

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (SAWDB)
MEETING
August 20, 2024
9:00 AM
Virtual via Zoom**

AGENDA

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Welcome, Introductions and Call to Order	Cory Sisto, SAWDB Chair
Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2024 *	Cory Sisto, SAWDB Chair
Executive Committee Actions* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 11, 2024• July 9, 2024 • Staff Report	
Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Red/Green Report• PY'24 Budget*• Request to transfer \$150,000 from Dislocated Worker to Adult *• Request for Support – Huntingdon Fall Job Fair*	Jennifer Sklodowski, SAWDB Director
Young Adult Council Meeting Actions	Sharon Clapper, Council Chair
One-Stop Operator Update	Bradley Burger, OSO Lead Representative
Other Business	Cory Sisto, SAWADB Chair
Public Comment	
Adjournment*	<i>*Requires Formal Action</i>

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Quarterly Meeting
May 14, 2024
Held via Zoom Meeting Platform**

MEETING MINUTES

Members in Attendance

Brock Kull	Manpower
Cory Sisto	IFC
Craig Schield	OVR
Joshua Miller	Somerset Trust Company
Julia Brulia	Gateway Travel Plaza
Keith Baker	BWPO
Linda Thomson	JARI
Robert Parsons	B & B Designed Systems
Ron Aldom	Somerset County Chamber
Rosalie Danchanko	Highlands Health
Sharon Clapper	Clapper's Industries
Dr. Steve Nunez	PHCC
Wade Baumgartner	Regional Council of Carpenters 423

Non-Members in Attendance

Aaron Thomas	Tableland Services
Amy Kimmel	Tableland Services
Amy Horwath	Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies
Anne Garrison	Tableland Services
Apryl Dolgas	Rapid Response
Barb Covert	E & T
Brad Burger	Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies
Carl Metzgar	State Representative
Brian Fochtman	Somerset County Commission
Debbie Ankney	Tableland Services
Gwen Fisher	PA CareerLink® Blair/Bedford County
Heather Saly	PA CareerLink® Cambria County
Irvin Kimmel	Somerset County Commission
Lisa Phillips	Tableland Services
Pamela Tokar-Ickes	Somerset County Commission
Sarah Helman	Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies
Jennifer Sklodowski	SAP&DC
Tim Baranik	SAP&DC
Jim Walker	SAP&DC
Jill Reigh	SAP&DC
Carrie Mills	SAP&DC

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Cory Sisto called the meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board (SAWDB) to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Sharon Clapper introduced the special guest House Representative Mr. Carl Metzgar, Commissioner Mr. Irvin Kimmel, Commissioner Ms. Pamela Tokar-Ickes and Commissioner Mr. Brian Fochtman. Ms. Clapper thanked the guest for being supporters of the Workforce Education activities in Somerset Counties. Mr. Metzgar recently spoke to students about the array of opportunities in the Ag industry. All four of the guests recently attended Ag Day in Somerset County with 800 8th grade students which was hosted at Pennwood Farms.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CARL METZGAR

Ms. Sharon Clapper introduced State Representative Mr. Carl Metzgar. Mr. Metzgar spoke of the budget cycle in Harrisburg, and what is on the agenda. He spoke about the changes needing to be made for training employees going forward. Mr. Metzgar spoke of Grow PA which is providing scholarships for students who want to work in Pennsylvania in the highest need areas, such as nursing, engineering, etc. the scholarship recipients will then have to work in Pennsylvania for the next seven years, if they leave Pennsylvania the scholarship will have to be paid back. Out of state students can apply for the Merit Scholarship through state universities, which students are offered the same incentive. Mr. Metzgar spoke of a proposal that per every dollar spent on basic education, 20 cents will be funded to the Career and Technology schools to help with trade programs. Across the commonwealth the wait list for the welding program alone exceeds 200 students alone, because the Career and Technology schools aren't adequately funded.

Ms. Sharon Clapper asked Mr. Metzgar about the Teacher in the Workplace grant, which afforded teachers the opportunity to visit various industries, to talk about employers in our region, the skillsets that are required for different jobs, in return the teachers took the knowledge into the classroom and developed lesson plans and utilized those plans with their students. She also spoke of the SLIP Program; to give them an opportunity to practice the skills they are developing within their chosen career field. Ms. Clapper asked if there was any extra funding to keep those programs in the commonwealth. Mr. Metzgar believes the grants are a priority and feels that the funding can continue.

