**Manufacturing Innovation Advisory Board**

***Meeting Minutes***

**Department of Economic and Community Development**

August 18, 2022

1:00 - 2:30 PM

***via Teams Meeting***

**Attendance**

* Board Members Present: Paul Lavoie, Kelli Vallieres, Colin Cooper, John Zoldy, Mark Burzynski, Chris DiPentima
* Board Members Absent: Emir Redzic, Don Balducci, Beverlee Dacey, Mike Rocheleau
* Quorum: Yes
* Stakeholders & Guests: Ron Angelo (CCAT), Paul Striebel (CCAT), Jackie Garofano (CCAT), Beatriz Gutierrez (CONNSTEP), Mike Stimson (CONNSTEP), Leigh Appleby (CSCU), Jaclyn Leutze (Odonnell)
* DECD Staff: Carmen Molina-Rios, Michelle Hall, Beth Trenchard

**Welcome**

Paul Lavoie opened the meeting at 1:09 PM.

**Minutes (Vote)**

Colin Cooper moved to have the June 16, 2022 meeting minutes approved. Chris DiPentima seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hearts & Minds Advertising Campaign**

Leigh Appleby introduced Jacky Leutze from Odonnell who provided an overview of the approach and content of the Hearts & Minds Ad campaign. Ms. Leutze reviewed the creative brief that was developed during the research phase of the campaign. The multi-media campaign will focus on improving the image of manufacturing and driving enrollment in manufacturing programs statewide.

**Manufacturing Website**

Beatriz Gutierrez provided an update on the Manufacturing Website. Connstep has identified 60 service providers and will be interviewing 50 of them by mid-September. Ten service provider profiles will be created by the end of September. Connstep continues to have ongoing technical meetings with the Dept. of Administrative Services Bureau of Information Technology Services. The website launch is anticipated in 3-4 months.

**Engineering Internship Program**

Jackie Garofano provided an update on the Engineering Internship Program. A total of 36 interns participated in the summer pilot program at 16 manufacturing companies. CCAT also hosted three events to provide network opportunities and created a LinkedIn group for engineering interns. Interns had the opportunity to tour manufacturing companies and attend “Tech Talk” sessions with industry leaders. CCAT is incorporating feedback and lessons learned to ramp up the program for Spring 2023 and will begin recruiting efforts in Q4 of 2022.

**College Connections**

Paul Lavoie informed the Board that an update on plans to increase enrollment for the program will be provided at the next Board meeting when the high schools are back from summer break.

**CT Center of Excellence for Composite Manufacturing**

Paul Lavoie informed the Board that Pratt & Whitney would like to reallocate the funding for Phase II of their commitment to the Center. They are suggesting that CCAT continues to manage the Center and makes it available to the CT manufacturing ecosystem in an effort to leverage the technology and to onboard additional technologies. CCAT will provide more specifics at the next Board meeting, including the vision for the Center, metrics and return on investment for the state.

**Update on Programs/Initiatives**

Paul Lavoie provided updates on the following MIF initiatives:

Apprenticeship Program

Incumbent Worker Training Program

Digital Transformation/Cyber Security Roadmaps

Regional Career Fairs

CT Innovators/FORGE CT

Manufacturing Strategic Plan for CT

**Portfolio**

**Review of Investments to Date**

Paul Lavoie provided an overview of the funding status of the major programs and administrative expenditures, including the current unexpended amounts for each MIF program. MIF administrative funds may be used for staffing and resources in the development of the strategic plan, as well as the Digital Model Initiative (DMI) 2.0 rollout.

**Planning for FY 23 Investments**

As a review, $10 million for FY 22 was authorized at the 7/23/21 State Bond Commission (SBC) meeting. The additional $10 million for FY 23 was recently authorized at the 7/29/22 SBC meeting.

Paul Lavoie discussed that there are other funding resources available for workforce development initiatives, including funds for incumbent worker training and apprenticeships. Additional information will be provided at the next Board meeting.

**Other Business**

Paul Lavoie informed the Board that the pilot phase of the federal-funded DMI is wrapping up. Strategic planning is currently underway for DMI 2.0 which will rollout Model-Based Definition (MBD) to the defense supply chain. The vision is for several phases – with the final phase ultimately rolling out on a national level with CT as the Center of Excellence for MBD.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Paul Lavoie requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Colin Cooper moved the motion and John Zoldy seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Lavoie closed the meeting at 2:31 PM.