



115 ERSKINE, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR  
 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201  
 PHONE (313) 876-0674  
 FAX (313) 664-5505  
 TTY: 711

A Michigan Works! Agency

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>DESC Corporate Board Meeting</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>June 24, 2024</b>
<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	<b>DESC Corporate Board Members:</b> Alice Thompson, Lena Barkley, Ric Preuss, Terri Weems, Chris Uhl, Dannis Mitchell, Rian Barnhill <b>DESC Staff:</b> Dana Williams, Robert Shimkoski, Traci Sassak, Rachel May, Sara Azu, Stephanie Nixon, Sheila Johnson, Madelyne Bernard-Diab, Todd Drysdale, Carmen Bender, Joseph Bradfield, Elizabeth Hennessey	<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>DESC Corporate Offices</b>
		<b>CALLED TO ORDER:</b>	<b>1:48 pm</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>Excused:</b> Maria Woodruff-Wright <b>Unexcused:</b> None	<b>ADJOURNED:</b>	<b>2:56 pm</b>
<b>PUBLIC ATTENDEES:</b>	Susan Corbin, Veronica Sanchez-Peavey, Brian Stackpoole, Ann Leen, John LoPorto, John Groen, Heather Kevnick, Hector Arroyo, Sarah Szurpicki, Spencer Lucker		
<b>FACILITATOR:</b>	Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson	<b>DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED:</b>	<b>August 26, 2024</b>

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION ITEM(S)
I. Welcome & Introductions	<p>Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order.</p> <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the agenda for the June 24, 2024 meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion:</b> Terri Weems <b>Seconded:</b> Chris Uhl <b>Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</b></p> <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the April 22, 2024 meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion:</b> Lena Barkley <b>Seconded:</b> Chris Uhl <b>Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</b></p>	
II. Board Chair Report	<p>Alice Thompson, Board Chairperson relayed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were two governance meetings recently and they had exceptionally good information in them. We are well prepared for an audit and that is a wonderful piece of information to have.</li> </ul>	