Ms. Linda Thomson asked if Grow PA included community colleges, for students who are going into specialized training. Mr. Metzgar said that Grow PA does include community colleges.

Mr. Cory Sisto spoke of the district budget issues that are in the forefront, he asked how likely the revision of funding is so there is a balance between public school budgets and charter school funding. Mr. Metzgar said that charter school reform is on the proposal, especially special education. Special education funding needs to be revised along with establishing transparency, along with that he doesn't believe we will see an increase in basic education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 12, 2024, MEETING

Mr. Cory Sisto asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2024, SAWDB meeting. There were no other questions, concerns, or discussions regarding the minutes.

Mr. Brock Kull entered a motion to approve the March 12, 2024 SAWDB meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Joshua Miller seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The Executive Committee Actions from the March 12, 2024, and April 9, 2024, meetings were included in the meeting packet.

Mr. Brock Kull entered a motion to approve the March 12, 2024, and April 9, 2024, Executive Committee Actions. Mr. Joshua Miller seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

STAFF REPORT

The Staff Report included in the meeting packet provided updates on the Business Education Partnership Grant, Budget/Expenditure Report, and Performance & Service Delivery-Related Statistics.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Red/Green Report

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski reviewed the Budget Summary and stated that it reflects nine months' worth of expenditure. Invoices were due by April 12th, so therefore this report reflects data that is one month behind.

Providers have met or exceeded the 80% requirement and as a region providers met and exceeded the 80% requirement.

Ms. Sklodowski reviewed TANF funding results, Goodwill relinquished funding giving E&T and Tableland each \$25K. Goodwill had current staff vacancies and became in a unique position where they were able to honor the request of their partners while maintaining a strong summer program for the tri-county area.

Ms. Sklodowski shared TANF allocations were received, for PY '24 the funding is set at \$789,711.89. She is currently monitoring the proposed TANF regulatory changes, if the changes as drafted by the Biden administration would go into full effect \$25M in Youth Development Funding would be eliminated. PWDA has submitted a comment expressing concern and asked that the local Workforce Board Directors speak with legislators to express the need for TANF funding.

Ms. Sklodowski spoke of the PWDA conference in Hershey PA and the board director of Philadelphia voiced concerns of the loss of TANF funding, and in Philadelphia alone losing this funding will displace 9000 Youth Workers for the summer program. She spoke of inviting federal legislators to come and experience the summer programs in hopes they can sway the decision. If the funding is lost, WIOA will have to be utilized for our area.

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski reviewed the second page of the Red/Green Report and stated that it reflects PY '23 quarterly expenditure rates as measured against the 20% and the 75% expenditure requirements. Both Work Experience and Out of School Youth have met and exceeded the goals put forth by the state. WIOA reauthorization could be brought up for consideration by the senate committee as early as June.

Additional Service Delivery Awards

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski met with the fiscal department at the commission and reviewed the spending and additional funding is needed for Goodwill and Tableland needs additional Dislocated Worker funding to get through June 30th. Ms. Sklodowski is asking for an additional \$175K of reserve for the providers, \$87,500 for Goodwill and \$87,500 for Tableland.

Ms. Linda Thomson made a motion to approve the allocation of \$175,000 from Dislocated Worker funding for Goodwill and Tableland. Ms. Sharon Clapper seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Additionally, Ms. Sklodowski is requesting \$90K of Youth reserve to aid E&T and Tableland.

Ms. Linda Thomson asked what the funding was needed for and who the funding was for.

Ms. Sarah Helman discussed that dislocated workers that aren't securing employment on their own are requiring additional support.

Ms. Linda Thomson made a motion to approve the allocation of \$90,000 of Youth Reserve to aid E&T and Tableland. Ms. Sharon Clapper seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Method of TANF Funding

Ms. Sklodowski discussed the PY '24 funding which is \$789,711.89. The allocations will be based on the county's percentage of TANF youth, this method was used last year and provided successful in awarding the needed funding.

Mr. Sharon Clapper made a motion to approve the method of TANF funding. Ms. Julia Brulia seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

ELECTION OF SAWDB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski referred to the list of nominees and that there is an opening for a fourth non-private sector member and called for any additional nominees from the floor, to which no one was nominated.

Mr. Joshua Miller made a motion to accept the ballad as presented. Mr. Wade Baumgartner seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

PY '24 Draft Budget

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski referred to the handout which is the first incriminate budget for 2024. The total WIOA Title I funding that's anticipated is \$4,109,698.40 for the Southern Alleghenies region. \$264,033.08 in Adult funding will be available July 1, 2024, the remaining Adult funds will be available October 1, 2024 in the amount of \$1,079,020.34.

