



TUSCARAWAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chris Abbuhl – Kerry Metzger – Joe Sciarretti

Commissioners Contribute to Workforce Development In Tuscarawas County

During Wednesday's Meeting, the Commissioners approved a \$25,000.00 donation to a joint workforce development venture between Buckeye Career Center (BCC) and Kent State University Tuscarawas (KSU Tusc). Scott Robinson, President of the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce, stated that a \$250,000.00 grant was received through OMEGA. These funds will be used in creating educational and training opportunities to provide a better equipped manufacturing workforce in Tuscarawas County.

William Beisel, of KSU Tusc, discussed more of the specifics of the program, which will be a 4-Tier system:

A Brief Description of the Proposed Four-Tiered Program

Tiers 1 and 2 implemented between 2018 and 2020 and Tiers 3 and 4 implemented between 2020 and 2022.

Tier 1 is a Non-Credit Industrial Maintenance Fundamentals Program offered through Buckeye Career Center Adult Education and Kent State University at Tuscarawas Business and Community Services.

Tier 2 is the 18 Credit Certificate Program shared by Buckeye Career Center and Kent State University at Tuscarawas Engineering Technology Program.

Tier 3 is an Associate of Applied Science Degree offered through Kent State University at Tuscarawas in Mechanical Engineering Technology (General or Mechatronics concentrations) and Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology.

Tier 4 is a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology Degree offered through Kent State University at Tuscarawas with concentrations in Mechanical/Systems or Electrical/Electronics Engineering Technology.

KSU Tusc and BCC will be able to share resources and equipment. These programs will also teach life skills, such as problem solving and interpersonal communication, as well as provide certification in areas such as CPR and First Aid.

The Commissioners took the opportunity to not only contribute \$25,000.00 to this initiative, but to also congratulate those who put in all the hard work on acquiring these grant funds. Commissioner Abbuhl stated that contributing to economic growth is a natural role of the Commissioners. Commissioner Sciarretti added that there has been a long standing tradition of assisting in economic development, and this spirit will continue on. Commissioner Abbuhl also expressed that this is a great example of collaboration in Tuscarawas County and surrounding region between education, business, and government, saying that this program will be a great and positive program for the future of Tuscarawas County.