble County Commissioner
Mick Schumacher, Monroe County Commissioner	Ron Feathers, Washington County Commissioner
Adam Shriver, Morgan County Commissioner	David White, Washington County Commissioner
Mike Reed, Morgan County Commissioner	Rick Walters, Washington County Commissioner
Tim VanHorn, Morgan County Commissioner	

**Others in Attendance:**

Jeanette Harter, Director, Monroe County Department of Job & Family Services  
Bill Long, Workforce Director, Monroe County Department of Job & Family Services  
Michelle Speelman, Fiscal Officer, Monroe County Department of Job & Family Services  
Vicki Quesinberry, Director, Morgan County Department of Job & Family Services  
Heidi Burns, Fiscal Officer, Morgan County Department of Job & Family Services  
Ginger Bowen, Workforce Director, Morgan County Department of Job & Family Services  
Flite Freimann, Director, Washington County Department of Job & Family Services  
David Brightbill, Director, Washington-Morgan CAP  
Rebecca E. Safko, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Employment Resource  
Michelle Hooper, Grants Assistant, Ohio Valley Employment Resource

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** was led by Virgil Thompson, COG Chair.

**WIOA AREA #15 ACTIVITIES**

There was discussion of the State's May 18, 2018 communication that all workforce areas in the state of Ohio have successfully completed the initial designation period. By the state's review of local performance measures, federal audit findings, and the approved regional plans, all 20 local areas have met the requirements for subsequent designation. Also in the communication, the state further detailed the procedure for changing areas if all chief elected officials were in agreement.

The area met to review the advantages of maintaining the existing four county structure. The Washington County Commissioners expressed displeasure at the lack of county level control. The WIOA legislation around the roles and responsibilities of the Workforce Development Board (WDB) to oversee WIOA funding were discussed.

An example that was given:

Two of the Washington County Commissioners attended the May 21, 2018 Workforce Development Board meeting and shared the value of having the adult and dislocated worker services operated at the Washington County OMJ/1-stop center co-located in the Washington County Department of Job & Family Services (WCDJFS) on Gilman Street. The Commissioners pointed out the benefits of a focal point/customer recognition for a centralized employment system and the reduction in client transportation. The WDB agreed with the desirability of co-location and made motion to extend the existing contract with Washington/Morgan Community Action, located on Putnam Street, so that presentation could be made at the next WDB meeting on the co-location of the adult and dislocated worker services into the OMJ/1-stop center. This WDB meeting exceeded the allotted time and ended shortly thereafter.

After the WDB has made action, the contracting actions are taken to the Council of Government (COG) for review. This is necessary due to the fact that the WIOA legislation states that it is the WDB's responsibility to designate contractors; however, the state subgrant agreement dictates that final financial accountability rests with the COG.

At the Council of Governments meeting directly after the WDB meeting, a motion was made to support the WDB's motion to extend for 90 days to strategize movement. At that time one of the Washington County Commissioners moved

to amend the motion and for the Washington County Jobs & Family Services to both operate and house the WIOA adult and dislocated worker programs within the one-stop as is done in all the other CDJFSs, effective July 1.

In the May 29, 2018 meeting it was shared that the May 21, 2018 WDB meeting ran past the allotted time and the location was the focal point of the WDB discussion. There was an apparent lack of clarity that the Washington County Commissioners feel that it is in the best interest of the Washington County residents have the WIOA adult and dislocated worker services **both** operated at the Washington County OMJ/1-stop center co-located in the Washington County Department of Job & Family Services and also ran by the Washington County Department of Job & Family Services.

The Washington County Commissioners shared that they felt it their responsibility to provide the best service for their citizens. They expressed the desire to have all programs under the same operator as the other three counties already do. The other commissioners assured the group that the selection of WDB members is not taken lightly and that the WDB's judgment is to be respected. Those attending both meetings expressed that adequate emphasis was put on the dual request for co-location and operation. At the initial WDB meeting, location was emphasized. To clarify this issue, communication of the concern and subsequent discussion will be forwarded to the WDB members.

Area benefits such as the cooperation, collaboration and sharing of funding and ideas between the counties was discussed. The geographic size and difficulty of meeting required in-person voting was also discussed.

**COG 27-17 Motion to remain a four county (Monroe, Morgan, Noble and Washington) Workforce Development Area. Motion by: Ron Feather; Second by: Carl Davis. Motion passed.**

**ADJOURNMENT COG 28-17 Motion to adjourn. Motion by: Tim VanHorn; Second by: Mike Reed; Motion passed.**

Approved By: Carl M Davis  
COG Chair or Vice Chair

Date: 8-28-2018