There is a bit of difference in the allocation in Youth Title I funding, which is only received once in a fiscal year, therefore the funds in the amount of \$1,472,730.83 will be available on July 1, 2024.

In regard to Title I Dislocated Worker anticipated funding the first increment will be available July 1, 2024, in the amount of \$317,472.36 with a second increment being made available on October 1, 2024 in the amount of \$1,155,258.47. Both increments totaling \$1,472,730.83. The carryover that is shown on the budget is based on a worse case scenario, but there would be an opportunity for additional carryover. The first increment budget is designed to get through September with the second increment coming in October.

REVIEW OF YOUNG ADULT COUNCIL UPDATE

Ms. Sharon Clapper congratulated Ms. Roalie Danchanko and Ms. Debbi Prosser for being recognized by PA Business Central as outstanding women working in the nonprofit organization.

Ms. Clapper spoke of Dr. Dena Mobis accepting the position of Vice-chair.

Ms. Clapper shared the activities from the presentation from the Young Adult Council meeting on May 8th which was given by Ms. Carole Kakabar. Ms. Kakabar who is the co-director of a grant that the IU has been operating over the last few years, which is the PA Smart Grant. Some of the activities include:

- STEM outreach centers
- Elevate Her camps
- Community Cafes
- Teacher Workforce Expos
- Teacher Safaris

There are a variety of dates and locations for the programs. The events being held bring families together and have also sponsored Somerset County Ag days.

Ms. Clapper asked the Young Adult Council what the biggest obstacle was the providers face, which was mental health issues, and Youth needing more support.

Ms. Clapper spoke of the Business Education Partnership Grant which gives an opportunity to offer larger events such as Career Fairs, Job Fairs, Somerset Ag days, etc. These activities are open to over 2,000 youth in the area.

PRESENTATION: YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Mr. Cory Sisto introduced Ms. Angie Richard from Croyle Nielson Therapeutic Associates to speak on mental health for the youth which age ranges 16-30 years. The focus is for companies to make sure mental health is a priority and more engaged to retain higher retention also, address the basic needs and what effects turn over.

Some things that really affect young employees coming into the workforce are:

- substance abuse in rural areas which in turn causes a higher turnover rate.
- Smaller Social networks, the skills to interact aren't there.
- Generation poverty which generations have the "oh well" mindset. Poverty is seen as trauma because poverty is the lack of basic needs.

The Four A's of Mental Health

- Acceptability – the stigma around getting mental health
- Accessibility – money, vehicle, having reliable devices
- Affordability – having means
- Availability – Lack of clinical help

Mental health needs to be on demand which there is a shortage in our area, our area is considered a HPSA which stands for a health professional shortage area. There is a 1-3 month waiting list for mental health. During Covid health care professionals stepped away from their career.

Ms. Sharon Clapper asked if there was still a struggle in students from the pandemic.

Ms. Richard spoke of the long-term effects Covid had on students. A lag in social skills and emotional regulation which students don't have the skills to cope with these issues.

Dr. Steve Nunez spoke of his students having issues when faced with challenges, and that he could never connect with that student.

Mr. Brock Kull agreed with Dr. Nunez and asked what support and guidance is available for employers to connect with the employees.

Ms. Richard spoke of leadership programs and forging a connection with the employees. There is a four-step process, respect, trust, value and love. The leadership four step process starts with any sort of leadership role to which the employee feels respected from the leader, trust the leader, value the leader, and love the leader. Building a relationship is key.

ONE-STOP OPERATOR REPORT

Mr. Brad Burger spoke about the beginning of the Workforce Investment Act, which was updated in 2014 to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act bringing innovation into the title. There are two primary customers in the one-stop system, the job seeker and the employer.

Focusing on the employer, the legislative is encouraging about developing local customized services for employers. The Business Services Coordinators is to meet with employers to discuss options to help their business grow, with different tools to keep up with changes.

Mr. Brad Burger is seeking advice on how to bring automation into the workplace and how to speak to employers about the benefits of automation.

Ms. Linda Thomson suggested bringing options to the table and speaking to the employers.

Ms. Sharon Clapper suggested providing information, providing the next steps, to the employers and letting them decide.

