

**Orange County Workforce Development Board Meeting  
Friday, May 19, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**MISSION:** To create effective strategic alliances that support the development of talent to meet the workforce needs of job seekers and regional businesses.

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**PRESENT:** Mark Casey, Olga Campos, Amanda Dana, Susan Dean, Diane Fauci, Lisa Halpern, Pamela Miller, Scott Perry, Michelle Price, Charles Quinn, Lori Yakawiak

**GUESTS:** Ms. Peggy Fields and Mr. Lou DeFeo, SUNY Orange

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS:** Mr. Knob welcomed everyone who was present and who was on zoom. Since a quorum was present, Mr. Knob asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2023, meeting and the March 17, 2023, meeting. Ms. Dana made the motion to approve the January and March, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Quinn seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**YOUTH FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS AND VOTE:** Mr. Knob introduced Mr. Raymond, ETA’s Employment Services Coordinator, who gave an overview of the current Year-Round Youth Programs and recommendations for the year beginning on July 1, 2023. He gave statistics for the 3 programs. This is the final year of the Three-Year Request for Proposal. A new RFP will be issued next year. Mr. Knob said Performance has increased for all three contractors. The allocations are increasing between Youth, Adult and Dislocated Workers will go up approximately \$260,000.00 as of July 1. 20% of the allocation has to be spent on Work Experience activities. The students get paid for working and gaining work experience while being enrolled for the GED Program. The Out-of-School Youth Program covers ages 16-24.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Proposed # of Youth to be Served</u>	<u>Amount to be Awarded PY’2023-2024</u>
Orange-Ulster BOCES	\$186,721.09	40	\$186,721.09
Orange County Community College	\$231,122.84	32	\$231,122.84
Best Resources Center Inc.	\$160,000.00	30	\$160,000.00

Mr. Knob asked if there were any further questions or discussion. There being none, he asked for a motion to approve recommendation as presented. Ms. Dana made the motion to approve the Recommendations as presented. Mr. Quinn seconded. Ms. Yakawiak and Ms. Fauci abstained from voting. Vote was taken and unanimously approved as presented.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Knob said that the Annual Spring Job Fair held at the Middletown Galleria had 103 employers and was the best job fair yet. It’s hard to determine how many job seekers were there but approximately, there could have been 500 or more job seekers attending. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> in person job fair since the covid pandemic. The hours were from 1-6 and worked out better for those people who had to work during the day but were looking for new jobs. Next year, electrical outlets or charging stations could be provided because people bring their laptops to do online applications. Positive feedback was received from the employers who attended.

Ms. Fabiano, ETA’s Youth Coordinator reported that preparation for this year’s Summer Youth Employment Program has begun. So far 487 applications have been received but more are arriving daily. Intakes are being held in Middletown and Newburgh. To-date, there are 59 worksites and hopefully more will be available. This means that there will be approximately 332 work slots available for the youth. Ms. Fabiano tries to meet with the youth before and after their intakes so she can get to know them. More transportation for this year will be arranged if

possible. Most worksites are not-for-profit who are participating. Mr. Knob added that for the Year-Round Youth Program, working in hotels would be beneficial because the youth would be older and able to perform more duties than the SYEP youth who are aged 14-20 and are restricted from doing certain duties, due to their age.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:** The new immigration issue was discussed. Mr. Quinn asked about job opportunities for the new immigrants. There are 3 different categories, asylum seekers, refugees and people who have crossed illegally. The refugees and asylum seekers are here legally. They have been interviewed and have been vetted and are allowed to be here. They have to wait for their hearings first before they can get any kind of working papers, which can take a year or longer. They want to work but cannot legally. Mr. Knob will let members know of any important immigration information during the summer.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Knob adjourned the meeting.

**NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2023**