

**GST MICHIGAN WORKS**  
**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2021**  
**9:45 A.M.**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Chair, Leanne Panduren. Members present at the meeting are noted by the X.

Avendt, Scott		McNeil, Mia	X
Batistoni, Peter	X	Mose, Sandi	X
Collison, Dennis		Panduren, Leanne	X
Dunlap, Glenda		Ransford, Mark	
Ernst, Matt/Brenda Hinds		Rogers, Lisa	X
Harrington, Harold/Kevin Gaby		Schlaud, Annette	X
Hipes, Howard	X	Schultz, Vicky/Melissa Mehalko	
Verona Terry for Sheppard, Daniel	X	Stone, Kendra	
Kariem, Gerald/Brett Baker		Turner, Rafael	X
Karen Wagner for Kunisch, Chuck	X	Turner, Scott	X
Lewis-Jennings, Tracie			

11 members were present.

Governing Board Members (Alternates) Present: Roger Ballard, Quentin Bishop, John Bodis, Ellen Ellenberg, Debra Newman, Bryant Nolden, John Plowman, Tom Young and Bryan Zehnder

Staff Present: Jody Kerbyson, Sharon Bowen, Kelly Cook, Jessica Billiau, Wendy Paxton and JulAnn Kuenzli

Others Present: Karen Southgate - DHHS

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Leanne Panduren, called for approval of the agenda. Scott Turner moved to approve the agenda. Pete Batistoni supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for a vote.

All present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED.

III. Introductions

Leanne asked that everyone please introduce themselves, since it has been 15 months since we last met in person.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

V. Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes

Howard Hipes moved to approve the March 12, 2021 minutes. Scott Turner supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for a vote. All present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED.

B. Approval of June 11, 2021 Plans

Sharon Bowen explained the plans before the Board. The current planning allocations were approved for Wagner-Peyser Employment Services, Capacity Building and Professional Development (CBPD), WIOA Adult, Youth and Dislocated Worker programs, Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Clean Slate program, and Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA). Pete Batistoni moved to approve the 2021 plans. Rafael Turner supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for a vote. All present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED.

C. Approval of GST Local Policies

JulAnn Kuenzli explained the two GST local policies and their changes. The policies approved included the Michigan Training Connect policy 18-01 change 1 and WIOA Youth Definition policy 18-04 change 2. Scott Turner moved to approve the local policies. Howard Hipes supported. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for a vote. All present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED.

D. Approval of CEAC Member

Jody explained that we had a CEAC member retire. The proposed new employer representative was Brad Langenburg, General Manager, from MI-Tech Tooling Inc. located in Cass City. Peter Batistoni moved to approve the new CEAC member and Rafael Turner supported. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for a vote. All present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED.

VI. Approval of Finance Report

Kelly Cook presented the Grant Budget Expenditure report for July 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021. Rafael Turner moved to approve the report. Lisa Rogers supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for vote. All present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED.

VII. Approval of Agency Budget

Kelly Cook presented the 2021-2022 Grant Budget for approval. Scott Turner moved to approve the budget. Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for vote.

All present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED.

VIII. Approval of Service Provider Funding

Kelly Cook presented the 2021-2022 Service Providers recommended funding levels. Lisa Rogers moved to approve the funding levels for service providers. Pete Batistoni supported the motion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for discussion. Chair Leanne Panduren called for vote.

All present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED.

