

**ECOESC - BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Minutes (approved Dec 1, 2020)

Tuesday, September 29th, 2020 - 6:30 P.M.

EAST CENTRAL OHIO ESC via ZOOM

CHAIRPERSON PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order: Dan Christian

6:35 PM

2. Roll Call: Dan Christian

Alsept__ ; Brand X ; Christian X ; Coffman __ ; Conrad __ ; Dykshoorn X ; Good, Ed X ;
Good, Katie __ ; Herman __ ; Hicks __ ; King X ; Kuntzman __ ; Lucas X ; Murphy X ;
Quinn X ; Reeves __ ; Rentsch X ; Ripley X ; Schoene __ ; Sears __ ; Spies __ ;
Strawn __ ; Vittek __ ; Wallace __ ;

“X” signifies present

3. Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2020 Meeting

Alsept__ ; Brand __ ; Christian __ ; Coffman __ ; Conrad __ ; Dykshoorn __ ; Good,
ED __ ; Good, Katie __ ; Herman __ ; Hicks __ ; King __ ; Kuntzman __ ; Lucas __ ;
Murphy __ ; Quinn __ ; Reeves __ ; Rentsch __ ; Ripley __ ; Schoene __ ; Sears __ ;
Spies __ ; Strawn __ ; Vittek __ ; Wallace __ ;

1st Mr. Ripley

2nd Mr. Brand

Passed: YES, without objection

4. Review of ECOESC Business Advisory Council Plan 2019-2020 with updates

Item 1. Increase awareness of in demand job skills: Dan Christian commented that the OhioMeansJobs website had removed the option to sort in demand jobs by region. Based on doing searches within the OhioMeansJobs website, the most in demand jobs in all of the counties are health related. Oil and Gas jobs have slowed down in Belmont County due to the decrease price from lack of worldwide demand for oil and gas.

Ed Good reported that Mead Township Trustees (Shadyside area) will be meeting with Mountaineer NGL Storage in this week. While the announcement of PTT Global on building an ethane cracker plant was delayed due to Covid-19 back in June, the agreement that PTT signed with Mountaineer NGL Storage recently Ed believes this is a good sign that an announcement to build the cracker plant will be in the next to 9 months.

Dan Christian reported that he had attended a webinar last week where Lt. Governor Jon Husted was speaking. Lt. Governor said that Moody's had reported that Ohio is 82% open as of last week which ranks Ohio 13th in the nation as far as reopening. The industries that have been the hardest hit is tourism and hospitality. Lt. Gov. Husted also stated that more skilled workers beat a tough economy. Individuals with no skills, accreditations, or advanced degrees have been the hardest hit during the pandemic. The Lt. Gov. also stated that 49.2% of Ohioans currently have post-secondary degrees or a high valued credential. That number needs to be somewhere between 60 to 65% in order for Ohio to be competitive in attracting new businesses to the state. Dan Christian mentioned that in a related webinar he attended today it was stated that there are not enough high school students currently in school to make up that 15-point gap. There needs to be an effort to find students that have dropped out of higher education or apprenticeships and try to get them reengaged.

Item 2. ECOESC Middle School Job Shadowing Program: Dan Christian reported for Sarah Spies that the ECOESC is moving forward with this program this year in a virtual form. The ECOESC has contracted with two (2) partners for some virtual job shadowing, one of which we only have gained access to yesterday. Sarah will be reviewing and developing the program and we should have something to report by the next meeting as to what the program will look like.

Item 3. Rising Manufactures Scholars Program: Paul Dykshoorn reported that the program is on hold until October. They are hoping that the mentors will be able to meet with the students in person, however that is seemingly to be more unlikely. Paul reported that they did work with some NASA programming in the summer that was well received for those students that were able to receive the programming. Paul and his staff are looking at utilizing more of NASA's on-line programming as a virtual option.

Item 4. One or Two Career Navigators for Tuscarawas County: Dan Christian reported that Lori Robson and Sarah Spies from the ECOESC had worked with a consortium of several other ESC's including Mahoning and Athens-Meigs in applying for a Workforce Opportunity Grant for Rural Communities. Part of this grant request included funding for career navigators. The grant was submitted on July 29th and is supposed to be announced by the end of September but we have not heard anything as of yet.

Randy Lucas informed the Council that we currently have three Career Navigators. Dan Christian works through a grant from Job and Family Services in Belmont County and services all the school districts within the county. He works with CCMEP students with the understanding that he will also help other students as time and space permits. The ECOESC has applied for a grant similar to Dan's to the Tuscarawas County Job and Family Services but it has not been granted and as such they are looking for alternate sources of funding. Randy stated that Keri Rosser works full time at East Guernsey School District and Lovel Quinn works full time at Cambridge City Schools. The goal of the ECOESC to have a department of Career Navigators and the ECOESC will continue in find ways to make that happen.

