

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for January 23, 2008

Present

Lori Harvey, Phil Nadiak, Paul Weifenbaugh / TCWIB
Mick Pappas / Herr Voss Stampco
George Wochley / GCL & Camber
Tim Brackett / Simplified Tooling
Bruce Curry / PennaFlame
Francine Keefer, Stephanie Madden / AGR
Scott Dietz / Catalyst Connection
Scott Docherty / CID
Clayton Woodward / Woodward Inc.
Rich Schellinger / TRACO
Tim Vogel / AK Steel
Neil Ashbaugh / Oberg
Don Neff / Eagle Rubber
Nadine Tridodi / Butler Technologies
Lisa Campbell / BC3
Melissa Beck / Newport Business Institute
Mea Scholl / Oakbridge Academy
Carmen Bianco, Matthew Lutz / Armstrong
Peggy Weckerly, Debbie Ernst / PA Career Link, Butler
Caroline Hahn / Pulva Corp.
Catie Morley / ADC
Chuck Guiste, Jim Ferguson, Kristen Bastaja / Penn United Technologies
Hank Neylanel / UAW Local 3303
Karma Edwards / MAC, Univ. of Pittsburgh
Doug Bartosh / Unimach Mfg

Special Guests: Dale Pinkerton, Jim Kennedy, Jim Lokhaiser / Butler Co. Commissioners
Jerry Knight / PMI

Jim Ferguson welcomed everyone to 2008 kick-off meeting at the Butler Co. Vo-Tech. This was followed by introductions.

Copies of the December '07 minutes meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as written.

Doug Bartosh reported that we have \$1,061.00 remaining in the Treasury. Invoices will be sent out for the 2008 membership dues (\$100 for the year). Doug also has a new email address (unimach1@embarqmail.com)

Previous Business

1. **Training**
 - a) MarketSphere - they have revisions & desire to be more like MSSC.
 - b) MSSC – no report.

2. **Grant Update**

- a) Lori H. shared that “Dream it Do it” monies need to be re-allocated.
- b) \$105,000 : for training in HR, Policy and Law, Supervisory, CAD/CAM, Project Management, Supply Chain, Lean Mfg, and others. Look at top training needs. Lori will send out an email to members listing again the various training categories. Money must be spent by 6/31/08.
- c) STEM grant \$: for training in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math areas. There will be a webinar on 1/25. Lori will get more info. regarding total monies available and who is appropriating this money.
- d) Phil Nadiak of the Regional Career Education Partnership shared that there is \$1000 per school available for career awareness programs. This money could be used to help our Career Awareness days at the local schools.

3. **Schools**

- a) Career Brochures – minor changes still needed. Designing corresponding posters as well. .
- b) H.S. Connection – Career Days. Current school dates confirmed include:
 - * April 1 – Mars H.S.
 - * April 17 – Slippery Rock H.S.Jim is continuing to talk with other schools. Would like to have both manufacturing and health care consortiums at the schools.
- c) Teacher Award –Scott Dietz shared that the committee has developed a mission statement and listed various activities that nominees can demonstrate mfg involvement including curriculum, club activities, national programs such as FIRST Robotics, Lego League, and BotsIQ. As for the award, an individual or a team could be recognized. Will include from elementary, junior and senior high levels. Are also considering the idea of honorable mentions. Scott opened it up to the group that they need ideas for possible names for the award. We want to focus on our theme of “Strength in Working Together” for Academic Excellence. There will be an award committee meeting immediately following our regular meeting today to discuss application details. Would we want to offer a cash award ? to put money back into their mfg. program?
- d) Dream it Do it - Could possibly do a scaled down version for \$25 k, however to “personalize” it would still cost another \$10 k. The state is discussing making it a state-wide program. Would we then do an RFP to do our own?

4. **BC3 Summer Camps** – Kristen has been in touch with BC3 and has a meeting scheduled to discuss doing our own summer mfg camps for kids.

5. **Other**

- a) When asked was anything being done regarding attracting people to our region for jobs, one company shared that they were advertising in other states to attract workers to our area. Perhaps the Consortium as a whole could do an advertising campaign in other cities, promoting that we are hiring!
- b) Commissioner Kennedy agreed that educating students begins with educating the counselors about manufacturing opportunities.
- c) Commissioner Pinkerton expressed that he feels Butler County needs affordable housing for young people.
- d) Southwest Regional Development offers bonds and loans to companies looking at coming in to region.

Image

- 1. **Tri-County Manufacturing Video** – Lori Harvey shared that they have finished with Indiana County and need a company for Butler. Would take approx. 2-3 hour time commitment. See Lori if interested. It will be a longer version of the Career Gates video (about 20-25 minutes)

- and it will be modularized. It will represent all occupations in manufacturing, from Accounting to IT, to Engineering. Completion date targeted for end of March.
2. **Career Gates Video** – Completed. It looks GREAT!
 3. **Armstrong Show** – “Getting to Work” in Butler Co. 1st episode is done which features Oberg. Butler Technologies is next. Want to have several done before airing on a monthly basis. .
 4. **BCMC Website / job source** – no report.
 5. **Mall Recruit** –
 - * Center Court - Clearview Mall for February 15 & 16.
 - * 10 attendees confirmed so far.
 - * Time Frame: 10 am – 9 pm.
 6. **Manufacturing Radio Program** – Members of the BCMC attended Medrad’s open house. Channel 4 news covered the event which was a total of 10-15 seconds of coverage. Would a radio show dealing with manufacturing be worth investigating? Commissioner Lokhaiser said it sounded like a great idea in order to continue to educate the community about career opportunities.

Growth

Current / New Business

1. Precision Manufacturing Institute (PMI) – Jerry Knight, Executive Director of PMI, spoke about the main institute in Meadville as well as the training facility that will be opening in Sharron.
 - * PMI can do customized training, and train on various shifts @ PMI or on site.
 - * PMI also has a lot of different and new technology equipment on site that is on loan from companies. Manufacturers can try out machines before purchase.
 - * Can visit their website at www.pmionline.edu
 - * Manufacturing’s biggest need is that we need trained people.
 - * LIGHT – evaluating community’s need for a training facility. Would be non-profit, not run by Penn United, but by a Board of Directors comprised of 80% manufacturers. Could remain on Penn United property or be relocated elsewhere.
 - * Will host a tour of PMI training facility on Feb. 20th
 - * Need feedback from companies as to :
 - a) Would manufacturers use?
 - b) Would anyone be interested in being on Board of Directors?
 - * Have articulation agreements to go on to earn Associates Degree. Will be meeting with BC3.
 - * Butler has 18.3% of people in county employed in manufacturing.

What’s In It For Manufacturing

1. Spherion Staffing – Jim has followed up. Spherion is offering consortium members 15% rate on direct hires. Now a partner with CareerLink.
2. Upcoming education events:
 - * Bots IQ Competition March 28 & 29 @ Century III Mall. With Mfg. Expo on Saturday. 32 regional teams.
 - * FIRST Robotics March 13 – 15 @ Peterson Event Center
 - * Butler Vo-tech is participating in both.
3. Heather Swiergol invited new members to tour Butler Vo-tech Feb. 27th.

***Next meeting will be Wednesday February 27th at Butler’s
Community Development Corp. at 8:00 am***