

**SUMMIT MEDINA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FULL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
ON
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026**

OhioMeansJobs Summit County
1040 East Tallmadge Avenue, Akron, OH 44310

Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/28089288536932?p=r40O8tHyU7pmjIYW8>
[+1 321-710-8464](tel:+13217108464) Phone conference ID: 885 347 243#

WDB Members Present:	Malcolm Costa; Patricia Dempsey; Matthew Gdovin; Marquita Mitchell; William Moore; David Prentice; Sharlene Ramos-Chesnes, <i>WDB Vice Chair</i> ; Paul Ratcliff, <i>WDB Chair</i>
WDB Members Virtual:	Jeff Bissell; Jeffrey Cornute; Jessica Heid; Maria Miller; Katie Kelley; Amy Lane
WDB Members Absent:	Matt Capozzi; John Chester; Bethany Dentler (<i>excused</i>); Anthony Esposito; Toya Kelker
Summit and Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments/WDB Staff Present:	Meghan Adair, Special Projects Manager; Grace Glaubman, Deputy Director; Christine Marshall, Executive Director
Medina/Summit County Staff, Contracted Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Staff	Summit County: Colleen Sims, Attorney; KRA: James Warner; Deborah Johns; Michael Longo; Tom Thornton; Manicka Bryant; Shanavia Moore SCDJFS: Lindsay Schabitzer
Area 2 Fiscal Staff Present:	Tom Jalbert; Tari Addison; Mark Milhoan
Guests	

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Chair Ratcliff called the meeting to order at 8:04 AM. Adair took attendance of members present and virtually via a roll call. All non-members attending the meeting were asked to email meghan.adair@workforcearea2.org to be recorded in the minutes as present.

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. Ratcliff reviewed and requested a motion to approve the 03/26/2026 WDB meeting minutes. Gdovin made the motion, which Prentice seconded. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of the Board members in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections or abstentions.

III. REPORTS

- a. Special Report
 - i. Chair Ratcliff, shared he, Marshall and Glaubman attended the Ohio Workforce Association Workforce Initiatives Update held June 16, 2026, in Columbus. Ratcliff gave a report about the event which was focused on statewide workforce policy discussions and perspectives presented by representatives of Ohio's gubernatorial candidates.
 - ii. Ratcliff's Highlights included:
 1. Workforce development funding remains entirely federally funded and is undergoing significant federal policy changes.

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2. Future workforce needs are expected to center on semiconductors, data centers, electric vehicles, batteries, advanced manufacturing, biotechnology, healthcare innovation, cybersecurity, and information technology.
 3. Ohio ranks first in the Midwest for registered apprenticeship programs.
 4. Childcare availability was identified as a major workforce participation challenge, with Ohio ranking near the bottom nationally in childcare access.
 5. Gubernatorial representatives each shared plans and pillars of their campaigns with admitting they are in the process of developing policies. Ramaswamy's campaign explained a three-point plan for Ohioans and Acton's campaign shared it five pillars for successful workforce development.
 - a. Malcolm Costa raised questions regarding workforce board representation and inclusiveness. Discussion followed regarding state workforce board membership and local workforce representation in statewide policy discussions.
 - b. Patty Dempsey asked about workforce challenges related to substance abuse and workforce reentry programs. Members discussed current local recovery and workforce initiatives.
- b. Executive Committee Report
- i. Chair Ratcliff informed the board that there have been no meetings of the Executive Committee since the last WDB meeting on 03/26/2026.
- c. Finance Committee Report
- i. Chair Ratcliff summarized the 06/18/2026 Finance Committee meeting. Reports reviewed included WIOA funding, administrative expenditures, RESEA expenditures, monitoring activities, and proposed SFY 2027 budgets.
 - ii. Ratcliff then turned the meeting over to Jalbert, who reviewed the following reports for the Board members:
 1. SFY 2026 Area 2 WIOA Financials, as of 05/31/2026.
 - a. Jalbert stated that Medina is spending Year 1 funds for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs as Year 2 is depleted leaving less funds for the new year beginning July 1. Summit has \$163,000 remaining in Adult and \$17,000 in Dislocated Worker Year 2 funds. Jalbert expects Summit will spend all of the Year 2 funds by 6/30/2026.
 2. SFY 2026 Area 2 Operating Budget: Program and Administrative as of 05/31/2026.
 - a. Jalbert turned attention to the balances of the various service delivery contracts and training services under the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth categories for both counties.
 - i. The Adult and Dislocated Worker program expenditures are paid through May except for KRA, which is paid through March. KRA's April invoice is under review and May and June will be paid during the 90-day liquidation period after the year ends on June 30. OJT and ITA reimbursements appear to spending more than last year, however many of the payments are for trainings that began last year and crossed over into the current year.
 - ii. Youth is paid through March. Work experience and incentives do