Mr. Brad Burger thanked everyone for their different opinions and input and plans to continue to provide opportunity for innovations, recommend innovations, and will continue to try to do his very best for the region.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ron Aldom invited everyone to the ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday the 16th for the opening of the Learning Lamp Center. Also, thanked Mr. Brad Burger for his presentation to the Regional Leadership session.

Ms. Sharon Clapper and Commissioner Ms. Pamela Tokar-Ickes had presented the door prize to Ms. Lisa Phillips.

Ms. Barbara Covert thanked Goodwill for allocating money to Huntingdon and Fulton counties which allows the counties to serve more Youth this summer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT SAWDB MEETING

The next meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board is scheduled for August 13, 2024 at the Hampton Inn Altoona beginning at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sharon Clapper made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ron Aldom seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

**Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, also available via Zoom
Meeting Platform
Altoona, Pennsylvania**

ACTION SUMMARY

There were no formal actions taken by the SAWDB Executive Committee at its scheduled meeting held on June 11, 2024 at the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission due to lack of a quorum. A ballot will be sent out for motion approvals.

1. Approve the minutes of the SAWDB Executive Committee meeting held on April 9, 2024, as presented.
2. Approve the proposed OSO Firewall Policy
3. Request for partial funding of \$4,200 for the OSO outreach programs.
4. Request for \$1,500 for the Blair Fall Job Fair.
5. Request for \$1,840 for the Bedford Fall Job Fair.

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

**Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, also available via Zoom
Meeting Platform
Altoona, Pennsylvania**

Members Participating

Bob Parsons	B & B Designed Systems
Cory Sisto	IFC Services
Jesper Nielson	Croyle-Nielsen Therapeutic Associates
Keith Baker	BWPO
Wendy Melius	CCA

Non-Members

Barb Covert	E & T
Debbie Ankney	Tableland Services
Gwen Fisher	Goodwill
Heather Saly	BWPO
Lisa Phillips	Tableland Services
Sarah Helman	Goodwill
Steven Howsare	SAP&DC
Jen Sklodowski	SAP&DC
Jill Reigh	SAP&DC
Jim Walker	SAP&DC
Tim Baranik	SAP&DC

Call to Order

SAWDB Vice Chair, Mr. Cory Sisto, called the meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board Executive Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. and roll call was taken. The meeting was open to the public and available virtually using Zoom.

Mr. Sisto turned the meeting over to Mr. Jesper Nielson who congratulated Mr. Sisto on a successful vote as the new SAWDB Chair and turned the meeting back to Mr. Sisto.

Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2024

Mr. Cory Sisto asked for any comments or questions regarding the minutes from April 9, 2024. There were not

Director's Report

Red/Green Report

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski referred to the Red/Green Report and noted that invoices are due on June 10, 2024. All expenditures have been met by providers. Ms. Sklodowski thanked the providers. Quarterly expenditure rates are measured against 80% expenditure requirement.

Ms. Sklodowski referred to page 2 of the Red/Green report and stated that it tracks expenditure rates as measured against the 20% and 75% WIOA expenditure requirements. Providers have exceeded the goals set forth. Ms. Sklodowski thanked the providers for exceeding the goals.

OSO Firewall Policy

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski spoke of the OSO Firewall policy that was brought forward by the State. Ms. Sklodowski created an OSO Firewall contract to be submitted pending approval by the board. It was presented to the board, for questions or concerns.

Mr. Cory Sisto asked if there was any feedback from the distribution of the policy. There was not any feedback or questions from the distribution.

Partial Funding Request – OSO Outreach

The OSO requested \$4,200 from SAWDB for outreach partnership with the YaZo group. The former expense was \$1,000 a month, and the new expense is \$1,350 a month due to content development, increased labor cost, and digital platforming expenses. The annual cost will be \$16,200. OSO will continue to pay \$12K of the cost if it's in the budget but are requesting since the PY'25 budget has already been submitted to the state, the site administrators are requesting \$4,200 from the Workforce Development Board.

Request for Funds- Blair Fall Job Fair

Blair is requesting \$1,500 for the Fall Jon Fair.

Request for Funds – Bedford Fall Job Fair

Bedford is requesting \$1,840.

Discussion – Board Artificial Intelligence Policy

Mr. Cory Sisto wanted to discuss the option of a work group regarding the AI policy and how to move forward.

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski spoke of the One-Stop Operator and their interest in using Artificial Intelligence as a tool to assist employers that need more information on the policy. Ms. Sklodowski asked Ms. Gwen Fisher to provide an overview of the project.

