

Workforce Development Board of Western Missouri, Inc.

Full Board Minutes

March 26, 2026

The Workforce Development Board of Western Missouri, Inc. met on Wednesday, March 26, 2026 via teleconference at 1:00 p.m.

Board members present were Kevin Wilson, Dr. Michael Murders, Kamber Fusco, Robin McHugh, Chris Connell, Suzie Brodersen, Kim Kendrick, Tommy Hampton, Chris Green, LiShanna Bredenhof, Angy Littrell and Michael Schubach. WDB staff attending were Sarah Wells, Tara Colter-Lappat, Tammy Tankersley and Missy Eidson

Board members not in attendance were Jessica Craig, Gabe Jones, Laura Wallen, April Godwin, James White and Joyce Furnell.

It was determined quorum was present.

Chairperson Chris Connell called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Angy Littrell made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Kim Kendrick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Connell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2026 Full Board meeting. Ms. Suzie Brodersen made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Angie Littrell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Planning and Operations: No report – no meeting was held.

Finance and Audit: Ms. Kim Kendrick gave an update for the Finance and Audit Committee meeting. She stated Financial Reports and Budget Line Item Adjustments were reviewed. The committee made a recommendation to the Full Board to transfer up to 80% of PY25/FY26 Dislocated Worker funds to Adult funds. Ms. Suzie Brodersen made a motion to approve the transfer. Ms. Kim Kendrick seconded the motion. Ms. Kamber Fusco abstained. The motion carried.

Office of Workforce Development Presentation – West Central Region: Ms. Rebecca Fletcher with the Office of Workforce Development discussed the region not meeting the Dislocated Worker Credential Performance Measure for a second year in a row. The main reason being that when unemployment rates are low the job centers do not serve many dislocated workers making it difficult to prove successful outcomes for the amount needed to meet negotiated performance measures. Ms. Fletcher reviewed actions the region has taken to combat this issue and according to predictive rosters it appears the measure will be met for the current program year. She stated a Continuous Improvement Plan was not needed.

Contract Enrollments: Mr. Troy Roland reported on current contract suggested enrollments numbers. The centers are on track to meet them.

Nevada Job Center / One Stop Operator Updates: Ms. Chantalle Hess gave an update on One-Stop activities in Nevada and the surrounding area as well as a report on a success story for the region.

Sedalia Job Center / One Stop Operator Updates: Ms. Laura Kempf gave an update on One-Stop activities in Sedalia and the surrounding area as well as a report on a success story for the region.

Director's Report:

Job Center Survey Results: Ms. Tara Colter–Lappat reported on survey results that had been received since the last Full Board meeting.

Business Services Updates: Ms. Colter-Lappat discussed goals that the region had set for business services and where those goals currently stand. There has been a significant increase in On-the-Job training and Worksite Agreements.

Job Center Certification Update: Ms. Robin McHugh gave an update on the Sedalia Job Center Certification. The Certification Team visited the center February 20, 2026 and conducted interviews as well as reviewing items on the certification checklist. The team recommended certification of the job center. Ms. Missy Eidson will collect documents and submit the information to the Office of Workforce Development for review.

CCAM – CLEO Consortium Meeting: The CLEO Consortium Meeting was held at their annual CCAM meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks on February 25, 2026. There was representation for 10 of the 13 counties in attendance for the West Central Region.

Eligibility System Implementation: The West Central Region LWDB staff met with Ken Mall from EDSI to create a plan to start utilizing the new system in the job centers. This system will aid in identifying what programs an individual is eligible for and is customizable to the grants available in the region. Staff will attend a training session on April 10, 2026 to learn how to begin using the pre-intake system.

Virtual Services Material: A flyer was developed reminding individuals they do not need to physically visit a job center in order to obtain services. This was sent to Presiding Commissioners, Board members, local organizations and will be posted on social media.

RESTART Grant: The Office of Workforce Development is applying for the RESTART Grant. This is a 42-month grant which supports employment training programs for justice involved individuals aged 18-24. OWD reached out to the regions to ask if there was an interested in participating. The West Central Region put in a request for \$707,500 to provide On-the-Job Training, Work Experience and Supportive Services. The grant will be submitted by April 15th and will start on July 1st. The regions will be notified between those dates if they are awarded the grant.

Patterson Family Foundation Grant: Last year the region applied through the Patterson Family Foundation for a grant relating to youth. This year youth is not a category but the LWDB staff is working on ideas and will submit a proposal for this grant cycle. The Letter of Intent deadline is mid-May and the application is due by the end of June.

Request for Proposals: Scores were reviewed for the proposals submitted for the One Stop Operator and the Professional Staffing / Customer Service Services RFPs to ensure the minimum score was met for consideration. Ms. Kim Kendrick made a motion to award Eckerd Connects with a contract for One Stop Operator (26-30-12 R1) and a contract for Professional Staffing / Customer Service Services (26-20-12 R1) for PY26 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) with the possibility of two, one-year renewals. Mr. Chris Connell seconded the motion. Kamber Fusco abstained. The motion carried.

Required Two-Year Local Plan Modification: Ms. Eidson submitted the completed 2-Year Plan Modification to the Office of Workforce Development on March 24, 2026. The LWDB will await approval and will post on the website once received.

Miscellaneous: There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

Mr. Chris Connell asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Suzie Brodersen made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Kim Kendrick seconded the motion. The motion carried.