



Workforce Development Board of Sullivan, Inc.

Jacob Lerner, Chair
Laura Quigley, Executive Director

Minutes May 13, 2025 - Full Board Meeting

Members Attending: Jacob Lerner- Board Chairman, Claire Taggart- Board Secretary, Denise Burgio- Board Treasurer, Robert Green – Immediate Past Board Chair, Heather Brown, Olga Campos, James Dannic, Loreen Gebelein, Christine Goodhart, Ashley Leavitt, LaQuesha Mathhews-Reed, Dr. David Potash, Donna Willi.

Others Attending: Laura Quigley- WDB, Executive Director, Jaime Schmeiser – SUNY Sullivan, Sharon Ferber, Division of Community Resources.

This meeting called to order at 8:04 AM. Quorum was not met.

Board Business: No Action Taken

1. Directors Report Highlights -Laura Quigley, Executive Director

- Communication from the workforce system's statewide association, NYATEP that the White House released an Executive Order (EO) on workforce development, "Preparing Americans for High Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future". This sets a broad direction for policy, with further details to follow. The EO charges the Secretaries of Education, Labor and Commerce to review all federal Workforce programs and report within 90 days on strategies to integrate systems and realign resources to meet labor market needs, reform and eliminate ineffective programs, promote innovation and upskilling, explore alternatives to four-year degrees (i.e. On the Job Training and Apprenticeship) and improve performance measurement and data reliability across all sectors.
- The Full allocation for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program Year 2024 (PY'24) have been received. New York State had a reduction of funding resulting in a -8.53% (-\$52,862) loss in overall funding for Sullivan County.
- Work will begin on the Local 4 Year Plan. A meeting was held with the regional Economic Analyst to review research on significant industries, demand occupations and potential growth areas. Once the templates are received by NYSDOL, further work will commence. This plan is due June 30, 2025. The Regional Plan will follow and will be due by August 30, 2025.
- The NYSDOL MOU has received all but two signatures. NYSDOL staff are helping with outreach to those State level partners.

- The PepsiCo plant in Liberty filed a WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) in February 2025 as required for plant closures. This event has dislocated 287 workers. The NYS Rapid Response team met with the employees on March 21st to review unemployment filings and other available services. The CWD provided an onsite job fair March 28th and continues to provide follow-up job search assistance.
- The Move Sullivan Public Transit first quarterly ridership totals are as follows: Average Daily Ridership – 519, Monthly Ridership – 31,140, Monthly Paratransit – 809.
- Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.9% for March 2025 down from 4.0% from March of 2024.

Full report is attached.

2. Dr. David Potash gave brief overview of the College and then introduced Jaime Schmeiser, the Director of Workforce at SUNY Sullivan. Ms. Schmeiser gave a brief Partner report to the Board.
3. One Stop Operator Report – Loreen Gebelein, Director, Center for Workforce Development
 - Full report is Attached.
4. Board Education – Donna Buccigrossi (formerly Willi) gave a presentation to the Board on the Sullivan County Childcare Council and the *NYS Business Navigator, Employer Guide to Child Care Solutions*.

With no further business to discuss Chairman Lerner adjourned meeting at 9:07 am.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025