IX. Agency Update – Jody Kerbyson

- Jody asked Howard Hipes to speak regarding House Bill 4040. Howard explained that this bill will make changes to the proprietary school act and will allow more apprenticeship and apprenticeship readiness training to be paid for with WIOA funding. The bill, as passed by the House and Senate awaits the Governor's signature.
- Jody Kerbyson announced that Mark Ransford resigned from the board. Mary Brinkman, the Human Resources Manager at TI Fluid Systems, will be joining the WDB as the representative for Tuscola County.
- Jody reported that Helen Brown's replacement is Annalisa King Przybysz. Annalisa comes to us from the Lapeer Service Center with over two years' experience within the agency.
- Jody announced that our offices were open to public as of Monday. So far, no issues with irate customers, however security officers are currently stationed at all 7 locations as a safety precaution.
- GST staff took over 100,000 calls from March 2020 to April 2021 and on May 3<sup>rd</sup> all MWA's in the State stepped back from providing UIA claim assistance services so that our staff could get back to the business of re-employment.
- Jody said that staff have been holding a lot of different types of events to get people back through our doors. These include job fairs, drive-thru resume drop offs and coffee with a career coach. Throughout the remote work timeframe, staff were still very busy as we had 652 individuals enter training since July 1, 2020. We continue to push for more enrollments via digital and traditional marketing means.
- Jody has been busy meeting with legislators in our region. One statewide priority that she has discussed is Senate Bill 501 that would require UI claimants to contact a Michigan Works! AJC within a set number of days (TBD) from applying for unemployment benefits. This would codify the process into law and would be a change from the current five-day requirement within UI policy.
- Jody discussed expanding upon local barriers to allow for the expansion of eligibility and urged anyone interested to reach out for further discussion.
- Jody spoke at the Swartz Creek Alternative & Adult Education Graduation on June 10, 2021.
- Jody said that we are working on a virtual MI CareerQuest East offering to be held in October. If this proves viable, we will provide more information at the September meeting.

X. Informational Items

Jessica Billiau shared the Talent Talk Newsletter for this quarter. She spoke on a few items:

- Jessica said that staff are focused on connecting with people in the community and we are willing to go wherever they are and are trying new ways to connect with people. The response from our events has not been large in number, but the quality of the candidates is very good.
- Resume drop off boxes have been placed at all locations. They are red in color and very easy to see.
- Jessica referred to the articles that describe how the Going Pro Talent Funds are being utilized.
- Jessica also pointed out a couple of articles on the Business Resource Network and said that we currently have 14 businesses participating.
- Plans are being developed for the 2021 MI CareerQuest using the VFair platform this Fall. The event would be available virtually for 60 days. Details will be discussed at the June 18<sup>th</sup> CEAC Committee meeting.

Chair Leanne Panduren reminded members to share the newsletter with their contacts. The word needs to get out about all the programs and services that GST Michigan Works! has to offer.

XI. Partner Agency Update

*Michigan Rehabilitation Services – Tracie Lewis-Jennings – Absent*

*Department of Health and Human Services – Sandi Mose*

- DHHS staff are still working remotely. July 12, 2021 is the expected return to work date. When staff return it may be in a hybrid model consisting of both in-the-office and at-home work, but a large percentage of staff may remain completely remote.
- Sandi announced that Irene Waller retired June 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Adult Education – Annette Schlaud*

- Adult Ed staff have been working via a hybrid model as well.
- They had a hybrid graduation with 12 graduates in the building, everyone else attended via Zoom.
- There were 10 CNA graduates in the class that just finished. The next CNA class begins July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
- A new Adult Education provider has been added for the Fenton area.

XII. Board Member Comments/Other

Verona Terry – Job Corps

- Verona announced that the Hilton Hotel in downtown Flint is offering \$1,000 bonus for hiring.
- She said that students are starting to return. Since the pandemic, homelessness of youth has become a problem. They may be able to assist via their on-site housing/programming.

Rafael Turner – Consumers Energy

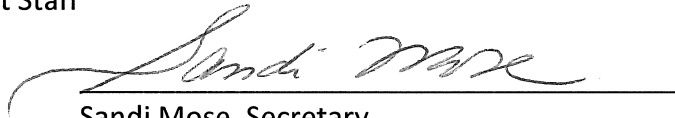
- Rafael provided a safety reminder for all in attendance. He urged all to drive safely and slow around construction crews, be mindful of down power lines, be careful with generators, dial 811 for MISS DIG before starting new projects and to make sure that people coming to your door are actual Consumers Energy employees. There have been people posing as their employees going door-to-door trying to trick residents out of money and other items. They are working with the Michigan State Police to find the fraudsters.

- Rafael announced that Consumers has grants available to businesses, school districts and municipalities to set up Electronic Vehicle (EV) charging stations.

XIII. Adjournment

Chair Leanne Panduren announced that the next meeting will be in person in September. Seeing no other business, Chair Leanne Panduren asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Annette Schlaud moved, and Scott Turner supported the motion to adjourn. Chair Leanne Panduren called the meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandi Mose, Secretary  
Annalisa King Przybysz, Support Staff



Sandi Mose, Secretary

9/10/2021  
Date

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