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- not include the Summer Youth Employment push but will be included at with liquidation,
- iii. Glaubman's salary will be recoded to the beginning of the year to more accurately reflect time spent on programming vs. all of it charged to Administrative funds.
- iv. RESEA has finished spending PY 24 and are now spending PY 25 and PY 26 exists as we received notice but not the actual funding, which may provide further allocations.
- iii. Jalbert then reviewed the ODJFS Area 2 SFY 2027 final WIOA allocations
 - 1. We received our first increase in WIOA allocations in approximately 4-5 years, a 17.5% increase. However, with this increase we are still behind where we should be operating and according to trends.
- iv. Jalbert presented the SFY 2027 Workforce Area 2 WIOA Budget which is based upon the ODJFS final allocations, citing no major changes to the program budget. The Administrative budget will see a reduction in salaries and benefits as we continue to charge more of Glaubman's time to program.
 - 1. Chair Ratcliff requested a motion from the members to recommend the 2027 budget as presented for passage by the Summit/Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments at their 06/25/2026 meeting following this meeting.
 - a. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Ramos-Chesnes and seconded by Prentice. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections or abstentions.
- d. One-Stop Operations Committee Report
 - i. Chair Ratcliff informed the board that there have been no meetings of the One-Stop Operations Committee since the last WDB meeting on 03/26/2026.
- e. Performance Committee Report
 - i. Ratcliff called upon Mitchell, who in Capozzi's absence summarized the 06/09/2026 committee meeting, at which the Committee:
 - 1. Approved minutes of the September 2025 meeting.
 - 2. Reviewed the Adult/Dislocated Worker Career Services Performance Reports for Adult/Dislocated Worker Career Services Provider Performance Reports for PY 2025, July 2025 – May 2026.
 - 3. Reviewed the State of Ohio PY 2025 Q3 Unadjusted WIOA Performance Report, for the period of July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.
 - 4. Discussed the SFY 2027 WIOA service provider contracts renewals with recommendations to the SAMWA COG Board today.
 - 5. The committee learned the result of the SFY 2027 Request for Quotes (RFQ) for WIOA/CCMEP Program Monitoring and subsequent contract offer made.
 - 6. The committee was informed that WIOA performance standard negotiations between Area 2 and the State of Ohio are expected to begin later on this summer.
 - ii. Mitchell then turned the meeting over to Glaubman to review the performance reports.
 - 1. Glaubman reviewed the State of Ohio PY 2024/SFY25 Unadjusted Annual WIOA Performance Report for the Adult & Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs for the period of 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025.
 - a. As an Area, all performance standards were being met or exceeded the

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success level in all three programs. The final adjusted report is expected in the next few months.

2. Glaubman reviewed the State of Ohio PY 2025/SFY26 Q3 Unadjusted WIOA Performance Report for the Adult & Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs for the period of 7/1/2025 through 3/31/2026.
 - a. The benchmarks in Adult employment at 2nd quarter and 4th quarter after exit and Youth measurable skills gains are not currently meeting success level.
 - b. Participant reports will be obtained from the State to ensure everyone appearing in the denominators of these performance measures has a positive outcome recorded in the case management system, if applicable.
3. Glaubman directed attention to the local Area reports in Attachment 9 that tracked the annual WIOA Adult/Dislocated Worker Career Services performance for Summit and Medina Counties for PY 2025, 07/01/2025 through 05/31/2026, noting the following highlights:
 - a. Medina
 - i. 170 placements have been made thus far during the program year.
 - ii. Average wage for placements is \$22.69/hr.
 - iii. The top industries for placements were manufacturing (23.8%), transportation (10.1%), and healthcare/social services (10.1%).
 - iv. 4 On-the-Job Training (OJT) agreements have been executed with 20 plans written under them. The average starting wage for an OJT is \$21.17 per hour.
 - v. There were 12 hiring events with 329 job seekers in attendance.
 - vi. Top industries for employer services were manufacturing (28.9%), Healthcare/Social Services (23.5%), and Government (9.0%).
 - b. Summit
 - i. 282 placements have been made thus far during the program year with an average wage for placements at \$21.51 per hour.
 - ii. The top industries for placements were manufacturing (22.3%), transportation/warehousing, (18.4%), healthcare/social services (15.2%).
 - iii. 52 ITAs have been written.
 - iv. 13 OJT plans have been executed with 20 plans written under them. The average end wage for an OJT is \$20.01 per hour.
 - v. There were 13 hiring events with 877 job seekers in attendance.
 - vi. Industry employers receiving business services were Manufacturing (22.7%), Healthcare/Social Services (21.4%), and Government (8.4%).
 - iii. Chair Ratcliff called upon Adair for the RESEA report. Adair reported that RESEA performance has exceeded expectations for the current year, 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026, with approximately 70% of annual goals achieved while less than half of the year had elapsed. New staff additions were also introduced. Adair explained demographic and population differences affecting service delivery in Summit and Medina Counties.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Ratcliff requested an update on US EPA Brownfield Training Grant, which was provided by Marshall.