Ms. Fisher spoke of the workforce shrinking with demographic changes, and new technologies with fewer workers to keep up with demand. Therefore, Kai is a tool available for employers to use for building their workforce. Employers would tell the Business Services their challenges and feed the problems into Kai to which Kai will generate suggestions available. Business Services will still offer traditional services to which Kai will be used as an additional tool.

Ms. Sklodowski spoke of developing a work group through the board and then asked for any concerns, questions, and feedback.

Mr. Jesper Nielson stated that a policy is needed to where there is no recommendation for tools to displace workers and to integrate AI for higher efficiency with a balance on mission to help workforce with upscaling of current workforce. Mr. Nielson asked how to approach AI intelligently to grow the workforce.

Mr. Cory Sisto spoke about having guiderails for navigating AI with the employers and asked about the work group.

Mr. Jesper Nielson, Ms. Jill Reigh, Mr. Keith Baker, and Ms. Gwen Fisher volunteered for the AI work group. Ms. Sklodowski is to send out an email to invite other board members to the work group.

One-Stop Operator Report

Ms. Gwen Fisher spoke of the new Bedford Career Link® phone system. She also spoke of September 4th, the grand opening of the newly renovated Bedford Career Link®.

She also thanked the Workforce Board for the funding.

Special Recognition

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski is planning a special recognition for the August meeting. She thanked Mr. Jesper Nielson for his service and the impact he has made on the program. She thanked him for his support and being with her every step of the way.

Mr. Jesper Nielson thanked the board for the recognition and offered to be available for help.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

The next meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board Executive Committee will be held on **Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

**Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, also available via Zoom
Meeting Platform
Altoona, Pennsylvania**

ACTION SUMMARY

There were no formal actions taken by the SAWDB Executive Committee at its scheduled meeting held on July 9, 2024, at the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission due to lack of a quorum. A ballot will be sent out for motion approvals.

1. Approve the minutes of the SAWDB Executive Committee meeting held on June 11, 2024, as presented.

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

**Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, also available via Zoom
Meeting Platform
Altoona, Pennsylvania**

Members Participating

Bob Parsons	B & B Designed Systems
Cory Sisto	IFC Services
Julia Brulia	Holiday Inn
Keith Baker	BWPO
Sharon Clapper	Clapper's Industries

Non-Members

Amy Kimmel	Tableland Services
Barb Covert	E & T
Brad Burger	Goodwill
Debbie Ankney	Tableland Services
Gwen Fisher	Goodwill
Heather Saly	BWPO
Judy Lutz	E & T
Lisa Phillips	Tableland Services
Rebecca Lowry	IFS Services
Sarah Helman	Goodwill
Jen Sklodowski	SAP&DC
Jim Walker	SAP&DC
Tim Baranik	SAP&DC
Carrie Fisher	SAP&DC

Call to Order

SAWDB Vice Chair, Mr. Cory Sisto, called the meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board Executive Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was open to the public and available virtually using Zoom.

Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2024

Mr. Cory Sisto asked for any comments or questions regarding the minutes from June 11, 2024. There were no questions or concerns.

Director's Report

Red/Green Report

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski referred to the Red/Green Report which reflects eleven months of expenditures, with all open items due to fiscal by July 1st. All Providers have met and exceeded their goals.

Ms. Sklodowski referred to page 2 of the Red/Green report and stated that it tracks expenditure rates as measured against the 20% and 75% WIOA expenditure requirements. Providers have met and exceeded their goals.

Budget Review

FY'25 State budget will release the federal carry over of WIOA funds. There will be no TANF, WIOA and no new state funding. Ms. Sklodowski is confident that providers will not have to halt services, that providers are in a stable position, and the funds will be released.

Ms. Sharon Clapper asked what the regulations are regarding TANF funding.

Ms. Sklodowski stated that TANF funding will still be available, but TANF now requires the entire family to be on TANF and not the individual.

Ms. Clapper asked what kind of impact the new regulations would have on TANF programs, and if state representatives need to be informed.

Ms. Babara Covert spoke of the low population of TANF families and how the new guidelines will impact the youth.

Ms. Sklodowski stated that PWDA informed her that the bill is already finalized.

Mr. Brad Burger mentioned that both pending bills in Congress have additional language in them to address part of the gap and is confident there will be a reauthorization.

OSO Review Outcome

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski shared the outcome of the OSO Reviews that were received. The One Stop Operator is a consortium made up of Mr. Brad Burger of Goodwill, Ms. Lisa Phillips of Tableland Services, and Ms. Barbara Covert of Employment & Training. She wanted to congratulate the OSO on a job well done. Ms. Sklodowski to email the results.

