

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

April 23, 2026

The Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board met in person at Michigan Works! Clinton Township Career Center on Thursday, April 23, 2026, with 16 board members present during roll call and no members arriving after roll call to make a quorum. The following members listed below joined:

IN-PERSON ROLL CALL:

Vicky Rowinski
Jodi Henry
Krista Barr
Shannon Williams
William Peterson
Heather Dombrowski
Debby Wolfe
Dan Casey

James Sawyer
Tatjana Savich
Karen Arondoski
Brianne Steele
Lesley Murphy
Pete Lacey
Jason Peterson
John Tucker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kandyce Smith, Deputy Director
Christina Seibert, Board Secretary
Gwen McNeal, Bureau of Services for Blind Persons
Tom Heuerman, Bureau of Services for Blind Persons
Jillian Geyman, Gesher Human Services

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Jodi Henry called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken with 16 members. No members arrived after roll call, and a total of 16 members were present, allowing a quorum.

3. Guest Introductions

Anthony Seibert, 6th grade from St. Mary's, attended the meeting for Bring Your Child to Work Day.

4. Hearing of the Public/ Public Comment

No hearing from the public.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

1. February 2026

WILLIAM PETERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SUPPORTED BY LELSEY MURPHY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Chairperson Report

No chairperson report update.

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TO: *Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board*
FR: Jodi Henry, Chair
RE: Workforce Development Board Meeting
DA: April 23, 2026
Continued

7. Board Action Items

A. Going PRO Talent Fund FY26 Cycle I budget and grant acceptance

Approve the receipt of funds for the FY26 Going PRO Talent Fund Cycle I grant in the amount of \$1,018,429 and the submission of any required plans or grants for this program.

Going PRO Talent Fund grant supports employer-led training initiatives to develop and retain a skilled workforce. The program provides competitive funding to employers, through Michigan Works! Agencies, to train new and current employees in high-demand skills that lead to industry-recognized credentials and career advancement. Employers are required to participate in training design and commit to retaining employees after completion, with reimbursement tied to successful training and retention outcomes. The policy also defines allowable training activities, funding limits, targeted incentives for hiring individuals from priority populations, and fiscal reporting requirements. Overall, the initiative strengthens workforce development by aligning training with employer needs and promoting economic growth through talent development.

B. AY26 WIOA Statewide Young Professionals 2026 budget and grant acceptance

Approve the receipt of funds for the Young Professionals grant in the amount of \$184,410 and the submission of any required plans or grants for this program.

The 2026 Young Professionals (YP) initiative grant, aimed at serving youth and young adults ages 14–24. Its primary goal is to increase career awareness, provide work-based learning opportunities, and reduce youth unemployment by connecting participants to meaningful employment pathways. The policy defines eligibility requirements, allowable activities (such as work experience, training, and supportive services), and guidelines for program implementation. Overall, the initiative is designed to help young individuals build skills and achieve long-term economic self-sufficiency.

C. FY26 G/F/GP Young Professional Plus 2026 budget and grant acceptance

Approve the receipt of funds for the Young Professional Plus grant in the amount of \$58,967 and the submission of any required plans or grants for this program.

The Young Professionals Plus (YPP) initiative grant is designed to provide youth and young adults ages 14–24 with career exposure, work experience, and supportive services to improve employment outcomes and promote economic self-sufficiency. Unlike traditional WIOA-funded programs, participants do not need to meet WIOA eligibility requirements, allowing for broader access, including targeting ALICE households. The policy details allowable activities, flexible service delivery, and reduced administrative and performance requirements compared to WIOA programs. Overall, the initiative expands workforce opportunities and complements existing youth programming by increasing accessibility and reducing barriers to participation.

SHANNON WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE ALL BOARD ITEMS A-C, SUPPORTED BY WILLIAM PETERSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Board Vice Chair

Kandyce Smith nominated William Peterson for the Workforce Development Board Vice Chair .

SHANNON WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE WILLIAM PETERSON AS BOARD VICE CHAIR, SUPPORTED BY DAN CASEY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Deputy Director's Report

The board received a report from the Deputy Director on federal, state, and agency updates. Other items in the report include the WIOA enrollment report and the Service Center traffic report.

9. Informational Items

- A. Member Highlights
 - i. Shannon Williams

10. Hearing of the Public/ Public Comment

No hearing from the public.

11. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

12. Scheduling of Next Meeting:

The meeting will be held at Vintage Tavern, located at 103 Michigan St., Port Huron, MI 48060, on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 4:00 pm. Members will be notified, and packets will be sent electronically.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Seibert

Christina Seibert,
Recording Secretary

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