



EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 7, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Employ Milwaukee – 2342 N. 27th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210 – via Zoom Technology

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Carla Cross (Chair), Andres Gonzalez, Chytania Brown, Mark Kessenich, Edgard Delgado

Members Absent: Dr. Keith Posley

Employ Milwaukee Staff Present: Annemarie Probst, Julie Cayo

Guests Present: None

Chair Carla Cross called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

1. Welcome

Carla Cross welcomed committee members.

2. Minutes from August 24, 2023

Edgard Delgado motioned for approval of the August 24, 2023, minutes. Mark Kessenich seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. President's Update

Chytania Brown provided an update that Jovo Potkonjak, who has worked at Employ Milwaukee for 24 years, will be retiring at the end of the year.

4. Committee Report

a. Governance, Nominating, and Compliance Committee

The committee did not meet this quarter, so no report was given.

b. Program Committee

Mark Kessenich provide an update that all the contracts listed on the agenda were recommended to the Executive Committee for approval and can be approved as a slate if the Chair wishes. Julie Cayo provided a short overview of each contract approved for the Dept. of Labor Pathways to Infrastructure, Brighter Futures, and QUEST grants. Carla Cross asked if the Boys & Girls Club contract recommendation factors in the year-over-year underspending that has occurred in the past. Julie responded that staff has addressed the issue by reducing their current contract by \$15,000 due to a trend of underspending and the 2024 contract is proposed for \$250,000, which is less than previous years and aligned with their historical

spending rate. Andres Gonzalez motioned to approve all of the contracts. Edgard Delgado seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Julie provided an overview of the change in the On-the-Job Training policy which provides a maximum of \$10,000 or 640 hours, whichever is reached first. It includes an exception by the CEO for special projects. Carla asked what the hourly reimbursement rate is and if it is different based on employer size. Julie said the hourly reimbursement is set by the employer and can be different on each contract based on the industry and occupation. Large employers can receive reimbursements of up to 50% and small employers can receive reimbursements of up to 75%. Chytania Brown motioned to approve the OJT policy update. Edgard Delgado seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Youth Committee

Chytania provided an update that the committee reported out on the in school, out of school, and summer youth employment programs. There were no approval items outside of the meeting minutes.

d. Personnel, Finance & Audit Committee

Andres Gonzalez provided an update of the recommendations for renewal of healthcare, dental and vision insurance. Andres said the team was able to obtain a net increase of only 5% by negotiating a 4.7% reduction, which resulted in great rates and a positive impact on staff with all current providers. Equitable quote for vision and dental is lower than regular rate. Cigna's rates will remain the same until 2025. Mark Kessenich moved to approve the healthcare, dental, and vision insurance renewals. Edgard Delgado seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Andres provided an overview of the proposed line of credit with the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Andres said the agency needs to flex a lot of cash to upfront funding for wages for each of the Camp RISE, Earn & Learn, and Community Resource Navigator programs. These cause financial hardship to the organization so Chytania has worked with the Mayor, City of Milwaukee CDBG, and MEDC to access a fee-based line of credit. Funds up to \$1.2 M can be borrowed to fund those programs with City CDBG payments reimbursing the line of credit later. Chytania said it is specifically for the City programs which is why the line of credit is aligned with expense projects. Mark Kessenich gave hats off to staff for negotiating the line of credit and said it is awesome. Andres Gonzalez moved to approve the MEDC line of credit. Edgard Delgado seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Closed Session

Andres Gonzalez made a motion to go into closed session at 10:36 AM pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes. Edgard Delgado seconded. Motion carried. No approvals or official actions were conducted in closed session.

Chair Carla Cross adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: February 22, 2024, at 10:00 AM

A proud partner of the  network

2

Employ Milwaukee is an Equal Opportunity employer and service provider. If you need this information or printed material in an alternate format, or in different language, please contact us at (414)-270-1700. Deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired callers can contact us through Wisconsin Relay Service at 7-1-1.