Mr. Cory Sisto asked how many respondents the review was based on.

Ms. Sklodowski said the review was based on eleven respondents.

Opioid Grant

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski shared SAWDB has received an Opioid Grant through the Disaster Recovery grant, it was in response to opioid crisis for eligible Dislocated Workers in the region providing career services. The first increment of \$32,984 was received. The planning stages have started and there will be a meeting scheduled with providers to discuss next steps. Mr. Jim Walker is to provide assistance.

Local Performance Negotiations

Ms. Jennifer Sklodowski is currently working with the state for negotiations, which are due July 26th. She will share the information as soon as it's available. She also thanked Mr. Jim Walker for his assistance.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – Workforce Goals and Objectives

Ms. Sklodowski spoke of CEDS that covers workforce goals and objectives for the Southern Alleghenies. She is currently working with Mr. Lee Slusser who is the director of Planning to outline the boards goals, objectives and strategies. The concern is the region's population in workforce has been aging and shrinking for decades and is projected to continue to do so until the year 2050. Ms. Sklodowski asked the board how to maximize economic growth by supporting workforce development initiatives that build a talent pipeline.

Ms. Sklodowski asked the board and providers for ideas, goals and objective strategies to submit to the CEDS committee of the Southern Alleghenies.

Ms. Gwen Fisher spoke of a symposium she attended that talked largely about statistics and demographics and as a group came away with several actions to take, that had a lot of different facets, which she is willing to share.

Ms. Barbara Covert shared they could continue to look at grants, especially the Business Education Partnership grants, which allow Workforce to be initiated in the schools at younger ages, helping to expose young people to opportunities locally, understanding the local labor market, developing career pathways. Continuing to support that initiative and engage with youth at the younger ages, so that they understand the opportunities and continue to engage with the School to Work programs, The Teacher in the Workplace, and other initiative that the Southern Alleghenies support.

Ms. Sharon Clapper spoke of focusing on elementary career activities. Recently she met with Lock Key Martin and are starting a new program at the Tech Center, and they toured Nolton Aviation, and they are going to pilot a program for 5th grade females, to familiarize them with the Career opportunities in manufacturing and defense companies. Ms. Clapper also spoke of Winber school district where the superintendent is implementing a program called Careers in the Classroom for the elementary students.

Mr. Brad Burger spoke of there having to be a shift with upscaling incumbent workers and working with who is available. There is still going to be tremendous change pressure on these individuals, and it will be important to look across the continuum of activities that are not easily automatable. Looking at young people, it's going to be difficult to prepare them for the future that is rapidly changing. Mr. Burger believes teaching the kids adaptation should be a priority.

Ms. Clapper spoke of focusing on remote work and how to prepare for those kinds of interviews.

One Stop Report

Mr. Brad Burger spoke of there being two competing bills in congress, one in the senate and one in the house that has already passed related to WIOA reauthorization. One of the things that were worth mentioning is Workforce has asked for flexibility, both competing bills have flexibility. Mr. Burger spoke of the senate bill and how it is looking at how the local Workforce Board is structured, how they can work collaboratively, how they can merge, etc. Also, doing away with the requirement of having a comprehensive center, right now in our six-county region we have 5

comprehensive centers with specific requirements for each center to be called a comprehensive center. Looking forward at the changing demographics of our region, the work from home issues, he thinks there is an opportunity and challenges ahead to adapt the system more flexibly to the region and not be tied to the concept of a structured, regulated, comprehensive center model. There is an opportunity to serve more people, more places, in better ways.

Mr. Burger spoke of beginning conversations about what the new world will look like. He spoke of the library partners, and having the partners going hybrid and deploy people more strategically through a shrinking population and taking advantage of virtualization.

Mr. Burger also shared that Chatbots are evolving, and studies are being done with humans interacting with the Chatbots to ensure they are accurate. Most people couldn't tell if they were interacting with a human or a Chatbot.

Mr. Bob Parsons spoke about how working from home is impacting different aspects of the workforce, and how people are quitting to just stay home.

Ms. Sarah Helman shared another alternative is not necessarily telework but utilizing more public spaces. Most people just don't want to be stuck in a specific space and want to be mobile while working.

Mr. Burger shared that the requirement for comprehensive centers is one for region, which there are five in the Southern Region. He also stated that they are losing staff due to working from home, but there is another side of it to where people want to work from home.

