Joint Meeting
Mohawk Valley EDGE & Workforce Investment Board
Tuesday, March 22, 2016
12:00 P.M.
Radisson Hotel, Ballroom
200 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13502

The Meeting was called to order by Eve Van De Wal, EDGE, Board Chair, at 12:15 P.M.

The meeting started with introductions of MV EDGE Board Officers, WIB Board Officers

WIB Attendance:

Gary Scalzo, Wilber Allen, Phil Williams, Kathleen Rinaldo, Jodi Blydenburg, Barb Schram, Robert Brenchley, Delores Caruso, Mark Feane, Shawna Papale, Judy Petroski, Franca Armstrong, Kelly Walters, David Mathis, Karin Piseck, Tom Reichel, Scott Ingmire, Mike Choquette, Amy Turner

Consent Agenda-Wilber Allen Vice Chair WIB Board (WIB Board ACTION)…M/S……………Accepted…….G.Scalzo/M. Choquette

- Minutes- (January 19, 2016)
- Financial Statements January 2016
- System Report

Presentations- Alice Savino, (WIB)-How the Mohawk Valley Is Preparing Future Workforce:

How is the Mohawk Valley preparing for future workforce, by providing ample training opportunities for job seekers in the community for now and the future, it’s not only about job growth, but replacing retiring workers serving special populations and the unemployed. The Workforce Development Board has continued to be the fortunate recipient of grants mostly at a federal level that funds training opportunities. The Newest Grant is the American Apprenticeship Initiative, which is a five year $3 million grant. Apprenticeships help mobilize America’s workforce with structured on the job learning in industries like construction, manufacturing as well as new emerging industries: Healthcare, IT, Energy, Telecommunications and more, and for this grant we are looking at Advanced manufacturing, Nanotechnology, cybersecurity, and unmanned vehicle Systems in a six county area including Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Chenango, Delaware and Otsego. Registered apprenticeships connect job seekers looking to learn new skills with employers looking for qualified workers resulting in a workforce with industry. Also, employers benefit from the apprenticeship program by getting a well-trained skilled workforce, a competitive advantage, and tax benefits with some cash supports available from the grant for the next five years.

There are many groups that are working with the workforce system to make sure there is a trained workforce to supply current employers and those that are on their way here (Ex): Summer Youth Employment Program, College Internship Programs, Year round internship programs, Workforce Innovation & Opportunity funding for training and on the job training for current and long term unemployed, Career Day sponsored by Genesis, IBEW and construction trades, SABA, Job Shadowing by SABA and STEM Council headed by BOCES. Also, The Community Foundation has allowed us to now manage the Connect Mohawk Valley website. This website currently has 40 active internship/apprenticeship listings, 75 active employers and 100+ student applications and summer employment opportunities will soon be posted there. This Job growth is going to change our community and that we target many different population groups: Recent graduates that want to return to the area, Veterans, Ex-offenders, Individuals with disabilities, ESL Unemployed, Underemployed and those currently not in the workforce because they have been unable to find suitable employment. There is a need for employers to hire interns, offer summer employment opportunities, Serve on the Workforce Advisory Council that is only 3 meetings per year, allow for student job shadowing and to use inclusive workforce programs that benefit all in the community because inclusion will make the community safer, reduce poverty and improve our quality of life.
The Workforce Development Board along with our partners wants to make involvement as efficient and productive as possible. There’s staff at each of the Working Solutions centers to assist. Contact us and we will come to you to discuss the best way you can benefit from any groups:

Working-solutions.org

ConnectMohawkValley.com

Alice Savino
asaviono@working-solutions.org
315-793-6037

The next Full Board meeting will be held June 24, 2016, at Herkimer County Community College, in the Hummel Corporate and Professional Education Center, Room 283.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.