



**Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee (EC)  
of the West Michigan Works! (WMW) Workforce Development Board (WDB) Meeting  
Grand Rapids NW Service Center, 215 Straight Ave NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
The public may attend in-person or by remote participation via Teams.  
[Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 249 486 253 001 5 Passcode: q9rJ6Uc9  
Dial in by phone [+1 616-803-9815,,687733315#](#)  
Monday, May 11, 2026 ▪ 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment – Agenda Items
3. Report on Financial Activities: *Kirsti Jones, Chief Financial Officer* **Information Item**
  - a. ACSET Financial Report: Notes to March 2026 Board Financials
  - b. FY 2027 Budget
4. State & Federal Advocacy Updates: *Jacob Maas, Chief Executive Officer* **Information Item**
5. WDB Activities **Information Item**
  - a. June 8 WDB Meeting: *Janette Monroe, Executive Assistant* **Information Item**
    - i. Presentation: Ryan Hundt, CEO at Michigan Works! Association
    - ii. Board Spotlights
  - b. WDB Member Roster and Designation of Nomination Committee **Action Required**
  - c. Board Engagement Survey Draft: *Angie Barksdale, Chief Operating Officer* **Discussion Item**
6. WDB Committee/Council Updates **Information Item**
  - a. Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC): *Tonia Castillo, Committee Chairperson* **Information Item**
    - No new updates-Next meeting May 15, 2026
  - b. Legislative Committee: *Jim Fisher, Committee Chairperson*
    - i. Member Appointment: Jacqui Dolce **(Chairperson Only) Action Required**
  - c. Solutions Driven Committee: *Jordan Clark, Committee Chairperson* **Information Item**
    - No new updates-committee on hold
7. Other Business **Information Item**
  - a. Recap: Michigan Works! Association (MWA) AI at Work Summit
  - b. MiCareerQuest: May 20, 2026 [MiCareerQuest VIP Tour](#) or [Register to Volunteer Today](#)
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

**Next Scheduled Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee Meeting:  
September 21, 2026  
Remaining Meetings:  
November 9, 2026 (if needed)**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee (Executive Committee or EC) of the West Michigan Works! (WMW) Workforce Development Board (WDB)

**FROM:** Kirsti Jones, Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

**RE:** March 2026 Board Financials

**Revenues**

Revenues for the nine months ending March 31, 2026, total \$29.8M, which is \$1.6M above budget and \$396k below the prior year.

**Expenditures**

Operating expenses are \$1.4M above the FY25-26 budget and \$54k above the prior year.

Wages and fringe benefits are up \$542k (4.31%) over the prior year, mainly due to annual wage increases (average 3.8% per employee) coupled with the higher cost of employee benefits.

Consumable supplies are \$129k higher than prior year mainly due to \$84k of Trade/TAA promotional items that were purchased as part of the program requirement to recruit new participants.

Outside services are below FY25 due to lower consulting fees for fiscal and expenses that did not repeat this year include the compensation study, the personalized retirement reviews, and certain contract employees.

Other expenses are \$149k below the prior year due to various employee training courses that were not repeated, as well as spending related to the one-time MIRECONNECT grant.

Training for the fiscal year to date is \$12.1, \$589k below the previous year. Of that decrease, \$431k is due to GPTF expenses.

Direct client expenses are higher than the prior year mainly due to spending on two new programs, Make MI Home and Talent and Growth Barrier Removal.

**Area Community Services Employment and Training Council**  
**Michigan Works Agency Programs**  
**Statement of Revenue & Expenses**  
**For the Nine Months Ending March 31, 2026**

	YTD Thru March 2026 Actual	YTD Thru March 2025 Actual	YTD 2025/2026 Budget	Budget Variance	Budget Variance %
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$ 29,823,323	\$ 30,219,254	\$ 28,187,700	\$ 1,635,623	5.80%
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
<b>Wages</b>	\$ 9,287,841	\$ 9,165,425	8,459,000	\$ 828,841	9.80%
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	3,827,400	3,407,597	3,084,500	742,900	24.08%
<b>Consumable supplies</b>	619,238	490,112	508,400	110,838	21.80%
<b>Transportation</b>	96,724	126,835	150,300	(53,576)	-35.65%
<b>Outside services</b>	350,880	763,467	713,600	(362,720)	-50.83%
<b>Space and communications</b>	1,162,645	1,163,166	927,200	235,445	25.39%
<b>Equipment rent and maint</b>	47,706	53,932	57,100	(9,394)	-16.45%
<b>Equipment purchases</b>	-	18,787	50,000	(50,000)	-100.00%
<b>Other expense</b>	530,314	679,416	618,900	(88,586)	-14.31%
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	15,922,750	15,868,737	14,569,000	1,353,750	9.29%
<b>Subcontractors</b>	\$ 413,248	\$ 397,567	\$ 1,312,600	\$ (899,352)	-68.52%
<b>Training</b>	\$ 12,085,477	\$ 12,674,461	\$ 10,740,400	\$ 1,345,077	12.52%
<b>Direct Client Expenses</b>	\$ 1,401,849	\$ 1,278,489	\$ 1,565,700	\$ (163,851)	-10.47%
	\$ 13,900,574	\$ 14,350,517	\$ 13,618,700	\$ 281,874	2.07%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	29,823,323	30,219,254	28,187,700	1,635,623	5.80%
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expense</b>	-	-	-	-	0.00%

