



FRANKLIN HAMPSHIRE WORKFORCE BOARD

101 Munson Street, Suite
210
Greenfield, MA 01301

MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board

Minutes of August 15, 2024 via Zoom

8:05 AM to 8:39 AM

(Approved by the Workforce Board)

Members in Attendance:

Neil Scanlon (Board Chair)

Alex Colonna

Michelle Schutt

Jeff Napolitano

Lisa Clauson

Allison van der Velden (Board 1st Vice
Chair)

Clare Higgins

Mpress Bennu Nembhard

Melissa Eaton (2nd Vice Chair)

Kristin Cole

Colleen Kucinski

Ken Messina

Staff in Attendance:

Sarah Wilson

Amanda Mankowsky

Laura Whittier

Davis Hawkowl

Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Bialecki

ASL Interpreter Nicole Sasson

Agenda Item I: Call to Order

Chair Neil Scanlon called the meeting to order, facilitated introductions and called for votes on meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve the June 6, 2024 FHWB Meeting Minutes by Alex Colonna, seconded by Clare Higgins.

Vote: Unanimous. No discussion followed.

Motion: To approve the July 19, 2024 FHWB Special Meeting Minutes by Alex Colonna, seconded by Ken Messina.

Vote: Unanimous. No discussion followed.

Agenda Item II: Local Operating Plan FY25 – Update

FHWB Executive Director Sarah Wilson provided information about the FY25 Operating Plan. The State budget was approved July 29th. The State had not yet allocated funds to the fiscal agent. Updates to follow. No discussion followed.

Agenda Item III: Finance Committee Report

Chair reported on August 8th meeting. Report reviewed discussion of DCS monitoring findings. FHETC Finance Director Davis Hawkowl chimed in with comments on how WB staff directors are already in the process of working out spending issues. Chair presented information regarding the Cost of Living Adjustment for WB staff and called for a vote.

Motion: To ratify the 3% COLA increase retroactive to July 1, 2024 by Allison van der Velden, seconded by Lisa Clauson.

Vote: Unanimous. No discussion followed.

Agenda Item IV: Director's Report

Sarah reported on her onboarding schedule meeting tour with members and encouraged all members to take the opportunity to schedule 1:1 time. MA Dept. of Career Services valued our recertification packet and has recertified the Board for another three years. Amanda Mankowsky provided participants with an overview of youth programming. No discussion followed.

Agenda Item V: Other Business

Meeting attendees addressed issues of concern, specifically the closing of the North Quabbin site. Discussion followed.

Agenda Item IX: Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn by Clare Higgins, seconded by Allison van der Velden.

Vote: Unanimous. No discussion followed.

Next full Board meeting: October 3, 2024