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Marshall recalled the timeline of the award and highlighted the complimentary grant from the Summit County Department of Economic Development for Brownfield research. Updates to the grant requested by the EPA were submitted in April and we are waiting for distribution of funds. Marshall highlighted some of the changes to processes in the federal government, at the office of Management and Budget, that are leading to delays.

- b. Ratcliff stated the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) notified the SAMWA COG on 12/19/25 that they intended to perform a CCMEP program monitoring review and a data validation of Medina County services and files starting 07/01/25 with a post-review meeting scheduled for 06/29/2026.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Chair Ratcliff began the new business portion with sharing an annual financial statement update. Julian and Grube were engaged on 01/20/2026 to prepare basic financial statements for Area 2, which were filed on 05/19/2026 with the Auditor of State (AOS).
- b. The AOS contacted the SAMWA COG Office to begin Area 2 CY 2025 annual audit in April. It was noted AOS traditionally begins their audit in July.
- c. The US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration announced on 06/04/2026 that the Local Workforce Area 2 WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Program Monitoring review will begin on 07/13/26. Marshall commented that this is the first time the SAMWA COG has been monitored by the federal government.
- d. On 06/09/2026, ODJFS Office of Fiscal Monitoring announced a PY 2024 and PY 2025 fiscal review, which began on 06/18/26.
- e. Chair Ratcliff moved on to the renewals of TANF/WIOA CCMEP Youth agreements
 - i. Ratcliff requested a motion to recommend to the SAMWA COG a Medina County CCMEP WIOA Youth contract to Jobs for Ohio's Graduates, the first of three 12-month renewal options, in the amount of \$260,000.00, for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
 - 1. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Ramos-Chesnes and seconded by Gdovin. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections. Mitchell abstained.
 - ii. Ratcliff requested a motion to recommend to the SAMWA COG a Summit County CCMEP WIOA Youth contract to Jobs for Ohio's Graduates, the first of three 12-month renewal options, in the amount of \$600,000.00, for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
 - 1. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Ramos-Chesnes and seconded by Prentice. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections. Mitchell abstained.
- f. Chair Ratcliff moved on to SFY 2027 WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services in Summit and Medina Counties.
 - i. Ratcliff requested a motion to recommend to the SAMWA COG a contract to KRA Corporation, the second of three 12-month renewal options, in the amount of \$2,159,000.00, with \$1,609,000.00 awarded to Summit County and \$550,000.00 awarded to Medina County, for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
 - 1. The motion was made by Moore and seconded by Vice-Chair Ramos-Chesnes. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections or abstentions.

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- g. Chair Ratcliff moved on to SFY 2027 for the One-Stop Operator Services in Summit and Medina Counties.
 - i. Ratcliff requested a motion to recommend to the SAMWA COG a contract to KRA Corporation, the second of three 12-month renewal options, in the amount of \$190,000.00, with \$163,500.00 awarded to Summit County and \$26,500.00 awarded to Medina County in MOU Partner funds for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
 - 1. The motion was made by Moore and seconded by Mitchell. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections with no objections or abstentions.
 - 2. Costa asked how the renewal recommendations are generated. Glaubman explained that contract performance is monitored regularly and through the Performance Committee and the One-Stop Operator Committee.
- h. SFY 2027 Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) and Assessment Services in Summit County
 - i. Chair Ratcliff requested a motion to recommend to the SAMWA COG a contract to Project Learn of Summit County, the second of three 12-month renewal options, in the amount of \$70,000.00 in WIOA funds, for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
 - 1. The motion was made by Costa and seconded by Vice-Chair Ramos-Chesnes. The motion passed by a roll call vote of those in attendance, recorded by Adair, with no objections. Mitchell abstained.

VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS/MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

- a. Chair Ratcliff requested Marshall share summaries of the letters of support written over the last quarter. Letters were written for College Now, KRA Corporation, and Akron Metro RTA.
- b. Ratcliff congratulated Lane on her upcoming retirement and noted this as her final board meeting.
- c. Glaubman reviewed a summary of annual In-Demand Jobs Week activities which took place 05/04/26 through 05/08/2026.
- d. Ratcliff turned the Board's attention to Ohio's April and May 2026 Unemployment Rates.
- e. Ratcliff noted the WDB Roster will be emailed to members.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ratcliff requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gdovin made the motion which was seconded by Mitchell. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 AM.

Prepared by:

Meghan Adair

Special Projects Manager, SAMWA COG