

Area 8 Full Board Special Meeting
July 7, 2026
1:00pm via Google Meet

1:01pm Chairman Rob Radway called the meeting to order

Director Freymuth reviewed an IWT contract submitted by Auglaize County OMJ for employer Washington Penn, located in Wapakoneta. Discussion with Auglaize County OMJ staff regarding living within their budget has already happened, they state they have the funding. To be noted, Auglaize County OMJ staff would like to keep whatever funds are left over after liquidation of Special Projects as they continue to have requests for IWT's and OJT's. Dave Krendl moved to approve the IWT contracted as submitted, 2nd by Keith Everhart, approved unanimously.

The rest of the meeting time was used for preparation of the upcoming meeting with ODJFS Assistant Director Brad Barger. The Board reviewed financial statements, considered recommendations from Director Freymuth and discussed Special Projects #1 and #2. There is a big difference between these 2 projects in that #1 was a true "Special" project by assisting eligible individuals obtain and maintain a driver's license while #2 was truly an extension of Formula Funds. The following are the Board's prioritized needs:

1. Continued services to employers (IWT's and OJT's) as provided with Special Project #2 funds.
2. Continued services for job seekers and underemployed (training & education) as provided by Special Project #2.
3. Recognizing Area 8's low unemployment, could a waiver be requested to DOL to recognize the under-employment rate (i.e., SNAP recipients) therefore increasing the Formula Funds without needing to apply for Special Project funds.
4. Need for additional Administrative Funds to keep all OMJ's appropriately staffed along with Board management.

Director Freymuth has been asked to postpone the scheduled July 9th meeting with no reason given by Brad Barger's Administrative Assistant, Joyce. Amy will continue to work with Joyce on securing another date and time to be communicated to the Board.

Chairman Radway adjourned the meeting at 1:56pm.