

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, June 11, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order:

- Ian Glasgow called to order the Capital Region Workforce Development Board meeting at 1:04pm on June 11, 2021 via Zoom

Roll Call:

Board Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Blais, NYS Dept. of Labor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hurley, Home Instead |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neenah Bland, ACAP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katherine Maciol, CEO |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Brady, Schenectady County DSS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Mandsager, Schenectady ARC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Brazie, ACCES-VR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elisa Martin, SCAP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colleen Costello, Vital Vio, Inc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseph McDonald, Maria College |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sonya Del Peral, Nine Pin Ciderworks | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Newcombe, CEG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lee Eck, IUPAT DC-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Denise Padula, Alchar Printing Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leola Edelin, Renaissance Hotel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phil Stenglein, SMWIA 83 (Sheet Metal Union) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Gerasia, Golub Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Joella Viscusi, Ambient Environmental, Inc. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Glasgow, Next Advance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Walker, Amazon |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Harrington, CDPHP | <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Westcott, TCI of NY LLC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Penny Hill, HVCC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Wilson-Sparrow, SUNY Schenectady |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maria Huntington, Cap. Reg. BOCES | |

Board Staff Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Williams, Executive Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Robbie- WIOA Fiscal Grant Recipient |
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Career Center Staff Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Bary – Schenectady County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael McLaughlin, Albany County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bailey Gardiner – Schenectady County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raphael Tucker, City of Albany |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Jones- City of Albany | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Slagle, Schenectady County Connects |

Guest Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie DeMuth (ACCES-VR) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Alexander- NYSDOL |
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Approval of Minutes:

Lee Eck made a motion to approve the board minutes from the April 9th, 2021 meeting, it was seconded by Mary Blais. All approved, none opposed or abstained; motion carried.

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Capital Region Labor Market Information Update:

Kevin Alexander presented on local labor market. Showed updated labor market data on NYSDOL website. Supplied statistics based on occupations and industries and growth shown pre-pandemic and numbers after pandemic. Noted the number of individuals in the labor force has decreased since pandemic started (315,000 current). Presented the numbers of individuals collecting Unemployment Insurance that is updated monthly and where they are house on the NYSDOL website.

Report from Youth & Emerging Worker committee & funding recommendations

Presented by Nathan Mandsager (The committees report was sent out with previous board notes)

Committee meet on May 24th. Presentation from Capital Region Sponsor-A-Scholar on programs in Albany, Schenectady, and Troy school districts. Presentation from WDI on Albany Multi-Craft Apprenticeship Preparation Program. WIOA Youth RFP Subcommittee formed of board members and staff and timeline as follows:

- Release of RFP – July 12
- Proposals due – August 13
- Subcommittee Review – August 16-August 27
- Recommendations to Youth & Emerging Worker Committee – August 30
- Recommendations to full WDB vote – September 10
- New WIOA Youth contracts start – October 1

Program Fiscal Year Centralized Board Budget

As per regulations, the WDB approves Centralized Budget. FY 21-22 Budget presented for Board approval. Proposed total budget has not changed for the last three years. Top part of budget - program operating cost (staff salary, supplies, travel, conferences, website). Bottom piece- admin cost –fiscal staff to operate as grant recipient of federal funds on behalf of Board.

Joseph McDonald made a motion to accept the FY 21-22 budget. It was seconded by Penny Hill. All in favor, budget approved.

Board Chair & Executive Director's Report:

Workforce Partnership Coalition – 25+ organizations who are involved in workforce development meeting regularly with a goal to break down silo and provide more comprehensive service so folks don't need to jump through so many hoops to get service or support for training. Matrix to do warm handoff in the works along with online data sharing/referral system.

Website – Currently working with Black Dog Designs for new website and in final stages. Anticipated new website should be up and running in the next two months.

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Summer Youth Employment – All Career Centers are gearing up right now- interviews- working on placements. In September staff will report out on programs. Right now, it's easy for teens to get employed at a healthy hourly rate, therefore the number of applications might decrease. Forms have been updated and streamlined that all providers have to use for WIOA youth programs as well as OSOS case management system training for data management.

Monthly hiring events through virtual platform – Continuing to hold monthly virtual hiring events. Held a few special projects for re-entry population or summer time employment on campuses. Many businesses say they are not interested in going back to the traditional in-person job fair model as this medium is more efficient.

Off-Shore Wind projects at Ports of Albany and Coeymans – Megan Daly (Port of Albany) and the CRWDB hosted key stakeholder meeting for organizations with OSW companies in order to get folks prepared for off-shore wind projects. Marmen (Denmark) group has facility in S. Dakota. The warm welcome that they have received from the Capital Region was wonderful. They say we all work together, support each other, and understand that people from all walks of life have access to these jobs. The five-facility building will start next spring. Hiring will be summer or fall of 2023. 350 FT employers- welders, industrial painters, etc. Also, the Port of Coeymans is modeling on-the-job training programs off similar programs in South Carolina.

“Work Pays” campaign – Collaborating with neighboring WDBs and ten career centers and local chambers to make sure people who were affected by the pandemic get back to work. Training opportunities will be provided to connect individuals to “train-up” even if it's not in the career they had prior to the pandemic.

Recertification of Career Centers – Developing what a Reimagined Career Center will look like- some services that we were doing in person can be done virtually (resumes can be done remotely). Still, this is the human service arena and still want to connect with people face-to-face. Policy and Oversight Committee will be leading the process.

Advocacy- American Job Plan and other federal and state funding needs are being messaged as a major need for economic and workforce development post-pandemic.

Other Business & Information Sharing

- Ian thanked the Board Members for being so involved in the process of contributing to the workforce development needs in the Region.
- Lee Eck noted a strong immediate need for workers in the painting industry

Next Meeting:

- Friday, September 10th at 1pm. This meeting may take place in person!

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Meeting Adjournment:

Lee Eck made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Phil Stenglein. All approved, none opposed or abstained; motion carried.