

**STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Draft minutes to be approved by board

DATE: January 8, 2026

TIME: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: DWS South County Employment Center, 5735 S Redwood Road, Taylorsville UT 84123

Google Meet: meet.google.com/enu-ixea-vko

Phone: (US) +1 516-268-6796 PIN: 240 363 432#

**MEMBERS
PRESENT
SOUTH
COUNTY:**

Angella Pinna
Alesha LeMmon
Gary Harter
Greg Paras
Matt Loo
Megen Ralphs
Rich Fullmer
Sarah Brenna
Stacey Taylor
Steven Olson
Tannen Ellis Graham
Tyler Low

EXCUSED:

Casey R. Cameron
Debra Fiori

ABSENT:

Celina Sinclair
Jeff Worthington
Kendall Thomas
Shawn Newell

QUORUM: Yes

**MEMBERS
PRESENT
(VIRTUAL):**

Deanna Hopkins
James Jackson
Jeremy Haslam
Jordan Leonard
Laurel Timmins
Lauren Navidomskis
Lucio Gallegos
Michelle Hill
Shawn Milne
Sherry Stevens
Spencer Loveless
Vic Hockett
Whitney Harris

**BOARD
STAFF:**

Elizabeth Carver
Alexia Murphy
Amira Mijic
Lindsay Cropper
Natalie Garrett
Nycole Tylka

**OTHER
ATTENDEES (VIRTUAL):**

Wayne Cederholm
Indian Training & Education
Brandon Haslam
Amy Reynolds
Chris Williams

**OTHER
ATTENDEES:**

Amie Graff
Gwen Keruh
Heather Mousley
Helen Hanson
John Talcott
Leah Lobato
Minerva Jimenez
Weston Miller
Zac Whitwell

**BOARD
STAFF
EXCUSED:**

1. Welcome and Opening Business

Megen Ralphs

A. Acknowledgments and Introductions:

- i. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.
- ii. Megen announced that Sarah Jones resigned.
 - i. She let everyone know that they will be working to replace her, along with a few other people, as there are some terms coming up as well as some other vacancies.
 - ii. If anyone has contacts or strong contenders that would be a good fit for the board specifically in: Agriculture, Technology, Energy, and Healthcare please let Megen, Liz or Nycole know.
- iii. Angella Pinna was introduced and welcomed to the group. Angella is our new rep for the Department of Health and Human Services. This is her first board meeting.
- iv. Megen welcomed Cheyenne Wall to the group as the new Administrative Support for the board. This is to replace Natalie Garrett as she took over the vacant position held by Kim Bartel. You will begin to receive correspondence from Cheyenne.
- v. Megen reminded board members about conflict of interest forms. Board members are required to complete conflict of interest forms. Cheyenne will be reaching out to you if you for any outstanding forms.
- vi. Wednesday, 1/14/26 a town hall will be held for the WIOA state plan via zoom at 2:00 p.m.

- a. Andrea Rorrer shared that the Utah Education Policy Center (UEPC) conducted the study in partnership with Talent Ready Utah (TRU) and in collaboration with: Utah State Board of Education, Department of Workforce Services and the Governor's office.
- b. Amy Reynolds, the project leader for this study, reviewed the study with the board.
 - i. Dimensions of State Agency Roles and Responsibilities for youth apprenticeship (YA):
 1. Leadership, governance, and policy.
 2. Program development and standards setting.
 3. Stakeholder partnership development.
 4. Intermediary functions.
 5. Funding and resource management.
 6. Data, accountability, and reporting.
 7. Program implementation and compliance support.
 - ii. Amy shared the details of the Interagency Alignment for Youth Apprenticeships.
 1. They created 3 categories and she went over those differences:
 - a. Areas of strong alignment:
 - i. Shared purpose for YA.
 - ii. Policy development and advocacy.
 - b. Areas of partial alignment:
 - i. Communication and collaboration mechanisms.
 - ii. Stakeholder engagement process.
 - iii. Governance and leadership structures.
 - iv. Shared YA standards.
 - v. Shared definitions of YA.
 - c. Areas with Opportunity for Alignment:
 - i. Role clarity and formal agreements.
 - ii. Funding coordination.
 - iii. Shared data systems and metrics.
 - iii. There are 6 barriers to YA Participation in Utah.
 1. Logistical & implementation barriers.
 2. Regulatory & policy barriers.
 3. Financial barriers.
 4. Governance & coordination barriers.
 5. Awareness & perception barriers.
 6. Participation & opportunity barriers.
 - c. A Framework for Unlocking Opportunities through Youth Apprenticeships in Utah was reviewed.

Performance Outcomes

**Aaron Thompson, Lindsay Cropper,
Alesha LeMmon**

- A. The WIOA program outcomes were reviewed.
- B. Each WIOA measure was defined and reviewed.
- C. The Employer measure has changed from previous years. The measure was reviewed.

- a. The employer outcome measures the percentage of participants employed with the same employer in the second and fourth quarter after the participant leaves the program.
- D. Lindsay reviewed several measures.
 - a. Department of Labor works with states to negotiate a target outcome using a statistical adjustment model.
 - b. WIOA youth exceeded all measures this year.
- E. Aaron reviewed vocational rehabilitation outcomes.
 - a. Median wages: Staff are working hard to increase median wages.
 - b. More support has been provided to employers over the past year.
- F. Alesha reviewed Adult Education outcomes
 - a. There has been an increase of 17- and 18-year-olds using services.
 - i. These youth are usually close to HS diploma but do not want to stay in HS

Workforce Development Outreach Report

Helen Hanson

- A. The Workforce Outreach Report was reviewed with the board.

Committee Report Out

Committee Chairs

- A. Apprenticeships: Whitney Harris, DWS is in the process of hiring a new Apprenticeship Commissioner as well as an Apprenticeship Navigator for the northern part of the state. Talent Ready is currently looking at what data should be collected to help increase employer engagement. Possible expansion to youth is being considered. Apprenticeship opportunities are continuing to expand in the health care industry. Specifically, into rural communities.
- B. Youth: Matt Loo, commented that in 2025 they spent most of the year figuring out who they are. They think they have figured it out for 2026. Matt gave Amie Graff a shoutout regarding the Raising Canes project. Part of their year was learning what other committees do.
- C. Serving Individuals with Disabilities: Steven Olson shared vocational rehabilitation is on an order of selection due to limited funding. Aaron shared that VR can still help the youth. Next month there is an hour-long mentoring opportunity that Steven encourages you to participate in. There were 350 job seekers at the most recent job fair.
- D. Career Pathways: James Jackson commented that the meeting was very engaging and a great presentation. Update from rehabilitation summit that was given.
- E. Operations: Please attend the WIOA State Plan Town Hall if you are available. Cheyenne will send the invite to all board members.

Public Comment & Closing Business

Megen Ralphs

Megen reviewed job fairs and calendar for next meetings.
No public comment
Steven Olson motion to adjourn: 2:41 p.m.

UPCOMING SWDB MEETINGS:

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Thursday, July 9, 2026, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Thursday, October 8, 2026, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

jobs.utah.gov/edo/statecouncil/index.html

DRAFT