

**Metro South/West Workforce Board
Finance Committee Minutes
October 30, 2025**

Members Present on Zoom: Mark Fegley, Chair, Chris Vericker

Others Present on Zoom: MSW WB: Henry Bryson, Greg Bunn, Meghan Burke, Louise Meyer, Pam Thyne, Carol Wolf, Consultant: Cindy Cedrone

Welcome and Approval of September 24, 2025 Minutes

Greg Bunn welcomed the members and turned the meeting over to Mark Fegley. Mark asked for a motion to approve the September 24, 2025 minutes. Chris Vericker made a motion. Mark seconded. Motion passed.

Fiscal Status 1st Quarter Reports

Carol Wolf presented FY26 1st quarter summary reports noting that all benchmarks were on track. She reported that carry-over funds were still being spent, and authorization had been received to spend FY26 funds. The Federal Independent FY25 Audit is now in progress and then the FY26 State Certification process will begin. Carol gave examples of “lean times” spending, noting that training funds would have been capped. In order to keep as many services as possible, staff layoffs were a last resort.

State/Federal Budget Updates

Greg reported the State’s hiring freeze is still in effect and continues to hinder hiring of three key state staff positions, some over a year. Wagner-Peyser requires that only State/Merit staff can deliver Title III services. This has held up the spending of \$508K. Mark asked that a memo be drafted to possibly be sent to the undersecretary. Greg will present this option to the Executive Committee. Greg noted that there are no updates on the Federal level because of the government shutdown.

Integrating Fundraising Efforts to Purview of the Committee

Greg reported that a Certificate of Solicitation from the Attorney General’s office has been received to start fundraising efforts. For donations, a platform called Zeffy, has been set up and linked to a Board money market account. It will concentrate on Youth Connections, posted on the website, with videos and stories of where donations are used. Based on recommendations of the fundraising working group, efforts will fall into three buckets: 1. Passive donations, 2. Annual Events, 3. Large corporations/foundations. Meghan Burke is meeting with a potential participant who has fundraising experience. She also reported that a spreadsheet of area foundations/application process/requirements, etc., has been generated and a narrative/stories of broad uses of the funds is in progress.

Chris will reach out to the marketing team, which help non-profits, at Middlesex Savings for possible help in marketing efforts. He also suggested reaching out to all Board members asking for their participation in donating. Mark suggested putting a plan in place and meeting in mid-November.

Greg presented an idea of “cards for careers” linking sports/game cards to possible fundraising efforts.

Mark made a motion to adjourn. Chris seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.