

JEFFERSON/FRANKLIN CONSORTIUM
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB) MEETING
April 23, 2026

Jefferson/Franklin Consortium Workforce Development Board held a virtual meeting on April 23, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The following CLEO's were in attendance: Dave Schatz. The following WDB members were in attendance: Board Chair- Bob Francis, Board Vice-Chair Dave Crump, Nicole Hillemeyer, Chris DeGeare, Scott Pagel, Mark Arens, Julie Johns, Julie Scannell, Carla Carver, Debbie Durham, Cathy Poole, Chris Vansickle, Jerrie Bowles, and Mary Moriarity. Other interested parties in attendance: Mary Brown, Jane Kost, Alice Whalen, Maggie Peetz, Stephanie Hemby, Megan McEwen, Lora Warner, Hilary Wagner, Megan McEwen, and Leanna Eckhoff.

Jerri Bowles made the motion, seconded by Nicole Hillemeyer to approve the minutes of January 22, 2026, Workforce Development Board (WDB) meeting (Agenda Item II.) Motion carried.

Jane Kost led the Election of Officers discussion (Agenda Item III). Bob Francis, Chair, and Dave Crump, Vice Chair, were nominated to serve another term by Nicole Hillemeyer, seconded by Julie Johns. Nomination carried.

Workforce Services Reports (Agenda Item IV.) were presented as follows:

- Megan McEwen provided the Arnold and Washington Job Center updates. Positions are being filled in both centers.
- Stephanie Hemby discussed WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth program updates and presented a WIOA success story.
- Lora Warner discussed the Business Services Team update. The annual employer survey was sent out. The next BST meeting will be May 19, 2026 at the Washington Job Center.

Mary Brown gave the following Monitoring and Oversight updates (Agenda Item V.)

- a. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program Year (PY) Performance to Date (7/01/2025 – 3/31/2026).
- b. Honkamp, P.C., St. Louis, performed the annual audit for PY'24 (07/01/24 – 6/30/25) and there were no disallowed costs.
- c. Financial monitoring was completed by the OWD Financial monitor. There was one finding, but it has been resolved.

Mary Brown discussed that the PY'26 allocations are currently unknown but requested that the WDB allow the Office of Job Training Programs (OJTP) to accept the funding when allocated (Agenda Item VII.). Cathy Poole made the motion, seconded by Chris DeGeare, for the WDB, in concurrence with the chief local elected officials, to accept funding when allocated and to submit the Contracts, Agreements and Budgets as required. Motion carried.

Mary Brown presented on the formal advertised competitive bid process to procure audit services for the audit period of 7/01/25-6/30/26. (Agenda Item VIII.)

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Chris DeGeare made the motion, seconded by Jerri Bowles, to proceed with formal advertised competitive bid process to procure audit services for the audit period of 7/01/25-6/30/26. Motion carried.

Mary Brown presented on the Jefferson Franklin Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Four-Year (7/1/2024-6/30/2028) Local and Regional Plan (PY'24-PY'27) Two-Year Modification. (Agenda Item VIII.) There was a discussion held on the updated plan narrative and policies. No public comments were received. Nicole Hillemeyer made the motion, seconded by Cathy Poole to approve, in concurrence with the chief local elected officials, modified Local and Regional PY'24-PY'27 (7/01/24-6/30/28) WIOA Plan along with required policy updates, and submit in accordance with OWD Policy 04-2023.

Julie John discussed the Jefferson/Franklin One-Stop Certifications (Agenda Item IX.) Certification reviews occurred on March 31st (Washington) and April 1st (Arnold) in accordance with OWD Policy 06-2025, One-Stop Certification. The certification team recommended that both job centers be certified.

Mary Brown discussed Training Programs Service Providers and One Stop Operator which is currently MERS/Missouri Goodwill Industries. (Agenda Item X.) Chris DeGeare made the motion, seconded by Debbie Durham, in concurrence with the Youth Committee, to exercise second option to extend and issue a new one-year contract to MERS/Missouri Goodwill Industries for WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth staffing and One-Stop Operator costs for PY'26. WIOA service provider contract amounts are contingent on PY'26 funding availability. Mark Arens abstained from voting. Motion carried.

The following organizations presented Community Workforce and/or Economic Development updates (Agenda Item XI.):

- East Central College – Alice Whalen
- Jefferson College – Dr. Chris DeGeare
- Jefferson County Adult Education and Literacy – Julie Johns
- Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation – Cathy Poole

Civilian Labor Force Data was presented by Bob Francis. (Agenda Item XII.)

The Next WDB meeting will be held on August 27, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.