Dan Christian asked Lovel Quinn to speak about what she does as a Career Navigator at Cambridge. Lovel stated that she works with high school students in grades 9 through 12. She works with students trying to help them discover what they would like to after high school whether it is a college education, enlistment in the military, or taking

part of an apprenticeship. Lovel stated they had a student that was accepted into the Plumbers and Pipefitters apprenticeship program. Ed Good asked Lovel if there are any young ladies that are interested in apprenticeship programs. Lovel stated that the student who has been accepted into the Plumbers and Pipefitters program is a young lady and she is thrilled. When they checked out the facility the young lady was excited to learn that she will be taught various forms of welding techniques. Ed mentioned that there are great opportunities for women in the skilled trades.

Item 6. Increase Awareness in Current and Future Job Markets: Dan Christian asked the group if anyone had anything that wanted to add since the discussion on Item 1, no one did. Dan went on to reference the State's Aim Hire Webinar from last week. He stated that Joseph Fuller from Harvard Business School had mentioned that the effects of the Pandemic were a speeding up of the use of current technology that was already in existence. For instance, we all knew that high speed internet was not available to everyone in our area. With the need for virtual learning and government willing to fund the investment there is now more internet availability in rural and urban areas than ever before. Dr. Fuller also mentioned that 75% of Fortune 500 companies are looking at their standard operating practices to see what can be streamlined whether it be having employees working from home reducing the need for large office buildings, the use of more robotics to reduce the number of human touches in a manufacturing process, or the use of AI (artificial intelligence) in data entry processes to eliminate human interaction with paper. There will an increase in the need for technicians in field of robotics and individuals who have the ability to program, troubleshoot and understand artificial intelligence machines.

Item 7. Developing Sustainable Relationships with Business Partners: Dan Christian posed the question to the group on how we could obtain and retain our relationships with business partners. Dan referenced the fact that some of business partners have not attended meetings in a while. David Brand brought up that businesses are engaged but they do have scheduling conflicts. Randy Lucas mentioned that he had participated in a State-wide Superintendents meeting and this is common problem. Randy was concerned initially that the BAC would turn into a complaint session for businesses. That has not happened and he believes that the members of the BAC are pleased with the progress and with what is currently underway. Dan Christian agreed but asked if we should give more recognition to our business partners. Randy stated that originally the last meeting of the year was to be a banquet / cookout where we would thank the members for their participation in the BAC. Lovel Quinn stated that if that was done we could get members of the media to cover the event to give the businesses positive publicity. Dan Christian mentioned that he feels we need

some additional members from the health care industry as that is one of the industries that is in demand and we need to work to find some members from that sector. Randy Lucas said that if anyone from the business world would like to participate we would not turn down anyone. Ed Good mentioned that Area 16 of Job and Family Services has just recently added a business liaison, (Bradley Wells) to the staff and would be a good addition to the BAC and will get Dan his contact information.

Dan Christian stated that he feels that all of the programs are worth moving forward in the 2020-2021 school year. There was a general acceptance of this suggestion with no dissenting voice and no formal vote was taken.

5. New Business

a. Voting on new members

Randy Lucas announced the addition of the Rolling Hills School district to the ECOESC this year. He also mentioned that Rolling Hills and Cambridge City Schools have elected to be represented by the ECOESC's Business Advisory Council. Dan Coffman, (Superintendent of Cambridge City Schools) and Lovel Quinn (Career Navigator) have expressed interest in being members of the BAC.

A motion was made by Randy to add these two individuals as members.

Alsept__ ; Brand__ ; Christian __ ; Coffman __ ; Conrad _ ; Dykshoorn__ ; Good,
Ed__ ; Good, Katie__ ; Helmick _ ; Herman__ ; Hicks__ ; King__ ; Kuntzman__ ;
Lucas__ ; McFadden__ ; Murphy_ ; Reeves__ ; Rentsch__ ; Ripley__ ; Schoene __ ;
Sears __ ; Spies__ ; Strawn__ ; Vittek__ ; Wallace__ :

1st Mr. Lucas

2nd Mr. Dykshoorn

Passed: YES, without objection

b. Recommendations for new items for 2020-2021 Plan

Dan Christian stated that once the details of 2019-2020 plan are modified to meet the circumstances around the 2020-2021 school year he would send out a draft of the plan. If anyone has an additional idea please submit it to Dan. The 2020-2021 BAC plan is due to the O.D.E. by December 15th. A meeting will be held on prior to that time to formally vote on the 2020-20212 plan.

6. **Survey of members concerning Current economic outlook, Job Market, Future job availability.** This item was not discussed as it was covered previous discussions.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / MEMBERS REMARKS

- a. ***The Ohio Department of Education has extended the deadline to December 15th for the Business Advisory Council plans this year due to the pandemic.***

- b. ***ODE Education Support Specialist Michelle Washington met via web-conference with Randy and Dan back in August. One of her responsibilities is to monitor BAC's and their plans. Dan reminded all the superintends they need to have their boards vote and approve the BAC minutes and post them on their web-sites.***

**This led to a discussion to possibly have a link that can be posted on the school district's web-site that would hot-link the user directly back to the ECOESC's website of the posting of the BAC's plan and minutes. Randy stated he would have Nic Brown look into this possibility.*

D. ADJOURNMENT 7:20

Passed: YES, without objection

NEXT MEETING: To Be Determined