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee  
(Executive Committee or EC) of the West Michigan Works! (WMW)  
Workforce Development Board (WDB)

**FROM:** Kirsti Jones, Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

**RE:** FYE 2027 Budget

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The budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, was approved by the ACSET Governing Board on April 27, 2026.

**Revenues**

The 2026-2027 budget plans for \$34,592,000 of total revenue, which represents a 7.8% decrease compared to the approved FY2025-2026 budget. ACSET has not yet received allocations for the 2026-2027 fiscal year or projections from the State of Michigan. The budget was prepared, assuming a 10% decrease in funding for WIOA and Wagner Peyser. There are also several one-time grants that expire September 30, 2026, including BRES Expansion (\$1M), MiROAR (\$200k), MI SIIP (\$250k), and Talent and Growth Barrier Removal (\$311k). These decreases were partially offset by new funding for the National Farm Worker's Jobs Program, Michigan Skills Fund, Sector Strategies ELC, and the State Apprenticeship Expansion program.

**Expenditures**

The budget for salaries and the associated fringe expenses is expected to increase approximately \$164k due mainly to increasing rates for health insurance. Although wages also include increases for merit raises, we are not automatically filling positions as they become vacant and expect that to lead to flat wages overall.

The other operating expense categories have been adjusted accordingly and include initial planned expenditures for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Direct client expenses are down mainly due to the expiration of BRES funding. Also, due to the anticipated decrease in WIOA funding and the expiration of funds mentioned above, training expenses are expected to decrease.

A budget modification will be presented to the ACSET Governing Board for approval once finalized allocations are received from our grantors.

**Area Community Services Employment and Training Council**  
**General Fund**  
**Michigan Works! Budgetary Request**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027**

	<b>Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Approved Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Grant Income	\$ 34,542,000	\$ 37,493,000	\$ (2,951,000)
Program Income	50,000	20,000	30,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 34,592,000</b>	<b>\$ 37,513,000</b>	<b>\$ (2,921,000)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Wages	\$ 11,087,000	\$ 11,267,000	\$ (180,000)
Fringe benefits	4,449,000	4,105,000	344,000
Consumable supplies	745,000	676,000	69,000
Transportation	112,000	200,000	(88,000)
Outside services	388,000	949,000	(561,000)
Space and communications	1,250,000	1,233,000	17,000
Equipment rent and maint	55,000	76,000	(21,000)
Equipment purchases	-	75,000	(75,000)
Other expense	751,000	823,000	(72,000)
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>18,837,000</b>	<b>19,404,000</b>	<b>(567,000)</b>
Subcontractors	\$ 726,000	\$ 1,745,000	(1,019,000)
Training	\$ 13,561,000	\$ 14,282,000	(721,000)
Direct Client Expenses	\$ 1,468,000	\$ 2,082,000	(614,000)
	<b>\$ 15,755,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,109,000</b>	<b>\$ (2,354,000)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>34,592,000</b>	<b>37,513,000</b>	<b>(2,921,000)</b>
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expense</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Unaudited

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee  
(Executive Committee or EC) of the West Michigan Works! (WMW)  
Workforce Development Board (WDB)

**FROM:** Jacob Maas, Chief Executive Officer

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

**RE:** State & Federal Advocacy Updates (as of April 2026)

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**From:** Ryan Hundt <[hundtr@michiganworks.org](mailto:hundtr@michiganworks.org)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 2:12 PM

Good afternoon, everyone.

