

Tompkins County Workforce Development Board

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 | 121 E. Seneca Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

Present: S. Pronti, T. Bruer, K. Cerasaro, S. Cerquone, J. Cometti, K. Franzese, D. Harrington, L. Holden, P. Leveque, H. McDaniel, S. Pennell, D. Vreeland, S. Waight, C. Walters, C. Whitmore, Y. Wu

Excused: K. Babuka, K. Kephart, C. Malcolm, R. Olson, K. Shanks-Booth, J. Tavares, A. Tunson, T. Tarshus, S. Waight

Staff: C. Sponn, D. Achilles, S. Frost, J. Rusk

Guest: S. Paczkowski, New York State Department of Labor; J. Palladino, TST BOCES; E. Finster, New York State Department of Labor; M. Smith, Field representative for Teamster Union

Call to Order

Mr. Pronti, Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Mr. Pronti welcomed Board members and new Staff member Ms. Rusk, Workforce Development Specialist and Mx. Frost, Communications Specialist

Board Action Items

Approval of Minutes - March 26, 2024

It was moved by Ms. Franzese, seconded by Mr. Levesque, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of March 26, 2024, as written.

Approval to Contract 2024 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

It was moved by Mr. Holden, seconded by Ms. McDaniel, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve to move into contract negotiations for the 2024 Summer Youth Employment Program.

Approval to Rename Services to Individual with Disabilities Committee to Disabilities Workforce Committee

It was moved by Ms. Whitmore, seconded by Ms. Vreeland, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the name change of the Services to Individuals with Disabilities Committee to Disabilities Workforce Committee.

Approval of Updated Disabilities Workforce Committee Duties

It was moved by Ms. Whitmore, seconded by Ms. Franzese, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the updated Disabilities Workforce Committee Duties.

Apprenticeships 101 & Discussion with Erin Finster, NYSDOL Workforce Programs Specialist and Supervisor for Apprenticeship Training

Ms. Finster's presentation is attached.

Workforce Development Director Update

WIOA Legislation Updates

Mr. Sponn reported NYATEP has been giving WDBs guidance on the renewal of WIOA. Currently NYATEP is advocating on behalf of the Boards in Congress.

Deputy Director of Board Interviews

Mr. Sponn reported Deputy Director Interviews are complete and hopes to make a decision this week.

Application for NDWG for Opioid Crisis

Mr. Sponn reported the Tompkins WDB applied for a NDWG opportunity with NYSDOL. The grant would provide funding for those impacted by the Opioid crisis and even those who know individuals impacted. Funding can go towards training funding and work experience opportunities.

Trades Council Meeting for Tompkins Build

Mr. Sponn reported Ms. Szabo of IAED is working to create Tompkins Build that will be structured similar to Syracuse Build for construction and trades.

Micron Regional Construction Industry Partnership in Syracuse

Mr. Sponn reported that leaders in Syracuse are working with Micron to move forward with environmental study and to start building in 2025.

Youth Assertive Community Treatment Program

Mr. Sponn reported Ms. Shanks-Booth from Tompkins County Youth Services is working with the community to help with youth that have mental health issues and connected Workforce Development to the Children's Home Youth Assertive Community Treatment Program. Mr. Sponn met with leadership to discuss collaborations.

Energy Warriors Career Pathways

Mr. Sponn reported he is in discussions with Mr. Airewele of CCE in finding employment partners for the career pathways programs. Mr. Sponn reported they are also exploring more ways to collaborate through different funding streams. Mr. Sponn

reported Ms. Beck of formerly of BlocPower now works with NYSERDA, but discussions will continue with BlocPower.

Youth Employment Resource Team

Mr. Sponn reported the March meeting was held at the Learning Web. The April meeting will be held at Tompkins Cortland Community College for a tour and discussion. In May the group will go to Ithaca ReUse for a tour.

Oven Fresh Job Fair

Mr. Sponn reported that the Oven Fresh Job Fair was held on May 16, 2024 at Tompkins Cortland Community College and was able to make connections with businesses and potential participants. Mr. Sponn intends on being present at future job fairs to promote the department and engage with the community.

Menlo Micro

Mr. Sponn reported he met with HR leadership from Menlo Micro. There were concerns over childcare and transportation. Mr. Sponn reported he shared available resources and provided more information on the services of Workforce Development.

Career Center Update

Mr. Cerasaro reported to support the design and implementation of career-readiness curricula statewide, the New York State Department of Labor in partnership with the New York State Education Department has launched the first New York State Department of Labor Educator Career Development Ambassador Program, a four-week summer training for teachers. Tompkins County will have one likely start in July.

Mr. Cerasaro reported that the new Business Service Representative at the Career Center has been a good fit and working out well. Mr. Lyman is a dedicated business service representative that will meet with businesses and connect them to the Career Center. He will focus on OJT's, business issues, job fairs to target different sectors, and will work with Ms. Sloan from Workforce Development.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Mr. Pronti reported that the Executive Committee has been in discussions about staffing and what can be accomplished with a full staff.

One Stop Operations and Oversight Committee

Ms. Franzese reported the One Stop Operations and Oversight Committee sent out updates after the last Workforce Development Board meeting. The One Stop has two new

members: Ms. Whitmore of TC3 and Ms. Walters of TST BOCES. The Committee is also talking about the Career Center and if there are needs for a security guard.

