



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MINUTES
December 13th, 2024
9:30 A.M.**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Chair Leanne Panduren.

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

Eighteen members were present. An X indicates present members.

Staff present were Jody Kerbyson, Sharon Bowen, Kelly Cook, Jessica Billiau, JulAnn Kuenzli, Wendy Paxton, Cindy Thornthwaite, and Stephanie Polmanteer. Other attendees present included: James Avery, Mary Babcock, Roger Ballard, Ellen Ellenburg, Brad Haggadone, Gary Howell, Bill Lutz, John Moody, Tom Young and Nick Morehead.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Panduren called for the approval of the agenda. Member Matt Ernst moved to approve the agenda. Member Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

III. Introductions

Members, staff, and other attendees introduced themselves.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

V. Action Items

a. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting on September 13th, 2024

Member Yvonne Prill moved to approve the September 13th, 2024 minutes. Member Mary Shelton supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

b. Approval to appoint Casie Stiles with Shiawassee RESD, to the Career Education Advisory Council (CEAC) as an Academic Educator under the Education Sector

Member Matt Ernst moved to appoint Casie Stiles. Member Yvonne Prill supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

c. Approval of GSTMW Plans

Member Mary Shelton moved to approve the GSTMW plans as presented by Sharon Bowen for:

Barrier Removal Employment Success (BRES); Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development (PROWD) and Michigan Citizen Reentry Initiative (MiCRI); Two - Food Assistance Employment and Training Plus (FAE&T Plus) plans; Young Professionals Plus; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Refugee Program; Partnership Accountability Training Hope (PATH) Transitional Support Services, and Michigan Skills Fund.

Member Sandi Mose supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

d. Approval of GSTMW Local Policies

Member Rick Baird moved to approve the Grievance and Complaint Policy, PI 21-02 Change 3, that was updated on November 22nd, 2024. Member Yvonne Prill supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

VI. Finance

Kelly Cook reviewed the expenditure report for July 1st, 2024 – October 31st, 2024 with the members. Member Pete Batistoni moved to approve the reports. Member Mary Shelton supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for discussion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

VII. Agency Updates

Jody Kerbyson shared that GSTMW held their Annual All-Staff meeting on December 6th, 2024 at the Lapeer Country Club. The All-Staff meeting is a time for all the GSTMW locations to gather and celebrate the agency's hard work and success while also taking part in training as an agency. Partners of GSTMW also attended the meeting, including Jobs for Michigan Graduates (JMG), Family Literacy Center (FLC), and Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC).

In October, GSTMW held its MiCareerQuest event at the Dort Federal Event Center. The event was successful in hosting 2,200 students and chaperones from 45 school districts. This year 80 occupations were highlighted through 60 different exhibits. Jody announced that the 2025 MiCareerQuest will be held on October 22nd at the Dort Federal Event Center. The kick-off meeting for the 2025 MiCareerQuest event will be held April 11th.

The agency has been utilizing virtual reality headsets they received from Transfr. In the last quarter, they had 246 people explore 404 careers using headsets. The top careers of interest were Registered Nurse, Surgical Technician, EMT, and Construction Laborer.

GSTMW is starting the recruitment process for its Apprenticeship Readiness Program with Howard Hipes, called the Environmental Career Worker Training. This program is an eleven-week class where participants will attend an in-person class, and learn off-site to receive credentials in OSHA 30, confined space, hazardous waste, first aid, and CPR. The program also leads participants through a multi-craft core curriculum. This year Fessler & Bowman and Niles will also be a part of the program by providing work experience to the students. An information session will be held for the program on January 7th, 2025 at Fessler & Bowman.

The state's Michigan Works! Association was recently awarded funding through the Michigan Skills Fund. Each Michigan Works! agency will be receiving a portion of the awarded funds to close the gap for short-term training.

Jody ended her updates by highlighting success stories from the agency's *Talent Talk*.

