



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
June 14, 2024**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Jody Kerbyson, CEO.

Avendt, Scott	X	Lewis, Seth / Trevor Schultz	
Baird, Rick		<b>Lewis-Jennings, Tracie</b> /Steve Peterson	X
Batistoni, Pete		Mose, Sandi / <b>Jeff Cook</b>	X
Collison, Dennis	X	Nas, Paula	X
Ernst, Matt / <b>Correen Zahn</b>	X	Panduren, Leanne	
Fountain, Samantha	X	<b>Prill, Yvonne</b> /Diane Ricevuto	X
<b>Gasso, Rochelle</b> / Dennis Weinand	X	Rogers, Lisa	X
Gaudet, Dan / Zach Desrochers		<b>Shelton, Mary</b> / Meredith Donahue	X
<b>Hipes, Howard</b> / Scott McDonald	X	Sheppard, Daniel / <b>Verona Terry</b>	X
<b>Kappen, Jason</b> / Duston Fenner	X	Turner, Rafael	
Kunisch, Chuck	X		

Fifteen members were present. An X indicates present members.

Staff present were Jody Kerbyson, Kelly Cook, Jessica Billiau, JulAnn Kuenzli, Wendy Paxton, Cindy Thornthwaite, Sheila Rock and Stephanie Polmanteer. Other attendees present included: James Avery, Roger Ballard, Greg Brodeur, Gary Howell, Bill Lutz, John Moody, Marlene Webster, Tom Young, Nicholas Morehead and Sam Moore.

**II. Special Virtual Presentation**

Director Susan Corbin from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) presented on the Michigan Statewide Workforce Plan.

**III. Introductions**

Members, staff, and other attendees introduced themselves.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

Kerbyson called for approval of the agenda. Member Shelton moved to approve the agenda. Member Hipes supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote. All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED

**V. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**VI. Action Items**

**a. Approval of minutes of previous meeting on March 8, 2024**

Member Avendt moved to approve the March 8, 2024 minutes. Member Collison supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote. All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED

- b. Approval to accept the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) applications as reviewed, and submit the review forms to the State of Michigan for approval– Jody Kerbyson**  
Member Lewis-Jennings moved to accept the AEFLA applications and to submit the review forms to the State of Michigan for approval. Member Hipes supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All of the members present voted AYE except Mary Shelton who abstained due to her affiliation with Adult Education.  
MOTION PASSED
- c. Approval of GSTMW Plans– Jody Kerbyson**  
Member Kunisch moved to approve GSTMW plans as presented for: Wagner-Peyser Employment Services (ES); Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Allocations; Michigan Works! Systems Plan (MWSP); WIOA Statewide Activities for Customer Relationship Management (CRM); Capacity Building and Professional Development (CBPD); Career Event Funding; Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development (PROWD); Michigan Reconnect Targeted Outreach; Infrastructure Agreements; Thumb Community Health Partnership; and Industrial Assessment Center Network. Member Avendt supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED
- d. Approval of updated In Demand Career Clusters– JulAnn Kuenzli**  
Member Lewis-Jennings moved to approve the updated in demand career clusters as presented. Member Rogers supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED
- e. Approval to renew 3Sixty Interactive digital marketing contract– Jessica Billiau**  
Member Lewis-Jennings moved to renew the 3Sixty Interactive digital marketing contract for one year. Member Avendt supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED
- f. Approval to appoint Yvonne Prill, Talent Acquisition Specialist of Scheurer Health, to the CEAC. Yvonne is replacing Ann Finkbeiner, representing the Workforce Development Board.**  
Member Shelton moved to appoint Yvonne Prill to the CEAC, to represent the Workforce Development Board. Member Lewis-Jennings supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED
- g. Approval to appoint Brianna Mosier, Executive Director of Flint & Genesee Education & Talent, to the CEAC. Brianna is replacing James Avery, representing the Other Member sector.**  
Member Shelton moved to appoint Brianna Mosier to the CEAC, to represent the Other Member sector. Member Lewis-Jennings supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.  
All members present voted AYE.  
MOTION PASSED

**h. Approval to continue funding subcontractors and vendors as presented.**

Member Collison moved to approve continued funding as presented. Member Rogers supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

VII. Finance

**a. Kelly Cook reviewed the expenditure report for July 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024 with the members.**

Member Collison moved to approve the expenditure reports. Member Hipes supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

**b. Kelly Cook presented the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget to the members.**

Member Lewis-Jennings moved to approve the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget as presented.

Member Terry supported the motion. Kerbyson called for discussion. Kerbyson called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Agency Updates

Jody Kerbyson shared that back in March, she, Sharon Bowen, Jessica Billiau and Chair Leanne Panduren attended Legislative Day in Lansing. They spent the day connecting with legislators, sharing success stories, current workforce data and GSTMW's priorities in obtaining funding for short term training and barrier removal. Kerbyson explained how GSTMW utilizes the funding for barrier removal to help the community where other funding cannot and expressed the agency's hope to receive more in the future. Kerbyson is working with the MEDC and Flint and Genesee Group to support the plan of an advanced manufacturing district in Mundy Township. She looks forward to sharing more information on the topic in the future.