Youth Oversight Committee

Mr. Sponn reported that the Youth Oversight Committee has been working on 2024 Summer Youth Employment Program contract amounts.

Governance and Membership Committee

Mr. Sponn reported that the Governance and Membership Committee will meet next on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

Services to Individuals with Disabilities Committee

Mr. Sponn reported that the Services to Individuals with Disabilities Committee has been working on a new Committee name and duties. The Committee also had a presentation from Wegmans and how they are making accommodation for individuals with disabilities.

Unfinished Business

None reported.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 09:58 a.m.

Tompkins County Workforce Development Board ~~Services to Individuals with Disability~~ Disabilities Workforce Committee

The ~~Services to Individuals with Disability~~ Disabilities Workforce Committee is responsible for advising the WDB on ~~matters related to~~ accessibility and the provision in the workforce along with the provision of disability informed services to Career Center customers, ~~with disabilities~~. The ~~Services to Individuals with Disabilities~~ Workforce Disabilities Committee shall also provide policy guidance as it relates to services to individuals with disabilities.

The Committee:

- Advocates for customers with disabilities
- Raises awareness of disability as a civil rights and diversity issue
- Promotes collaboration between service providers
- ~~Responsible to ensure that training for staff on providing supports for or accommodations to, finding employment opportunities for, individuals with disabilities~~
- Seeks ways to increase inclusive employment opportunities with local businesses
- Supports and collaborates with the Workforce Development Disability Resource Coordinator

Members of the committee shall include:

- WDB members
- ~~Self-advocates~~ Advocates for individuals with disabilities
- Providers of employment services, ~~including those who employ individuals with disabilities in competitive integrated employment~~
- Representatives of national disability advocacy organizations for adults with disabilities
- Experts with a background in academia or research and expertise in employment and wage policy issues for individuals with disabilities
- Representatives from the employer community or national employer, ~~and~~
- Other individuals or representatives of organizations with expertise on increasing opportunities for ~~competitive integrated~~ employment for individuals with disabilities

Minimum Meeting Requirements:

- Bi-monthly

WE ARE YOUR DOL



NYS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP

The background of the slide is a blurred image of a whiteboard. Several white markers are visible, with blue and green ones being more prominent. The markers are out of focus, creating a bokeh effect. The overall color palette is light blue and white.

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

What is Registered Apprenticeship (RA)?

- Real jobs
- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Related instruction (RI)
- Programs conducted by employers (sponsors)
- Industry specific standard training outlines

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

What are Apprentices?

- Full-time employees
- Produce high quality work
- Increasing scale of wages
- Attend minimum of 144 hours RI per year
- Operate under close supervision of a skilled worker
- Receive a Certificate of Completion

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

Program Types:

- Individual Non-Joint Programs
- Individual Joint Programs
- Group Non-Joint Programs
- Group Joint Programs

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

What are the benefits for businesses?

- Highly skilled workforce
- Pipeline of qualified applicants
- Increased efficiency and productivity
- Train workers without losing valuable production time
- Structured and consistent training program
- Increase employee retention and attendance
- Improve employer/employee relationships
- High-quality employment and training opportunities

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

What are the benefits for employees?

- Learn skills you can use throughout your entire career
- Train with industry leaders
- Earn a salary as you train for your career
- Grow your salary as you learn more
- Join companies that pay well and offer great benefits
- Upon completion, have little-to-no student debt
- Earn a credential from NYS upon graduation
- Qualify for highly coveted career opportunities

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

Statewide Data

- **897 Total Programs**
- **602 Total Sponsors**
- **16,851 Total Apprentices**
- **500 Certificates of Completion**

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP OVERVIEW

Registered Apprenticeship Expansion

- New occupations/trades
- New training approaches



**BECOMING A SPONSOR OF A NYS REGISTERED
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

HOW TO BECOME A SPONSOR

- Call (315) 967-4616 or email erin.finster@labor.ny.gov
- Facilities Visit
- Select Trade(s)
- Select Instruction Providers

FUNDS AVAILABLE

EMPIRE STATE APPRENTICESHIP TAX CREDIT (ESATC)

- For NYS RA sponsors or signatories
- Tax credit for apprentices employed full-time for at least six months
- Enhanced tax credits
 - Disadvantaged youth
 - Apprentices with a mentor
- Focus on demand occupations

APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION GRANT

Apprenticeship Expansion Grant (AEG) Request for Applications (RFA)- Bid Number AEG-4

- \$3M in funding available (100% of this RFA is financed with federal funds)
- Goal is to expand RA
- 130 apprentices with a focus on underrepresented populations
- Apprentices to enter trades in high-demand occupations
- Funding will cover costs associated with training apprentices through RA
- [Funding Opportunities | Department of Labor \(ny.gov\)](#)

WE ARE YOUR DOL



<https://dol.ny.gov/apprenticeship/overview>

QUESTIONS?

The New York State Apprenticeship Program, at the time of publication of this document (9/2023), is funded from the following Federal sources: a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant of approximately \$248.7 million, and State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (SAEF) grants totaling \$7.5 million. These Federal grants constitute 100% of its budget. Zero dollars (0%) were financed by non-governmental sources.