Jessica Billiau spoke on the trending diversity of companies receiving the Going PRO Talent Awards. The growing diversity seems to be reflective of the recent collaboration between the Business Solutions Professionals and the Apprenticeship Program at GSTMW. She mentioned that bringing the two departments closer together has been beneficial in aiding employers with retention and guiding job seekers to fulfilling careers. The Going PRO Cycle 1 closed with a total of 80 submitted applications, 74% were accepted and approved, resulting in 59 companies receiving a total of 3.7 million in funding for employee training.

Jessica let members know that GSTMW is a good resource for employers to use for advertising job openings and career opportunities.

VIII. Informational Items

- a) *Talent Talk* booklets were available at the meeting
- b) Board acronyms were included in the agenda
- c) 2025 Meeting dates were included in the agenda

IX. Partner Updates

- a) Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)– Steve Peterson started his update with the recognition of a Huron County counselor who recently received a promotion to a senior-level counselor position. He noted that in the short 5 years she has been with the agency, she has exceeded her goals and continues to excel in her role, making her a great asset that they're proud to have on board. Steve shared national data that currently shows MRS customers are obtaining the highest-paid employment in the nation. He explained that through the partnership with Michigan Works and their efforts to aid in job retention, they have been able to help disabled workers obtain and keep their positions, thus increasing their numbers as an agency. The overall eastern district performance numbers are reaching over 100% in applications, eligibility, planning, and outcomes. The agency's post-secondary measurable skills gains credential obtainment has also increased by 32% from the previous year.
- b) Department of Health & Human Services – Sandi Mose announced that the State Emergency Relief funds were brought off pause on October 1st, 2024. The relief is primarily used for evictions, and utility and water shut-offs. Consumer applications for this funding have increased by 85% and DHHS is currently processing these applications. Sandi also shared that she participated in the Interview Day event at the Tuscola Technology Center last month, where students were able to practice their interview skills. She mentioned that it was a rewarding experience to help students who would otherwise not get that opportunity.
- c) Adult Education – Mary Shelton provided a handout containing data for Adult Education in the region. She announced that the Family Literacy Center (FLC), this year to date, has a total of 64 GED obtainments, an increase of 18% from last year.
- d) Job Corp – Verona Terry announced that the Flint and Genesee Job Corp center currently ranks first out of 124 centers in the country for placing students into jobs, and fifth in the country for students obtaining a general educational development (GED) certification. Job Corps recently had their Community Relations Council meeting and were happy to have MiSTEM representatives, as well as Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS), Crime Stoppers, and Michigan Homeland Security, attend the meeting. She also shared that nine Job Corps students recently participated in GSTMW's Apprenticeship Program for Construction Trades. During the program they were able to work on-site with Fessler & Bowman for a Frankenmuth, MI, carpentry project resulting in five students being hired by the company.

X. Board Member Comments/Other Business

Commissioner Tom Young urged board members to share information about GSTMW on social media. He stated the resources the agency offers for career coaching and resume building are highly sought after and sharing the information will help the community.

Lisa Rogers with Hamilton Community Health Network announced that they have opened a ninth clinic, located in Whitmore Lake, in Livingston County. They plan to continue expansion in Genesee County.

Members and GSTMW staff discussed details about the Going PRO Talent Fund.

Ellen Ellenburg announced that due to recent election outcomes, she will no longer be on the Workforce Development Board as a Genesee County Commissioner. She thanked the Board for her time served and hopes to continue seeing good things happen for the communities.

XI. Adjournment

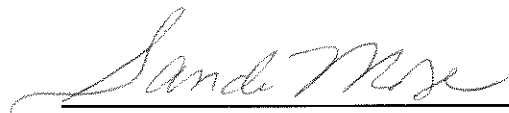
Leanne Panduren called for a motion to adjourn. Member Mary Shelton made the motion. Member Howard Hipes supported the motion. Chair Panduren called for a vote.

All members present voted AYE.

MOTION PASSED

Chair Panduren called the meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

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



Sandi Mose, Secretary

3-14-2025

Date