



COASTAL COUNTIES LOCALWORKFORCE BOARD
Minutes of Coastal Counties Local Workforce Board Meeting
CEI Maine Boardroom, Brunswick, ME
June 12, 2025

Board Members in Attendance: Brie O'Malley, Carrie Murphy, Chris Arbour, Cory King, Jaime Grover, Jennifer Steeves, Justin Cotta Holmes, Kate Bellmore, Kate Van Savage, Kelly Flagg, Margaret McDiarmid, Pamela Bennett, Robert Klaiber, Robin Wood, Samantha Fenderson, Tom Nickerson.

Board Members Absent: David Watts, Derek Armstrong, James Rather, Jennifer Kopp, Jim Whitten, Kelly Osborn, Lydia Sy, Neil Greenberg.

Staff in Attendance: Antoinette Mancusi, Executive Director, Heather Stott, Deputy Director; Amy Geren, One-Stop Operator; Kyle Olson, Senior Program Manager; Jennifer Galletta, Executive Assistant

I. WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS: *Carrie Murphy, CCWB Chair*

CCWB Chair Carrie Murphy greeted everyone and took attendance. Welcomed new board member Margaret McDiarmid. It was determined that quorum requirements were met. Board members were reminded about the recruitment of business members. This was the first meeting at the CEI Maine boardroom in Brunswick and Carrie ensured that members were able to easily access parking.

II. MEETING MINUTES: *Carrie Murphy, CCWB Chair*

A. Minutes of March 27, 2025, quarterly CCWB meeting

VOTED: To approve the minutes of March 27, 2025, Quarterly CCWB meeting

Motion: Kelly Flagg 2nd: Cory King Vote All in Favor

III. LOCAL PLAN PRESENTATION AND VOTE: *CCWI staff Antoinette Mancusi, Heather Stott, and Kyle Olson. CCWB member and steering committee member Tom Nickerson. USM representatives Tara Wheeler and Richard Bilodeau.*

Steering committee member Tom Nickerson introduced the Local Plan and its steering committee. Tara Wheeler and Richard Bilodeau from USM summarized the local area's economic and labor market information that informed the Local Plan 2025-2029. Some of the factors they looked at

which impacted unemployment were population projections, visa distribution, and the status of the gig economy. The labor force participation rate has declined by 35% in the region in recent years. They are also tracking if Maine sees a reverse migration over the next few years. Despite these obstacles, the 6 coastal counties' regional economy and job market is considered in good shape and projected to be healthy in the coming years.

Antoinette, Heather, and Kyle from CCWI as well as Dave from Workforce Solutions reviewed the local plan documents including access to services, the role of the Local One-Stop Center, Section IV – Title I, and Strategies for the system, employers, job seekers, and the CCWB. Antoinette shared that on May 16th CCWI's Board of Directors which includes our 6 county commissioners, voted unanimously to put the draft local plan up for vote for the CCWB. During this time, the draft local plan was posted for public comment (as required by law) from May 22, 2025, to June 2, 2025, on the CCWI website. No comments were received.

VOTED: To approve the Local Plan 2025-2029.

Motion: Tom Nickerson 2nd: Kelly Flagg Vote: All in Favor

*****10 Minute Break from 10:28 – 10:38 a.m. *****

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: *Antoinette Mancusi, CCWI*

Antoinette gave updates about grant spending for each active grant (WIOA, Rural Healthcare, QUEST, ARPA and Green Jobs for ME). With an anticipated decline in funds, the CCWB will need to decide whether to focus service delivery on the most highly eligible/in-need populations and/or revise funding targets. Dave Wurm shared a quarterly financial program report out from Workforce Solutions. Additionally, Antoinette briefly reviewed a WIOA 2025-2026 allocation update. The Maine Refugee Career Pathways grant was also reviewed because it ceased operations on April 30th, 2025, and the BOD voted to approve the change in the contract's end date on Friday, May 16th, 2025. The decision was made due to Maine's Aghan population being smaller than anticipated at the outset of the grant. All individuals currently utilizing the grant will be transferred to WIOA for services, so they do not experience an interruption in their training. Finally, the White House Executive Order 14278 regarding apprenticeships was briefly discussed in relation to how it may impact future grant funding.

V. INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING: *Kyle Olson, CCWI Senior Program Manager*

Kyle reviewed the outcomes of the Portland Career Fair held in April 2025. It was a positive turnout, and plans are now in motion for a second career fair in the Midcoast Maine area (specifically Rockland) this autumn. Kyle also shared a presentation on incumbent worker training and how funding through the Green Jobs for ME Grant, Rural Healthcare, and WIOA can support incumbent workers in upskilling.

VI. PROGRAM REPORTS

Reports for WIOA, Maine Rural Healthcare, QUEST, Maine Refugee Career Pathways, ARPA, and Green Jobs for ME Grants were included in the packet.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

CCWB Chair Carrie Murphy adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jennifer Galletta
CCWI Executive Assistant

APPROVED: 9/19/2025