

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

8:30 A.M.

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESENT: A. Bishop, I. Burbank, D. Burrows, L. Dillon, M. Gold, C. Haynes, A. Hendrix, K. Kersey, J. Lance, P. Levesque, J. Mareane, J. Matteson, S. Peake, S. Pronti, C. Reckdenwald, K. Smith, M. Stamm, M. Stazi, Talarski, J. Tavares

EXCUSED: M. Abdelrehim, L. Patz

ABSENT: B. Allen, D. Zimmerman

EX-OFFICIO: D. Bradac, L. Holmes

GUESTS: C. Harris, K. Cerasaro, New York State Department of Labor; D. Hessler, TST BOCES; NYSDOL; David Goodness, Workforce Development Institute; M. Armstrong, Tompkins County Area Development

STAFF: J. Mattick, J. Luu

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burrows called the meeting to order at 8:30.a.m. Mr. Burrows thanked Ms. Patz for her leadership for the last two years. Introductions followed with each member speaking briefly about workforce challenges they encounter both in their organizations and within the community. Examples included attracting qualified talent when competing with large metropolitan areas, attracting both high level and entry level employees who are willing to be trained, diversification of their workforce, and the impact of the increase of the minimum wage on employers.

Mr. Levesque arrived at 8:35 a.m.

Mr. Kersey arrived at 8:40 a.m.

Ms. Hendrix arrived at 8:40 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Mr. Stamm, seconded by Mr. Levesque and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of May 26, 2015 as submitted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The board reviewed the following actions taken by the Executive Committee between Board meetings:

June 2015 Executive Committee Meeting

Approval of WIOA Youth Contract with the Tompkins County Office of Employment and Training

The Youth Employment Council Performance and Evaluation Committee met and recommended a one-year contract from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 with the Office of Employment and Training in the amount of \$330,000. The recommendation was adopted by the Executive Committee at their June 2, 2105 meeting, on behalf of the Workforce Development Board.

July 2015 Executive Committee Meeting

2015-2016 Workforce Development Board Budget Approval

Following review by the Executive Committee, the Workforce Development Board budget for the period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 was adopted by the Executive Committee at their July 2015 meeting, on behalf of the Workforce Development Board.

2015-2016 Office of Employment and Training WIOA Budget Approval

Following review by the Executive Committee, the WIOA budget as presented by the Tompkins County Office of Employment of Training for the period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 was adopted by the Executive Committee at their July 2015 meeting, on behalf of the Workforce Development Board.

September 2015 Executive Committee

Procurement and Property Management Policies

Following a procurement and property management review conducted by New York State it was recommended that the Board have a policy in place that contains an addendum to Tompkins County's current procurement policy, that NYS will be consulted prior to purchases exceeding \$5,000.

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These recommendations were adopted by the Executive Committee at their September 1, 2015 meeting, on behalf of the Workforce Development Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Board officers are in place and committee memberships are being populated.

YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

Ms. Hendrix reported that the Performance and Evaluation Committee (a subcommittee of the Youth Services Committee) will be meeting with the WIOA Youth provider to review transition to the new regulations. She noted there has been a shift in the law placing greater emphasis on out of school youth. The Youth Services Committee has met and had a review of the Summer Youth Employment Program. A detailed report should be available at the November Board meeting.

A "What's Next Expo" is being planned for spring 2016 at Ithaca College. The event is planned for high school juniors and seniors and out-of-school youth. Five workshops will be held along with a panel discussion. This event will build on the event that was held at Newfield High School previously. It will allow one-on-one interaction with employers and will host the owner of Short Stop Deli as the keynote speaker.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The adopted budgets for the year along with financial reports for July were reviewed. Being one month into the new fiscal year, there isn't much to report other than things are on track at this point.

NEW BUSINESS – PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Martha Armstrong, Vice President of Economic Development Planning, Tompkins County Area Development gave a presentation on recent labor market data from 2010-2015. Her analysis indicates that coming out of the recession there was strong growth between 2010-2013 in Tompkins County, but then things flattened out in 2014. On average for 2014 the public sector was down 500 jobs and the private sector was up 700 jobs. Looking at 2015, softening began in the fall of 2014 and continued into spring 2015 with a few ups, but mostly down in the DOL estimated monthly figures through June 2015. The DOL data shows July 2015 employment was up from July 2014 by 1,100 jobs (1.7%). Based on the most recent 12 months of data from DOL, 2015 is trending toward slow, 0.3% annual growth rate. She stated we are experiencing some flattening of employment growth

following a truly robust 2.8% surge from 2013 to 2014 and private sector employment appears to be doing better than public sector. She noted the DOL margin of error for a small county such as Tompkins, is very large for the monthly estimates and better data will be available in early 2016 when DOL adjusts their figures for 2015.

Mr. Mareane stated that both consumer and sales tax revenue are down for the last quarter. Unemployment numbers have also gone down, but welfare numbers have not gone down at the same rate.

The group discussed the increase in minimum wage at length and the potential impact it could have on businesses hiring especially smaller employers.

WDB DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Mattick reported that the WDB and TCAD are moving forward with advanced manufacturing skills needs assessment for Tompkins, Cortland and Tioga counties to find out what types of training needs are within those counties. The consultant is funded by the IDA. Lack of a skilled workforce in the region is a consistent theme when visiting manufacturers.

She reported that the summer youth employment program is wrapping up as is the program monitoring. Fiscal monitoring will be conducted in November/December.

In October a national trainer will be conducting training for Center staff around WIOA changes and how partners work together. The training is being made available through State funding and cover a three county region.

ONE-STOP OPERATOR REPORT

Ms. Bradac distributed a handout that includes resources and services available to customers/businesses and program participants at the Career Center. It is included at the end of the minutes. She reported that there will be a fall job fair held at the Shops at Ithaca Mall on October 7, 2015 from 1-4 p.m. with the focus being on employers who have current job vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Mr. Pronti, seconded by Mr. Levesque and unanimously adopted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 a.m. The next meeting will be held November 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at the Tompkins County Public Library.