<b>III. President's Report</b>	<b>Dana Williams, DESC President presented:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Williams brought to the Board that there would be a detailed and informative session led by Susan Corbin at LEO, on the State of Michigan's Workforce plan.</li> </ul>	
<b>IV. MWDB Update</b>	<b>Terri Weems, Group Executive, Workforce Development &amp; Detroit at Work:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are expecting that we will be spending the majority of the upcoming year on Youth as part of the strategy on workforce moving forward and that the Workforce Board will agree. Ms. Williams and Ms. Weems are working on developing our WIOA plan moving for the next four years.</li> <li>We are pleased that in the past few years we have seen 40,000 people get employed, moving past the 10,000 expungements point, and we are experiencing the lowest unemployment numbers in decades. We are also focusing on mental health. With all that happened in the past years, we are revisiting our strategy on Workforce keeping our goals in focus.</li> <li>We have been hearing from employers that people need more job readiness and career coaching, and so we are incorporating that into our future plans.</li> </ul> <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
<b>V. Audit &amp; Finance Update</b>	<b>Chris Uhl, Board Treasurer gave a high-level overview of the recent Audit &amp; Finance Committee, and introduced Traci Sassak, DESC's CFO:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our most recent Audit &amp; Finance Committee meeting was more robust, really looking into the budget that you will be approving this session. There were many questions and focus on the ARPA funds that DESC was the recipient of. We have to be cognizant of monitoring that cash flow and thinking about things that maybe we haven't had to think as much about. Everyone's been flush with cash the last couple of years. So really making sure we're monitoring budget to actual. Tracy and the team are doing great job getting all that together.</li> <li>Regarding some of the recent news items, we are cognizant of money coming in and out of the organization, and we are speaking with the Internal Audit team about memorializing and checking cash flows moving forward.</li> </ul> <b>Mr. Uhl introduced Traci Sassak, DESC's CFO:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Sassak gave an in-depth review of the proposed DESC FY 24 – 25 budgets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic budget assumptions for the upcoming fiscal year.</li> <li>Anticipated FY 24 – 25 budget assumptions.</li> <li>There were some large adjustments to our healthcare budget and so we had to make adjustments to bring that number down.</li> <li>Presented a graph of DESC's expenses for the signature programs</li> <li>24 – 25 City funding, which has been flat for the past few years.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ms. Sassak presented the budget narrative and the proposed budget for the FY.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the DESC FY 2024 – 2025 budget:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion:</b> Chris Uhl  <b>Seconded:</b> Dannis Mitchell  <b>Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</b></p>	
<p><b>VI. State of Michigan Workforce Plan</b></p>	<p><b>Ms. Thompson asked that the Board members introduce themselves to Susan Corbin, Director of LEO, State of Michigan, and Ms. Williams gave an introduction of Ms. Corbin.</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Corbin presented:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had her staff give a brief introduction of who they are and what they do.</li> <li>• This is the 1st ever statewide Workforce Plan. What prompted me to do is every 4 years we are required to create a Leo State plan that needs to be approved by the Us. Department of Labor. And this is the 1st time I've been involved in that process.</li> <li>• We had lots of input, we appreciated meeting with the Mayors Workforce Board, we heard from employers, other Michigan works agencies. We heard from community colleges. We heard from strong labor partners, but most importantly, we had really substantial and robust input from other State agencies working on this. The Department of Health and Human Services, our Department of Corrections, our Department of Education. We really feel like with this State workforce plan, we now have a framework that we can all see ourselves in.</li> <li>• We want Michigan to be a state where people have the skills, opportunities, and the support that they need to thrive and prosper in the new economy. Employers can hire the talent they need to locate and grow in Michigan and communities, regions and the State can catalyze workforce education and economic development assets to set up Michigan as a leading state in income, mobility, good jobs, and equity for decades to come.</li> <li>• To that end the plan reaffirms and identifies ambitious goals to align around, to achieve. To get to this vision. The 1st is our goals around 60 by 30, which I'm sure most of you are aware of. The Governor set a goal, her 1st year of office to get 60 of our adults with a post-secondary degree by 2030. We have aligned ourselves with that. With that goal we're at 51 today. We all have some work to do to get us there by 2030. The second is increase access to opportunities that move 75,000 more households in Michigan up into the middle class. By the end of 2027. We know that if we can do this it would move our ranking from 28 in the country right now to putting us into a top 10 state. Then the 3rd is to support entrepreneurs to support business and entrepreneurial growth through talent solutions. We want to make Michigan a top 10 State for labor force, participation, and rate growth by 2027.</li> <li>• The key factors to making this happen are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Racial &amp; Gender Equity</li> <li>○ Job Quality</li> <li>○ Collaboration &amp; Coordination</li> <li>○ Accountability &amp; Continuous Improvement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Ms. Thompson asked that the Board be sent the list of the participants from Ms. Corbin's group along with their and Ms. Corbin's contact information.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can DESC help us in our work? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Help more Michiganders earn a skills certificate or degree</li> <li>○ Increase access to opportunities that grow the middle class</li> <li>○ Support business &amp; entrepreneurial growth through talent solutions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Local plans must align to achieve these goals, and we have established the three pillars, Skills, Opportunity, and Growth.</li> </ul> <p>Board discussion ensued.</p> <p>Ms. Corbin continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What must we do, how we will do it and what are the tools we need to do it?</li> <li>• Deeper details on the three pillars</li> <li>• Bringing childcare into the picture by creating a thousand new childcare providers or expansions in the State.</li> <li>• At the end of April, the Governor signed the building up Michigan's workforce and Infrastructure Executive Directive. We know that with the Federal infrastructure investments we may see 9 to 14 million dollars invested in this State. We've already seen several billion come to the State. The governor has charged LEO with by May 2025 establishing a statewide strategy and how we can meet our infrastructure workforce development goals. We're estimating that these Federal dollars will create 10,000 new jobs.</li> <li>• At the policy conference, the Governor announced new housing and energy initiatives. These are all statewide housing goals that work towards making housing in Michigan more affordable, and lowering the costs associated with home ownership or rental where we can. We are increasing our housing goal from 75,000 units to 115,000 new or rehabbed units by September of 2026. That's a 53% increase. And we know, based on current progress we should be able to hit we are at 50,000 units completed. So far, this initiative will utilize \$367 million in Federal funds to improve energy efficiency efforts and reduce energy costs for up to 20% of low-income households across the State.</li> <li>• Workforce in Michigan is all access, everybody should have a career pathway in Michigan. And we know that all of this work that we're doing needs to continue addressing the structural challenges and removing economic barriers that people face so that they can be successful.</li> </ul> <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
<b>VII. Public Comments</b>	<b>There were no public comments</b>	
<b>VIII. Adjournment</b>	<b>Ms. Thompson called for a Motion to Adjourn the meeting:</b>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion:</b> Ric Preuss  <b>Seconded:</b> Lena Barkley  <b>Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</b></p>	

**DRAFT SUBMITTED BY:**

Printed Name:           E. Hennessey           Title: Special Projects Administrator          

Signature: /s/ Elizabeth Hennessey           Date: 8/20/2024

**DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED:**           August 26, 2024           **Initials:**           EH          

**NEXT MEETING:** **Monday, August 26, 2024 @ 1:45 PM**