It's been a busy week in both Lansing and Washington on the policy front! Below are a few quick updates:

**State Budget**

- Yesterday, the House released the LEO/MEDC budget, which includes:
  - \$40M for Going PRO
  - \$15M for Medicaid/SNAP work requirements
  - \$0 for apprenticeships
- The Senate has also released its version of the LEO/MEDC budget today, which includes:
  - \$15M for Medicaid/SNAP work requirements
  - \$5M for apprenticeships
  - \$0 for Going PRO

Overall, we feel like we are in a much stronger position with the legislature than we were a year ago, even with some of the significant differences in funding recommendations for programs like Going PRO.

**ASWA**

- Yesterday, the House Education & Workforce Committee approved HR 8210 (A Stronger Workforce for America Act) by a party-line vote of 19-14. Several amendments were introduced by Democrats during markup on the bill, all of which were defeated. Given the stark partisan divide, this version of ASWA does not have a path to passage into law, even though it was reported out of committee. We, along with several of our national partners, will continue communication our concerns on the bill with our elected officials, namely Rep. Walberg.

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee  
(Executive Committee or EC) of the West Michigan Works! (WMW)  
Workforce Development Board (WDB)

**FROM:** WMW Staff

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

**RE:** WDB Member Roster and Designation of Nomination Committee

**Background**

In 2017, the EC established that the nomination committee would be designated as members whose terms of office were not expiring to serve as the nomination committee of the WDB.

According to the West Michigan Works! Workforce Development Board Bylaws:

- Sixteen (16) of our current board members' terms of office expire October 31, 2026. Two of those seats are currently vacant (Business/Private Sector and CBO).
- In addition, there is also one Business/Private sector vacancy for the term of office expiring October 31, 2027.

A copy of the WDB roster is attached.

We would like to work with the EC to address the vacancies and to designate a Nomination Committee to further review applications submitted for the term of office expiring October 31, 2026 and the additional vacancy. This year, those EC members whose term of office are not expiring include Tonia Castillo, Jordan Clark, Paul David, Jim Fisher, Jon Hofman and Shana Washington.

**Requested Action**

We request approval from the EC to appoint those EC members whose term of office is not expiring, to serve as the designated nomination committee for review of WDB applications submitted. Staff will inform current WDB members at its June meeting regarding the application process.

West Michigan Works!  
Workforce Development Board Member Roster

Item #5b

Sector	First Name	Last Name	Company	Title	Term Dates
Business	Nora	Balgoyen	ITC Holdings	Senior Area Manager	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Mark	Bergsma	BHS	Account Executive, S	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Heather	Daniel	Haworth, Inc	Program Manager, H	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Maria	Dennison	Gun Lake Tribe	HR Project Manager	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Nate	Henschel	Consumers Energy	Community Affairs M	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Nick	Kacher	The Employers' Association	President	11/1/24-10/31/26
Business	Sara	Whisler	CarbonSix	VP of Human Resour	11/1/24-10/31/26
Community Based Organization	TaRita	Johnson	The Right Place Inc	Senior Vice President	11/1/24-10/31/26
Community Based Organization	Jen	Schottke	West Michigan Construction Institute	President	11/1/24-10/31/26
Community Based Organization (MT seat)	vacant				11/1/24-10/31/26
Economic Development	Trevor	Friedeberg	Greater Muskegon Economic Developme	President & CEO	11/1/24-10/31/26
Economic Development	Lindsay	Maunz	Lakeshore Advantage	Project Manager	11/1/24-10/31/26
Higher Education	Dr. Bradley	Barrick	Montcalm Community College	President	11/1/24-10/31/26
Higher Education	Daniel	Rinsema-Sybenga	Muskegon Community College	Dean of Academic Af	11/1/24-10/31/26
Organized Labor/Employee Rep	Daniel	TenHoopen	Heart of West Michigan United Way	AFL-CIO Community S	11/1/24-10/31/26
Vocational Rehab (CC seat)	vacant				11/1/24-10/31/26
Adult Education	Tonia	Castillo	Ottawa Area Intermediate School District	Director of Adult Trai	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Emily	Babson	Plascore	Human Resources Dir	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Jordan	Clark	Meijer	Director of HR Opera	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Paul	David	Fleis & Vandenbrink	Human Resources Dir	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Jay	Dunwell	Wolverine Coil Spring Co	President	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Jim	Fisher	Jim Fisher Consulting, LLC	President	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Jan	Harrington-Davis	Corewell Health	SVP Talent Attraction	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Jon	Hofman	Holland Board of Public Works (HBPW)	Human Resources M	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Kelly	Kroll	Bradford White Corporation	Human Resources Bu	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Samantha	Semrau	Kendrick Plastics	Human Resources Dir	11/1/25-10/31/27
Business	Shana	Washington	Trinity Health		11/1/25-10/31/27
Business-vacant (Kolene /Lisa Marie seat)	vacant				11/1/25-10/31/27
Community Based Organization	Emily	Quiggle	Barry County Chamber of Commerce & E	Workforce Developm	11/1/25-10/31/27
Higher Education	John	VanElst	Grand Rapids Community College	Dean of the School o	11/1/25-10/31/27
Labor	Bryce	Butler	West Michigan Electrical JATC	Training Instructor	11/1/25-10/31/27
Organized Labor/Employee Rep	Ryan	Bennett	West Michigan Plumbers & Fitters #174	Business Manager	11/1/25-10/31/27
Public Assistance Agencies (PA 491 req)	Donata	Kidd	MI Department of Health and Human Services, Muskegon County	Director	11/1/25-10/31/27