GSTMW has excitedly added Virtual Reality (VR) headsets as learning tools to help introduce different career simulations to students and job seekers alike. The sets have been distributed among all service centers and have since been used at MISTEM fairs as well as some high school events. They are receiving great feedback and plans are underway to use them at this year's MiCareerQuest East event in October. The manufacturer of the VR headsets, Transfr, has also selected GSTMW to demo a pilot program for construction trades using the VR sets. GSTMW has partnered with Job Corps to test this program with ten of their students in partnership with a local employer.

GSTMW has recently selected a candidate to fill their Accounting Manager position and are looking forward to having them start on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The new position will coordinate with the agency's CFO and play a key role in its succession planning.

Kerbyson shared that she recently attended the Huron County launch of the Degree Forward program. The program was supported by the Huron County Community Foundation and the Huron County EDC. The program is offered through Southern New Hampshire University and helps provide experiential learning in its programming. There are also short-term programs underway for CNA's, certified medical assistants and surgical technicians.

The Thumb Community Health Partnership employer-led collaborative continues to work toward bridging gaps by providing awareness and training for job opportunities in the medical field for the rural Thumb region. One recent goal they are addressing is to increase clinical experience opportunities in the Thumb to keep residents working locally, so they are more likely to remain at local employers when starting their careers.

Kerbyson was honored to receive an invitation from member Paula Nas to attend some events at the University of Michigan - Flint. She was able to attend the welcome reception for their new chancellor, Dr. Lawrence Alexander, as well as a ceremony to celebrate the building kickoff for U of M - Flint's new College of Innovation and Technology.

IX. Informational Items

- a. *Talent Talk* booklets were available at meeting
- b. Board acronyms were included with agenda packet
- c. Meeting dates were included with agenda packet

X. Partner Updates

- a. Michigan Rehabilitation Services – Tracie Lewis-Jennings shared that MRS has currently served 1,227 customers, 1,086 eligibility applications, and has 483 customers working within the six counties they serve. She reported that 94 individuals have enrolled into post-secondary education programs and 133 individuals are enrolled in vocational training or attending college. She mentioned that they are looking into summer work-based opportunities for their customers as well as on-the-job evaluations. They are working to increase their presence in Tuscola, Sanilac and Huron counties to further assist those communities. Tracie expressed the importance of social networking to help inform communities about the resources that MRS can offer. She mentioned that MRS utilizes WIOA funding to help provide much sought after training for their disabled customers. She reminded members that the term disabled can mean physical and mental, and that their services are meant to assist both. She also noted they not only can aid with training, but provide the equipment necessary for customers to perform their jobs safely and comfortably.
- b. Department of Health & Human Services – Jeff Cook reported that the State of Michigan has exhausted its energy related state of emergency relief funding, which assists eligible residents with electric and heat bills. This, unfortunately, forces the State to halt application processing for any assistance request submitted after 5:00 pm on June 14, 2024. Cook stated that the assistance program will be funded again on October 1, 2024. He shared that an increase in applicants, as well as the additional funding that was available during COVID no longer being available, most likely contributed to the exhaustion.
- c. Adult Education – Mary Shelton discussed data that showed 8.7% of adults in the GSTMW service area have not obtained a high school diploma. She expressed the vital role adult education has in shrinking this number. Education providers who receive state funding through the 107 Grant have been discussing how to allocate this year's expected funds to sustain current programs. Shelton then shared the Region 6 Adult Education Report showing that Michigan Ranks 41<sup>st</sup> as one of the worst states for education. Additionally, the report showed that Region 6 has 13% of the state's total for high school diplomas in adult education, and 18% of the state's total GED/HSE obtainments. Shelton also reported statistics on grade school numbers and the region's hopes for improvement. Current data shows 14% of high school students do not graduate on time, 68% of fourth graders are not proficient in reading, 74% of eighth graders are

not proficient in math. Shelton further explained the importance of receiving a high school diploma upon graduation from high school and the benefits it provides students for their future.

- d. Job Corps – Verona Terry invited all members to the Job Corps quarterly Community Relations Council (CRC) meeting on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Terry shared that recently, several students assisted the local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace by building 80+ beds to support their efforts in providing beds for children. The group has helped 1,000+ children in Genesee County that do not have beds to sleep on. This year, to celebrate Job Corps' 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the agencies have compiled videos from their partners nationwide, to showcase each partnership for the public to view on their national website.

XI. Board Member Comments/Other Business

- Jessica Billiau discussed the in-demand occupations highlighted in the June issue of *Talent Talk*. Jessica mentioned that the second cycle of Going PRO finished with 53 submitted applications totaling \$3.3 million for training for local businesses.
- Hamilton Community Health Network will be holding their National Health Center Week event the week of August 25<sup>th</sup>.

XII. Adjournment

Seeing there was no other business, Kerbyson called the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2024, 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandi Mose, Secretary  
Stephanie Polmanteer, Administrative Specialist



Sandi Mose, Secretary



Date