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A Michigan Works! Agency

MEETING:	MWDB: Executive Committee	DATE:	May 06, 2026
ATTENDEES:	MWDB Executive Committee members: Darienne Hudson, Jared Fleisher, Alice Thompson, Dr. Ivery MWDB Staff: Kevin Naud, Rachel May, Sam Talbot, Taylor Smith, Terri Weems, Robert Shimkoski, Guests: Crystal Starr, Lisa Nuzskowski, Detroit Documenters (remote), Detroit Notetaker (remote)	LOCATION:	Mayor's Executive Conference Room at Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
		CALLED TO ORDER:	11:01 a.m.
ABSENT:	Excused: Unexcused:	ADJOURNED:	11:47 a.m.
PUBLIC ATTENDEES:	None		
FACILITATOR:	Darienne Hudson & Jared Fleisher	DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED:	September 30, 2026

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION ITEM(S)
I. Welcome & Introductions	Darienne Hudson called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.	
II. Agenda Approval / Minutes	Dr. Hudson asked for approval of the agenda the May 6, 2026 meeting: • Motioned: Alice Thompson • Supported: Dr. Ivery • Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously Dr. Hudson asked for approval of the Minutes for the March 4, 2026, meeting: • Motioned: Alice Thompson • Supported: Dr. Ivery • Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously	
III. Co-Chair's Report	Dr. Hudson reported: • New board appointment: Richard Bierschbach, JD. President of Wayne State University. Replacing Dr. Kimberly Espy • Board member roster & compliance review: Board remains in compliance with no changes proposed	

IV. Detroit at Work Report	Terri Weems, Interim President, DESC, reported: MWDB Goals: Goals have been reviewed with the mayor's office and unchanged from where we were before. Focus on increasing employment. Focus on youth with new strategies emerging from the Career & Education Advisory Council, which is a required committee of the MWDB, led by Alycia Meriweather of DPSCD. A retreat is planned for mid-June with a focus on youth and employment. Mayor's Youth Transition Team: Co-chaired by Angelique Power, President & CEO (Skillman Foundation,) Ralph Bland, President & CEO (New Paradigm for Education,) Alycia Meriweather, Deputy Superintendent (DPSCD,) Shawn Wilson, President & CEO (Boys & Girls Club,) and Damon Pitt, Education Achievement Expert (DPSCD,) this group focuses on strengthening youth development and connecting services from cradle to career. Mayor's Economic Development & Workforce Community Feedback & Response: Residents want career pathways, not just jobs. We want to ensure our training aligns with real hiring and a clear pathway towards livable wages. Mayor's Education & Youth Community Feedback & Response: Opportunities exist for youth, but our youth feel they're scattered. GDYT is an example of a great program, but we want to focus on what happens after GDYT and how we're connecting young people to more permanent opportunities. We're expanding year-round youth work, and want to create a pipeline to more seamlessly transition folks from K-12 experiences into workforce. Mackinac Policy Conference: Ms. Weems will attend the conference May 26-29. A focus area is to work with the state to leverage TANF dollars for summer youth programming in alignment with the mayor's focus on youth.	Action item: Follow up with committee on talking points from the mayor's office for the Mackinac Policy Conference.
V. Budget Allocations	Ms. Weems reported: The MWDB Executive Committee is responsible to approve the DESC budget allocations. \$58M is expected in revenue. Funding will be allocated across five categories: Direct & Operating Costs; Innovative Programming; Subcontractor; Participant Training; Support Services. Dr. Hudson asked for approval of the DESC Funding Allocations • Motioned: Dr. Ivery • Supported: Alice Thompson • Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously	

VI. WIOA Plan Update	Robert Shimkoski, Director of Planning & Resource Development, DESC, reported: The WIOA plan is the overall governing and operational structure for the workforce system, and it includes two major components: A regional plan and a local plan. • A Regional Plan is a four-year action plan to develop, align and integrate service delivery strategies and resources among the multiple local workforce development areas in each region. • A Local Plan is a four-year action plan to develop, align and integrate service delivery strategies and resources among the six WIOA core programs and partners in a specific local area. • During the four-year lifecycle of the Regional and Local Plans, workforce boards are required to revise strategies needed to meet local performance goals at the end of the first two-year period of the plans (i.e., August 31, 2026). We're required to update the plan every two years and we are currently at the 2-year cycle. • Update of Regional plan. This process will be completed by the Region 10 MWAs including Detroit, SEMCA Macomb, and Oakland MWAs. • Update the MWDB's Vision, Mission and Goals. • Update language as recommended by the Federal Government. • Update workforce strategies, programs and activities. • Update performance metrics. • Update target industries identified in the plan. With your approval today, we will update the WIOA plan accordingly. • The WIOA Plan is only a component of bigger strategy • June 10: Approval of Regional and Local Plan MWDB Board Meeting • July 1 – 31: Post Plan for Public Comment • August 31: Submit WIOA Plan to State • September – November: Continue data review • December: Roll out new economic development and workforce development strategies • December: Conversation on updating workforce strategy and WIOA plan Dr. Hudson asked for approval of the WIOA Plan • Motioned: Jared Fleisher • Supported: Alice Thompson • Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously	
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VII. Workforce Insights	Kevin Naud, Director of Employer Engagement & Strategy, DESC The census data presented today is the latest available data from 2023. The census data allows us to look deeper into demographics and more specifics about people and their employment status. When we look at employment status, we're zooming in on Detroiters 16 to 64, and in certain cases, 25 to 64 here. Highlights include: • Over a third of Detroiters that are in that prime working age group are not working and not actively working. 36.8% working-age Detroiters are not in the labor force, but disconnection is not evenly distributed. Four population groups show dramatically higher rates of labor force disconnection, each facing distinct structural barriers that require tailored service models. • Lack of education remains a key barrier to economic security and mobility. 75% of Detroiters ages 25 to 64, do not have an associates, bachelors, or masters degree, which means that they have some college or less, as their highest level of education. • There are several high-need groups facing structural barriers. People with disabilities; people on public assistance; youth and older adults; especially requiring some wraparound services in addition to employment needs. Detroit at Work's Talent Pipeline Strategy is a framework for how to help Detroiters advance into high-demand, high-quality careers. It currently covers 6 target industries: Construction & Infrastructure, IT & Stem, Retail & Hospitality; Healthcare; Manufacturing & Mobility; Professional Services. Committee discussion ensued.	Action item: Three focus industries emerged from this robust conversation. Detroit at Work will focus on Construction, Healthcare and Hospitality for Adult and Youth
VIII. Public Comment	None	
IX. Adjournment	Dr. Hudson adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.	

DRAFT SUBMITTED BY:

Printed Name: Rachel May

Title: Senior Executive Assistant, MWDB Staff

Signature: /s/ Rachel May

Date: 05/20/2026

DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED: 09.30.2026

Initials: RM

NEXT MEETING: September 30, 2026