## Workforce Development Board: Board Engagement Survey (Draft)

### Overall Engagement & Experience

1. How engaged do you currently feel in your role as a board member?
  - a. Very engaged
  - b. Moderately engaged
  - c. Somewhat engaged
  - d. Not very engaged
  - e. Too new to know
2. How clearly do you understand the purpose and value of each board committee?
  - a. Very clearly
  - b. Somewhat clearly
  - c. Not very clearly
  - d. Not at all

### Committee Participation (All Committees)

3. Which committees do you currently participate in?
  - a. Executive Committee
  - b. Legislative Committee
  - c. Solutions Driven Committee
  - d. CEAC Committee
  - e. Bev Drake Committee
  - f. Industry Councils (please specify)
  - g. None
4. Overall, how valuable have you found committee participation?
  - a. Very valuable
  - b. Moderately valuable
  - c. Slightly valuable
  - d. Not valuable
5. What prevents you from participating more in a committee? (Select all that apply)
  - a. Time constraints
  - b. Meeting frequency
  - c. Unclear purpose or expected outcomes
  - d. Topics not aligned with my expertise
  - e. Already participating in an Industry Council
  - f. Other (open field)

### Capacity & Time Commitment

6. Do you feel the current committee load is manageable alongside your participation in Industry Talent Councils, or other committees of West Michigan Works! you serve on?
7. How likely are you to participate in additional committees if topics directly align with your expertise or interests?

### Topics & Priorities

8. What type of topics would increase your interest in participating in committee discussions? (e.g. assessments, customer service trends, employer needs, operational improvements)
9. Which areas should be prioritized for board engagement in 2026?

### Future Committee Structure

10. Do you believe board committees, as currently structured, support meaningful engagement and governance?
11. What changes, if any, would you recommend to improve committee participation and impact?

Final Open-Ended Feedback: Share suggestions for improving board engagement or committee effectiveness.

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Leadership and Strategic Engagement Committee  
(Executive Committee or EC) of the West Michigan Works! (WMW)  
Workforce Development Board (WDB)

**FROM:** Janette Monroe, Executive Assistant

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

**RE:** Appointment of Legislative Committee Member: Jacqui Dolce

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**Background**

In accordance to the Bylaws of the West Michigan Works! Workforce Development Board, Article IV: Organization Section 6: Committees: "The WDB may appoint standing committees to assist the WDB in dealing with its responsibilities. Any such committee must be chaired by a member of the Local Board, may include other members of the Local Board, and may include other individuals appointed by the Local Board who are not members of the Local Board and who have demonstrated experience and expertise in accordance with WIOA regulations and as determined by the WDB."

Andy Johnston, Senior VP of Strategic Initiatives, Grand Rapids Chamber, has been serving on this committee since 2025 and has recommended his colleague, Jacqui Dolce, Senior Manager of Government Affairs to fill this seat for the foreseeable future.

The current roster is as follows:

Jim Fisher, Jim Fisher Consulting, LLC: Committee Chairperson/WDB Member  
Nora Balgoyen, ITC Holdings: WDB Member  
Mark Bergsma, BHS Insurance: WDB Member  
Jeran Culina, BLU  
Jay Dunwell, Wolverine Coil Spring: WDB Member  
Nate Henschel, Consumers Energy: WDB Member  
Dr. TaRita Johnson, The Right Place: WDB Member  
Andy Johnston, The Grand Rapids Chamber

**Requested Action**

For formality purposes, staff is requesting formal appointment from Chairperson Heather Daniel, for Jacqui Dolce in replacing Andy Johnston, as a member of the Legislative Committee.