

**NORTH COUNTRY REGIONAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
&  
NORTH COUNTRY WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP, Inc.**

**Youth Council Meeting Phone Conference**

**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 9:30 a.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Greg Dahlen

**By Phone:** Elaine Leavitt, Chair, Mark Moeller, Vice Chair, Elaine Reynolds, Cathy Snow, Carol Calabrese, Barry Mack, and Pat Lucia

**Staff:** Paul Grasso, Mary Beth McKee, and Angela Bucci

**Call to Order:** Elaine Leavitt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Thursday, May 19, 2011 via teleconference.

**Consent Agenda:**

Minutes from March 2, 2011  
Year-to-Date Program Performance  
Year-to-Date Financial Report

Mary Beth had a conversation about Youth Performance this past Tuesday with the current youth providers. She is little concerned because we are struggling with numeracy and literacy and we have done very well in the past. We are struggling because it's difficult to get a gain in 12 months from the kids that are basic skills deficient and we have had more numbers than usual that are exiting prior to a positive outcome. We have included every kid that could impact this performance measure and we will be about 106% of standard. The others were our usual of 115% and 120%, so I am pleased with that. If everything goes the way it should between now and the end of June, then we should nail all the youth performance measures, which is important because we will get incentive money associated to that.

**Motion to accept the Consent Agenda by Greg Dahlen and seconded by Mark Moeller and approved unanimously by members present and by phone.**

**Future WIA Funding Update: Paul Grasso**

We received our funding allocations early this week and they are preliminary numbers. There is still an issue with the continuing resolution that approved the budget for the current fiscal year. When WIA money comes from the federal government to the State government, the governor is allowed to take 15% of the funds for programs he feels are important. In the past, a lot of that money has been assigned to the Department of Labor at the state level. Because WIA was cut approximately 10%, the president decided to change the rules to make it easier on the local workforce investment areas. He reduced the governor's 15% down to 5% and the rest of that money was going to be allocated to the local areas. It is still not clear whether that will take place on July 1 or October 1, so they are still debating where that 5% goes. Since time was running short, the federal government decided to give everyone the worse case scenario figures. Mary Beth and Kelly have been working hard with what was given and will issue a budget soon, but basically for us the youth funding was just about level. In plan year 2010 we received \$527,283 and in plan year 2011 we will receive \$526,330. Remember, we did the RFP and the youth council allocated \$220,000 to NAHEC and \$225,000 to the three OneStop Centers (operating as NCYETA) and the WIB will get the rest for administration money. To put it in perspective, our adult allocations we received this year were \$509,000 and the upcoming year we will see \$461,000. Dislocated Worker was \$413,000, and the upcoming year is \$319,000. So comparatively speaking the youth programs did very well. Summer youth employment will be funded through OTDA. The money comes to DSS and they have the option of keeping the money and running a program or allocating it to the OneStops. In the past, they have been allocated to the OneStops. We received a call from OTDA yesterday that so far, Essex and Hamilton counties have sent letters in allocating the money, but Franklin and Clinton counties have not and tomorrow is the deadline for submitting those letters. We made contact with John Redden and Leslie Lyon and asked them if they are going to do it and if so, they need to do it quickly. Until those letters come in, we can't get our allocations. They gave us what the allocations might be, so we are just waiting for that.

**Solid Foundations: Paul Grasso**

We don't have \$100,000 to allocate to Solid Foundations because the funds are just not there. Last year we had some carry-in funds and stimulus money that was left over to fund the current session. We will be negotiating contracts with NAHEC and the career centers looking at what they proposed for service levels and adjusting them downwards.

**Solid Foundations continued: Mary Beth McKee**

We sent a letter to CCC about a month ago that we would have to end the contract because we had no idea of funding, so they are fully prepared to close down.

**Youth Council Parent Representative: Mary Beth McKee**

I would like to thank Cathy Snow for suggesting Lisa Garrow as the parent representative for our youth council. Lisa is a current GED student and a mother of teenagers. When we had our audit, part of the governance review is to review appropriate membership of the youth council and for a long time we haven't had parent representation, so they keep reminding us we have to do that. In the morning, Lisa is at the OneWorkSource for GED classes and in the afternoon she is at CV TEC for medical and legal office secretarial courses, so she indicated she would be available.

**Paul Grasso**

We will need to have another Youth Council meeting to negotiate the contracts with the two service providers to approve the service levels in June. We will ask Lisa Garrow to attend that meeting.

**Motion to adjourn by Greg Dahlen and seconded by Pat Lucia and approved unanimously by members present and by phone.**

**Angela M. Bucci**