

## **BERKS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

The Berks County Workforce Development Board (the Board) was appointed effective July 1, 2015 by the Berks County Board of Commissioners. The Board continues the work begun in 1999 by its predecessor organization the Berks County Workforce Investment Board (WIB). Federal funding under the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014* provides most of the financial support for Board activities and programs.

Board members are unpaid members of the local community. By federal law and state policy, representatives of the local business community must constitute a majority of the Board's membership. Local labor organizations, community-based organizations, economic and community development entities and educational institutions are also represented on the Board.

The Board normally holds public meetings once each calendar quarter and members also serve on Committees which meet regularly. Board Committees may also include non-Board members with particular workforce development experience and expertise.

The Board designates the operator(s) and oversees the operation of the PA CareerLink® Berks County (one stop delivery system).

### **Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of the Berks County Workforce Development Board is to identify the long-term, strategic workforce development needs of the community; propose strategies to meet those needs; set priorities; build partnerships to align resources in support of those strategies; test specific initiatives to advance those ends; and measure and evaluate results. We support the development and maintenance of a skilled and competitive workforce in alignment with the broader economic development efforts to attract, retain and grow business in Berks County.

*Excerpt from the By-Laws of the Berks County Workforce Development Board adopted 12/11/2020:*

### **Section 1.03 Purpose**

- a. The Berks County Board of Commissioners appointed the WDB members to fulfill the following duties and responsibilities:
  - i. Develop the mission, strategic vision, and policies and priorities for the local Workforce Development Area.
  - ii. Advise and assist the Board of Commissioners by setting policy to promote effective workforce investment programs in the local Workforce Development Area.
  - iii. Support the development and maintenance of a skilled and competitive workforce in alignment with the broader economic development efforts to attract, retain and grow business in Berks County.

- iv. Identify the long-term, strategic workforce development needs of the community.
  - v. Propose strategies to meet these needs.
  - vi. Build partnerships to align resources in support of those strategies.
  - vii. Develop a comprehensive workforce development plan and other plans and strategies as may be required.
  - viii. Designate operators and oversee the operation of the PA CareerLink® (one stop delivery system).
  - ix. Recommend providers of workforce development and training to the commonwealth for certification.
  - x. Develop accountability measures to assess program performance and customer satisfaction.
  - xi. Conduct evaluation, program oversight, and monitoring activities.
  - xii. Disseminate information on WDB approved and State certified training programs.
  - xiii. Promote private sector participation in the local workforce development system.
  - xiv. Appoint WDB Committees as described herein.
  - xv. Develop and approve the WDB budget and related budgets.
  - xvi. Administer additional federal, state, and other workforce funds as an integrated system.
- b. The WDB shall exercise such decision-making powers and perform such functions and duties as are necessary and appropriate to fulfill its mission, subject to requirements and limitations imposed upon the WDB under the terms of relevant Federal and State laws and regulations as they may be amended from time to time.

**Berks County Workforce Development Board**  
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Kristi Gage-Linderman, Chairperson  
Daniel W. Fogarty, Chief Operating Officer