**Manufacturing Innovation Advisory Board**

***Meeting Minutes***

**Department of Economic and Community Development**

November 22, 2022

1:00 - 2:30 PM

***via Teams Meeting***

**Attendance**

* Board Members Present: Paul Lavoie, Kelli Vallieres, Don Balducci, Colin Cooper, John Zoldy, Chris DiPentima, Mike Rocheleau, Mark Burzynski, and Beverlee Dacey
* Board Members Absent: Emir Redzic and Raquel Rivera
* Quorum: Yes
* Stakeholders & Guests: Bernice Zampano (CT-DOL), Ron Angelo (CCAT), Paul Striebel (CCAT), and Todd Birch (CT-DOL), who is JG and GT
* DECD Staff: Carmen Molina-Rios

**Welcome**

Paul Lavoie opened the meeting at 1:05 PM

**Minutes (Vote)**

Paul requested a motion to approve the October 20, 2023, meeting minutes. Mike Rocheleau moved the motion. Don Balducci seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Change to Meeting Time in December (vote)**

Original meeting time 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM, with proposed change of 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Mike Rocheleau moved the motion. John Zoldy seconded the motion. The motion passed, with Colin Cooper abstaining.

**Budget Review**

* Discussion regarding the amount obligated, balance, and administrative portion of the overall budget, with a need to do a deeper dive, internally and with OFA, into the finances and report back to the MIF Board at a later date.
* Questions regarding projected and existing programs that may need funds before June 30th.
* Confirmed that the administrative set-aside is a legislative requirement.

**Digital Transformation Program Proposal (vote)**

* Ron Angelo, CCAT, presented.
* Historic review of non-MIF programming (impact stats and national ROI data), with understanding that this new request builds off an existing foundation.
* Questions regarding any remaining program funds, which CCAT expects to “fully subscribe” by the end of February 2023.
* Discussion regarding overhead versus direct grants to manufacturers.
* Need to “hand hold” for companies to fully adopt new technology – understanding that quality of successful adoption is not necessarily the same as quantity of companies touched.
* Exploring the “value proposition”, CCAT might consider using their CRM to help quantify the frequency and type of engagement each company needs to better ascertain how much support is needed.
* Current request: $3 million and 40-month term
* Paul Lavoie requested a motion to approve the program request. Mike Rocheleau moved to approve the request. Mark Burzynski seconded the motion. There was a 5-to-2 vote in favor of approving the proposal, with John Zoldy and Chris DiPentima opposing.

**Additive Technology Adoption Program Proposal (vote)**

* Ron Angelo, CCAT, presented.
* Historic review of non-MIF programming (impact stats and national ROI data), with understanding that this new request builds off an existing foundation.
* Current request: $3 million and 40-month term
* Paul Lavoie requested a motion to approve the program request. Mike Rocheleau moved to approve the request. Mark Burzynski seconded the motion. There was a 5-to-2 vote in favor of approving the proposal, with John Zoldy and Chris DiPentima opposing.

**Apprenticeship Program Update**

* Paul Striebel, CCAT, presented.
* Review of statistics (registered apprenticeships, termination, completions, etc.)
* CCAT continues to work with CT-DOL to transition administrative functions
* CT DOL strongly suggesting adding pre-apprenticeship immediately, with the statement that providing that wage subsidy both incentivizes employers to take on a pre-apprentice (generally PT student from tech and comprehensive high school) and helps to mitigate risk to the employer
* Question about the “terminated” figures – CT DOL responded that 40% completion is a generally accepted national standard. Terminated, in most cases, is referring to an apprentice who chooses not to continue the program.
* Discussion regarding 1) adding pre-apprenticeship and 2) increasing the max per employer – more data needed, with a proposal containing any program changes, to be presented to the MIF Board at a later date.

**2023 Monthly Meeting Schedule (vote)**

* Dates presented with agreement to meet in-person quarterly – exact in-person dates to be determined, noting that July and December would be important dates (new budget and MIF annual report).
* Proposed dates: January, 19; February, 16; March, 16; April, 20; May, 18; June, 15; July, 20; August, 17; September, 2; October, 19; November, 16; December, 21
* Paul Lavoie requested a motion to approve the dates presented. Mike Rocheleau moved the motion. Colin Cooper seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Paul Lavoie requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Rocheleau moved the motion. Colin Cooper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Lavoie closed the meeting at 2:37 PM.