

- Resolution: 23-12 – Approval of Program Year 2024 Budget
Director Mayforth stated we are taking a 12.3% cut in funding but will have carry-over to compensate for the loss. Chairman Cooper asked for a motion of approval. He next asked for questions or comments; there were none.
 - Motion: Mr. Killmer Second: Mr. Aiken Approved: Unanimously
- Resolution: 23-13 – Approval of Youth Services for Program Year 2024
Chairman Cooper asked for a motion of approval. He next asked for questions or comments; there were none.
 - Motion: Mr. Todd Second: Ms. Dwyer Approved: Unanimously
- Resolution: 23-14 – Renewal of the One-Stop Operator Agreement
Chairman Cooper asked for a motion of approval. He next asked for questions or comments; there were none.
 - Motion: Ms. Pettit Second: Mr. Killmer Approved: Unanimously
- Resolution: 23-15 – Revision of Self-Sufficiency Wage
Director Mayforth and Chairman Cooper discussed the reasons for the increase in the self-sufficiency wage to \$25.00. Chairman Cooper asked for a motion of approval. He next asked for questions or comments; there were none.
 - Motion: Ms. Pettit Second: Mr. Hagemann Approved: Unanimously

Guest Speakers:

There were three guest speakers from NYS DOL present today. Dana Politis, Associate Commissioner for Workforce Development; Pamela Miller, Bureau Manager, Career Services and Central Support; and Laurie Thomson, Bureau Manager, Business Engagement and Strategy.

Presentation:

Ms. Politis discussed the broader goals of the Office of New Americans, to include programs, statewide workforce goals, ensuring that customers know employment processes and their rights, and the importance of matching skills and interests to jobs and supportive services. She next gave an overview of the different classes of immigrants and refugees entering the state. Ms. Politis stated it can be a long process to receive the documentation needed to work legally in NYS. There is a collaborative effort between the Department of State, Department of Labor, Public Health, and other entities such as school districts, mental health, literacy and language programs, etc. to assist these New Americans. Housing has been the largest issue that communities face. Language and transportation also present barriers. Board members had many questions for Ms. Politis and further discussion ensued.

Ms. Thomson informed the board that her department assists businesses across the state with regional outreach, job postings, career fairs, understanding available tax credits, on-the-job training programs, and general labor market information.

Ms. Miller discussed that her department employs a holistic customer service model to serve unemployed, underemployed, and youth workers through free services including: assessments, language interpretations, job search/coaching, resume/job applications, one-on-one employment counseling, employee workshops (onsite and virtual), and job fairs (onsite and virtual).

One-Stop Operator Report: Due to time constraints, One-Stop Operator Munson’s report was brief. She did inform the board of the upcoming county email and website address changes, the possibility of hiring an Outreach Coordinator, and the need to boost public awareness of the services we offer.

Executive Director’s Report/Financial Report: Director Mayforth shared that we have four new hires in various positions and one staff member who will be leaving in early August due to a PCS move. WIOA reauthorization is still a possibility, with a new name if approved, A Stronger Workforce for America (ASWA). There are significant revisions to the program, details and additional information is included in the PowerPoint that will be shared with the board after the meeting.

Director Mayforth stated that while our unemployment numbers are up, we are quite low in comparison to previous years. Labor participation is better than pre-pandemic, female employment is down due to the lack of available childcare, people are retiring earlier and fewer people age 55+ are in the labor market, most people that become unemployed are able to quickly secure a new job on their own without visiting the WorkPlace. Director Mayforth also discussed the self-sufficiency wage, and the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) report was discussed.

An overview of this Spring’s events included:

- Spring Job Fair: The quality of job seekers has increased from previous years.
- WorkPlace Forum: The subject was childcare, which is still a major issue in our area
- Clean Energy Conference: Director Mayforth spoke about employment and training.
- Career Jam: 20 people attended from Albany with the Commissioner of Labor. The after-action review is scheduled for June 24th. One suggestion from both schools and vendors is to increase the time youth are on site.

Upcoming events include our Fall Job Fair in September, the October WorkPlace Forum on housing, and Workforce Connections in November. Dates will be sent to board members as they become available.

Roundtable Discussion:

- Teacher Ambassador Program
- New egg hatchery (CWT) – will produce one million eggs per week
- County busing vs city jurisdiction – How can we get employees to work?

Next Meeting: September 19, 2024 – Location TBD

Adjournment: Mr. Aiken made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pettit seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 am.

WDB Attendance:

Aiken, Rob
Anderson, George
Cooper, Matthew
Davis, Brittany
Dupee, Dan
Dwyer, Amy
Garno, Anne
Gulliver, Daren
Hagemann, Robert

Keruski, John
Killmer, Robert
Marks, Shellie
Mayforth, Cheryl
Murray, Lynn
Patrick, Shena
Pettit, Jody
Todd, Stephen

Others in Attendance:

Matteson, Jay
Munson, Angel
Reis, Julie
Dana Politis
Pamela Miller
Laurie Thomson