



**Summit and Medina Workforce Area**  
Council of Governments

**Ilene Shapiro**  
Summit County Executive

**Colleen Swedyk**  
Medina County Commissioner

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 5, 2022**  
**10:00 AM**

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| Chief Elected Officials (CEOs)/COG Members Present:                              | Ilene Shapiro, Summit County Executive<br>Colleen Swedyk, Medina County Commissioner   |
| Summit & Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments (SAMWA COG) Staff Present: | Meghan Adair, Special Projects Manager, Grace Glaubman, Procurement, Procurement & Performance Administrator; Christine Marshall, Executive Director             |
| Area 2 Fiscal & Sub Fiscal Agent Staff Present:                                  | Tom Jalbert, Fiscal Operations Administrator, SCDJFS   |
| Legal Counsel Present:   | Deborah Matz, Law Director, County of Summit Dept. of Law, Insurance, & Risk Management, Colleen Sims, Attorney, County of Summit Dept. of Law & Risk Management |

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Chair Shapiro called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

**II. INTRODUCTION**

- a. Executive Shapiro welcomed everyone and asked for a roll call. Ms. Adair took the roll call which both Executive Shapiro and Commissioner Swedyk were noted as present.

**III. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

- a. Executive Shapiro asked if there were any comments from the July meeting regarding the minutes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve. Commissioner Swedyk made a motion to approve the SAMWA COG's 7/6/22 meeting minutes. Executive Shapiro seconded the motion. With no objections or abstentions, the motion carried, and the 7/6/22 minutes were approved.

**IV. REPORTS**

- a. Executive Shapiro turned the focus of the meeting to attachment 2 for an updated report on the WIOA Special Project Grant received from ODJFS in the amount of \$97,200 on 11/16/2021 for a *working age adults* research project for Medina, Portage & Summit Counties. Ms. Marshall gave the updates on the research since the last time the COG met in July. Additions to the previously shared verbal update mad in July included there have been five presentations made to various organizations since July, receipt of the focus group reports from the researcher in August and the County Commissioner's Association of Ohio ("CCAO") has asked Marshall to write a new article for their Fall 2022 newsletter.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Marshall informed those present that the Auditor of State's (AOS) CY 2021 Area 2 audit was underway during July, August and September and filed on 9/29/22 with no findings.

# SUMMIT & MEDINA WORKFORCE AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

October 5, 2022

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Marshall was asked to review with those present the various ODJFS grant monitoring meetings held since July:
  - i. On 9/7/22, ODJFS staff was on site to conduct a DOL required “WIOA data validation” which Marshall explained is basically a file review of a random sample of the customers served with WIOA funding. The intent is to ensure all the proper documentation is in our customer files to determine eligibility.
  - ii. Adair shared that ODJFS met with us to discuss the status of our Business Resource Network (BRN) grants – the State has interest in the two pilot projects in Medina: a transportation pilot and a business intelligence gathering pilot focusing on determining employer interest with developing pre-apprenticeships for high school seniors who have not declared their work or post-secondary intent post-graduation. Commissioner Swedyk stated that the transportation pilot is focused on short-term transportation assistance to work with the goal to be able to afford their own vehicle within a few months. Executive Shapiro commented that she looks forward to hearing the results of the transportation pilot. Executive Shapiro asked for clarification about the intent of the business intelligence gathering pilot focusing on pre-apprenticeships. Adair clarified the intent is to expose the youth without a plan for graduation to all the employment opportunities across all employment sectors available to them after high school.
  - iii. 9/28/22: Fresh Start (opioid grant) Adair explained the purpose of the grant to the COG members and shared that with this grant, Summit County Public Health has hired an Employment Network Coordinator. She explained we are still working out budget and contract terms with two Medina County entities: Hope Recovery Center and The Recovery Center/Serenite restaurant. We believe both will use the grant to hire Peer Recovery Coaches. Executive Shapiro asked what the Employment Network Coordinator does. Adair stated they are going into workplaces and helping the employer become a recovery friendly workplace.
- b. Glaubman described that an application has been made to ODJFS for a resources grant to assist us to create a performance-based contract reimbursement system. We will receive up to \$145,000 to adjust our request for proposal documents and contract boilerplates to contain performance expectations which will be tied to reimbursement. The hope is we will have this in place for our SFY 24 contracts. ODJFS has offered us to meet with Results America to learn about this type of contracting. Executive Shapiro asked how the performance measures are determined? Glaubman explained we look for areas that need improvement and then determine how to incentivize it and used our low WIOA youth enrollment as an example of an area where we might focus this method of contracting. Executive Shapiro commented to build from the pitfalls of our programs to create the impact.
- c. Executive Shapiro then turned the attention of the meeting to the reading and adoption of the following resolutions:
  - i. **Resolution 2022-12** authorizing the Summit and Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments (“SAMWA COG”) to enter into a contract with the Recovery Center of Medina County to support funding of temporary disaster-relief employment, funded through a United States Department of Labor National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant awarded to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and passed through to Ohio’s Workforce Area 2 in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00 for the period beginning on the date of hire of the first position filled and ending March 31, 2024 to fight against the opioid epidemic.
    1. Commissioner Swedyk made a motion to adopt SAMWA COG Resolution 2022-

# SUMMIT & MEDINA WORKFORCE AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

October 5, 2022

12. Executive Shapiro seconded the motion. With no objections or abstentions, the motion carried.

ii. **Resolution 2022-13** authorizing the Summit and Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments (“SAMWA COG”) to enter into a subrecipient agreement with United Labor Agency (“ULA”) to provide adult and dislocated worker career services as prescribed under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (“WIOA”) in amounts not to exceed \$419,064.00 for Medina County and \$1,046,223.00 for Summit County the period beginning 10/1/2022 and ending 3/31/2024.

1. It was brought to Executive Shapiro’s attention the contract end date cited on the agenda for Resolution 2022-13 was incorrect. Matz asked for the correct end date. She then requested Executive Shapiro reread the preamble with the end date of 6/30/2023 for the record.
2. Commissioner Swedyk made a motion to adopt SAMWA COG Resolution 2022-13. Executive Shapiro seconded the motion. With no objections or abstentions, the motion carried.

## VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. For the Good of the Order, Executive Shapiro asked if anyone had any thoughts concerning the impending changes to the Medicaid program. Marshall stated she is not familiar enough with the changes to make any comments and suggested that Jalbert who is present at the meeting might have some insight. Jalbert discussed the public health emergency will end in January. Executive Shapiro asked if there was a plan for those losing the coverage who might need training to be referred to the workforce system. Marshall suggested that many receiving Medicaid are employed and maybe there is a way for ODJFS to identify those underemployed with a job that doesn’t provide insurance to work with the OMJ centers for different employment opportunities.
- b. Executive Shapiro reminded those present that the next meeting of the SAMWA COG Board will be held on 12/8/22 at 10:00 AM, at the Radisson Hotel Akron-Fairlawn in the Buckeye Room.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Commissioner Swedyk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Executive Shapiro seconded the motion. With no objections or abstentions, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 AM.

*Prepared by:*

*Christine G. Marshall*

*Executive Director, SAMWA COG*