Ms. Gwen Fisher spoke of a digital literacy issue within the clients who need guidance with computers, and how that needs to be in the forefront for staffing computer resource centers.

Mr. Brad Burger spoke of starting with the customers and working backwards from that point with collecting data, what they did, and how to be accessible to them with whatever form they need. The biggest mistake is to continue doing what we have been doing for the last twenty years.

Mr. Jim Walker spoke of being efficient and customer driven, that is convenient for the customer within the One Stop system. Behind the scenes will need to make it work with knowing what the customer needs and how to serve them efficiently.

Mr. Cory Sisto recapped that the proposed legislation does not mandate anything that will allow for each operator to find efficiencies to determine to where it would be better to distribute resources whether it be brick and mortar or the hybrid model. Mr. Sisto spoke of the assistance with digital services, outside of unemployment, and that they likely lack resilience in a changing model utilizing the digital services, what we focus on with the digital pipeline. There needs to be tools to be resilient to change.

Mr. Burger spoke of how rapidly technology is changing and looked at the pace that we change and how we don't have the digital tools that are available to keep up.

Other Business

Ms. Sharon Clapper asked the program operators to share information about the summer programs they are hosting.

Ms. Judy Lutz shared that Fulton County and Huntington County are hosting industry tours, the next work site visit is to the Huntingdon County Prison with 33 elementary school children.

Ms. Sarah Helman shared that Goodwill now has 75 Youth working across the tri-county area with the majority being 14 and 15 years of age. Another group of youth will be starting this week focusing on AI and volunteering to help build critical thinking skills and to make connections.

Ms. Amy Kimmel shared that Tableland has 33 TANF working, 6 OOS WIOA, 3 crews with 4 leaders and 22 work sites and four are new worksites.

Ms. Sharon Clapper gave praise to Ms. Kimmel for putting one of the teams at the Union St. playground and getting it up and running.

Ms. Barab Covert shared that she has sent an email to the operators requesting demographic information, and wants to share the results at the August Workforce meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next meeting of the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board Executive Committee will be held on **Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

WIOA YTH - Work Exp

ON TARGET

SHORTFALL

Monthly Targets	WIOA YTH - Work Exp (20%)	WIOA YTH - OSY (75%)
Goodwill	\$ 8,926	\$ 33,471
E&T	\$ 4,922	\$ 18,458
Tableland	\$ 5,159	\$ 19,344
Fund Total	\$ 19,007	\$ 71,273

Quarterly Targets	WIOA YTH - Work Exp (20%)	WIOA YTH - OSY (75%)
Goodwill	\$ 26,777	\$ 100,413
E&T	\$ 14,795	\$ 55,387
Tableland	\$ 15,476	\$ 58,093
Fund Total	\$ 57,048	\$ 213,893

Provider/Fund	WIOA Youth Budget	Exp July	Exp Aug	Exp Sept	QTR Target	Exp Oct	Exp Nov	Exp Dec	QTR Target	Exp Jan	Exp Feb	Exp March	QTR Target	Exp Apr	Exp May	Exp June	Cumm. YTD	Available	20% Target	75% Target	% of Budget Spent	% of Goal Spent	
WIOA YTH - Work Exp	\$ 535,538	18,374	16,794	5,985	YES	5,361	1,232	1,233	NO	2,780	8,105	5,549	NO	868	2,494	12,943	\$ 31,698	\$ 453,840	\$ 107,108		15.26%	76.28%	
Goodwill																							
E&T, Inc	\$ 295,291	10,866	21,441	9,867	YES	5,808	16,709	10,091	YES	10,955	7,633	8,542	YES	6,710	4,800	15,504	\$ 130,728	\$ 184,565	\$ 59,058		44.27%	221.35%	
Tableland	\$ 309,510	479,75	1,757	485	NO	570	624	5,474	NO	4592.09	4,506	4,302	NO	6,795	4,837	7,909	\$ 42,261	\$ 267,240	\$ 61,902		13.65%	68.27%	
Total WIOA Youth	\$ 1,140,339	\$ 29,040	\$ 39,992	\$ 16,317	YES	\$ 11,739	\$ 20,555	\$ 16,799	NO	\$ 18,317	\$ 20,244	\$ 18,393	NO	\$ 14,313	\$ 12,131	\$ 38,355	\$ 254,205	\$ 885,654	\$ 228,068		22.39%	111.46%	

Provider/Fund	WIOA Youth Budget	Exp July	Exp Aug	Exp Sept	QTR Target	Exp Oct	Exp Nov	Exp Dec	QTR Target	Exp Jan	Exp Feb	Exp March	QTR Target	Exp Apr	Exp May	Exp June	Cumm. YTD	Available	20% Target	75% Target	% of Budget Spent	% of Goal Spent	
WIOA YTH - OSY	\$ 535,538	52,877	49,326	46,286	YES	33,791	23,771	26,408	NO	32,219	33,893	34,007	NO	30,474	38,064	43,308	\$ 444,215	\$ 91,323	\$ 401,654		82.95%	110.60%	
Goodwill																							
E&T, Inc	\$ 295,291	22,268	35,408	22,666	YES	15,048	10,423	18,211	NO	16,695	16,526	13,397	NO	11,935	15,753	28,472	\$ 225,804	\$ 68,467	\$ 221,468		76.81%	102.41%	
Tableland	\$ 309,510	11332.8	11,952	12,788	NO	15616	18,918	24,396	YES	29814.92	29,465	27,884	YES	20,562	11,801	45,597	\$ 260,197	\$ 49,403	\$ 232,133		84.04%	112.05%	
Total WIOA Youth	\$ 1,140,339	\$ 86,478	\$ 96,686	\$ 81,722	YES	\$ 64,455	\$ 53,112	\$ 69,015	NO	\$ 78,729	\$ 79,874	\$ 75,288	YES	\$ 62,971	\$ 65,618	\$ 117,378	\$ 931,126	\$ 209,213	\$ 855,254		81.65%	108.87%	

Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Area
Budget Summary
For The Year Ending June 30, 2025

	ADULT	YOUTH	DISLOCATED WORKER	TANF	OPOID	TOTAL FUNDING
SA100 SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES PY24	\$ 1,343,053.42	\$ 1,293,914.15	\$ 1,472,730.83	\$ 789,711.89	\$ -	\$ 4,899,410.29
CARRYOVER FROM PY23	\$ 293,471.07	\$ 366,074.24	\$ 495,506.78	\$ 237,827.81	\$ -	\$ 1,392,879.90
TRANSFER	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -	\$ (150,000.00)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000.00
FUNDING AVAILABLE	\$ 1,936,524.49	\$ 1,659,988.39	\$ 1,818,237.61	\$ 1,027,539.70	\$ -	\$ 6,442,290.19

	ADULT	YOUTH	DISLOCATED WORKER	TANF	OPOID	TOTAL FUNDING	% of Total
Administration at 10% of award	\$ 163,717.42	\$ 148,780.49	\$ 190,141.96	\$ 78,971.19	\$ -	\$ 581,611.06	8.89%
Training	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,000.00	3.59%
PY23 Training Obligations	\$ 8,229.00	\$ 19,194.00	\$ 7,920.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,343.00	0.54%
OJT	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 315,000.00	4.81%
PY23 OJT Obligations	\$ 24,047.00	\$ 33,389.00	\$ 7,180.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,616.00	0.99%
Supportive Services	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	0.61%
Industry Cluster Research Consortium	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	0.18%
CareerLink Operating Costs*	\$ 136,186.00	\$ 95,332.00	\$ 136,186.00	\$ 40,855.00	\$ -	\$ 408,559.00	6.24%
Service Delivery	\$ 1,129,979.00	\$ 1,114,076.00	\$ 1,017,220.00	\$ 907,713.51	\$ 103,295.00	\$ 4,272,283.51	65.25%
WorkKeys License & Assessments	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	0.00%
North Star Assessments	\$ 817.00	\$ 817.00	\$ 817.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,451.00	0.04%
Reserve	\$ 234,449.07	\$ 104,299.90	\$ 239,672.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 578,421.62	8.84%
Total	\$ 1,936,524.49	\$ 1,659,988.39	\$ 1,818,237.61	\$ 1,027,539.70	\$ 103,295.00	\$ 6,545,585.19	99.98%
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103,295.00	\$ 103,295.00	

Totals Summer Work Experience program numbers Southern Alleghenies – Summer 2024

All 6 counties in the Southern Alleghenies Region have Summer Work Experience programs.

- Total number of worksites: 80
- Total number of new worksites: 26
- Total number of supervisors: 238
- Total number of TANF youth: 124
- Total number of OSY(WIOA) : 29
- Total number of youth participants: 153

Note that Somerset has 3 crew projects this summer

- Beautification Crew
- Summer Lunch Program Food Crew
- Playground Project Crew