



AGENDA

May 8, 2026

9:00 am–9:50 am

In-person attendance expected; contact CMJTS administrative staff to request accommodation.

If attending in-person, please contact Diana Ristamaki for meeting location

Please go to the board meeting page for all meeting materials and links to join meetings virtually:

<https://www.cmjts.org/cmjts-joint-powers-board-workforce-development-board-and-committee-meetings>

MEMBERS:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Janelle Sowers, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Eriann Faris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sherry Smith, Co Vice-Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Emily Galzki |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Lord, Co Vice-Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Johnson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mohammed Alghamd | <input type="checkbox"/> Christa Martin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joy Beise | <input type="checkbox"/> Rob Stark (rotation) |

STAFF:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diana Ristamaki (CMJTS) | <input type="checkbox"/> CMJTS Business Services (rotation) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CMJTS Youth Career Navigator | <input type="checkbox"/> Dina Wuornos (CMJTS - rotation) |

1. Call to order

2. Welcome/Introductions

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda

(A single motion and vote are taken on all items listed under the consent agenda. Items may be added or deleted, or pulled for separate discussion, at the request of committee chairs, staff, or partners.)

- a. Meeting Agenda
- b. Previous Committee Meeting Minutes*

4. Old Business

- a. Youth Committee Recruiting Update
 - i. Katie Raverty
 - ii. Open Doors

5. New Business

- a. Update on camps
- b. Committee Membership Outreach
- c. Future Speaker Idea Requests

Upon request, this material can be made available in alternate formats.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by contacting 763.271.3700 or info@cmjts.org

- 6. Go-Arounds**
- 7. Discussion**
- 8. Future Agenda Items**
- 9. Adjournment**

***Attachments**

Previous meeting minutes
2026 Board Meeting Schedule

TODAY'S MEETING SCHEDULE

May 8, 2026

8:00 am	–	8:50 am	Operations Committee
9:00 am	–	9:50 am	Community & Government Relations Committee
9:00 am	–	9:50 am	Workforce Development Committee
9:00 am	–	9:50 am	Youth Committee
10:00 am	–	11:50 am	GOFF Training: Storytelling and Communications
12:00 pm	–	12:50 pm	2024-2025 Audit Presentation and Lunch
1:00 pm	–	4:00 pm	GOFF Training: Storytelling and Communications

NEXT YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

September 11, 2026

8:00 am	–	8:50 am	Operations Committee
9:00 am	–	9:30 am	LMI
9:40 am	–	10:50 am	Community & Government Relations Committee
9:40 am	–	10:50 am	Workforce Development Committee
9:40 am	–	10:50 am	Youth Committee
11:00 am	–	12:15 pm	Workforce Development Board

2026 Youth Committee Schedule

March 13, May 8, September 11, December 11

All Meeting information and attachment information can be found:

CMJTS Joint Powers Board, Workforce Development Board, and Committee Meetings Page:
<https://www.cmjts.org/cmjts-joint-powers-board-workforce-development-board-and-committee-meetings/>

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2026
9:00 am – 9:50 am
Hybrid meeting

Members Present: Janelle Sowers (chair), Amy Lord, Joy Beise, Emily Galzki, Christa Martin, Sherry Smith

Members Absent: Mohammed Alghamdi, Jessica Johnson, Eriann Faris

Staff Present: Diana Ristamaki, Stephanie Jensen

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: Lord made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by: Beise. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Request to remove current items from agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

PY 26/27 WIOA Plan

- Discussion on the homeless waiver and the ITA waiver, and the curriculum used for financial literacy.
- Motion: Beise made the motion to approve. Seconded by Galzki. Motion carried.

New Officer Criteria

Due to updated by-laws, Article X, 2(b) states:

The Youth Committee will help local communities to identify gaps in services, coordinate youth policy, ensure quality services, and leverage financial and programmatic resources. The committee will assist in planning, operational oversight, and addressing issues related to the provision of services to youth under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The Youth Committee will conduct an annual review of youth outcomes as identified in the Local Plan. The committee will report to the Council (Board) through a quarterly report or as needed. The Youth Committee may include individuals who are not members of the Council; however, the Chair of the Youth Committee shall be a Council member and a business representative.

Motion: Galzki made the motion to approve Smith and Lord as vice co-chairs. Seconded by Martin. Motion carried.

Youth Committee Recruiting

- Update: Ristamaki will be asking Katie Raverty to join the committee.
- Ristamaki will be approaching Open Doors for another representative for homeless youth. She also approached the Safe Harbor advocates, but schedules don't allow them to be on the committee.

School Background Checks for Career Navigators

- Lord reported ISD 728 now requires background checks for all visitors, no matter how long they will be there. Lord has been working with HR and Asst. Superintendent to allow certain agencies that do background checks on their own employees to be excluded from this new policy. Background checks need to be renewed every three years.

GO-AROUNDS

Amy Lord:

- Thanked CMJTS for last-minute assistance doing mock interviews for Build Your Future Week at Ivan Sands ALC
- Acknowledged Maurice Johnson for assistance at the Nursing Assistant Program to help with exam costs or career pieces.
- Bite of Reality event coming up May 20 at Oak River High School. Wings Financial will be putting together a financial literacy component. If interested in volunteering for half a day or whole day to witness it, contact Lord.
- Pro Start Competition at River Center – Elk River High School took first place and will be going to Baltimore for the national championship.

Sherry Smith:

- Free GED testing money is gone until end of June, but offering \$10 off to make it \$26 a test
- ABE sites had to make changes quickly due to immigrant populations. Two lower-level English classes were shifted to High Flex so students could attend in person or from home.
- Lord asked if Smith has worked with Johnny Pops in Oak River. Smith had conversations with them a few years ago but timing didn't work out. She will contact them again.
- Beise thanked Smith and her colleagues for providing answers to some ABE questions from students at Pine Tech and Cambridge Technical College.

Christa Martin

- HOSA Conference at the Convention Center in St. Cloud – had lots of exposure to students interested in healthcare careers
- Imaging Open House April 22 at CentraCare Plaza
- Surgery Open House April 16 at St. Cloud Hospital
- Minnesota Medical Association partnering with new medical school in St. Cloud for a Rural Youth Medical Career Discovery Day. New medical school is a partnership with CentraCare and University of MN, with focus on rural health. Anyone who applies needs to have interest in being a provider in rural area. The school is a renovated office building near CentraCare Plaza – fully functioning medical school with apartments next door.
- Two-week job shadow program at Willmar Hospital – 10 departments throughout two weeks. One session in June and one in July, possibly third session in August based on interest in June and July.

Emily Galzki

- Career Fair coming up in Pine City at Pizza Pub
- Collaboration with schools and county
- E1MN quarterly meeting with VRS, DHS, and the school to discuss how best to support students

Joy Beise

- Transition Fair Monday at Fond Du Lac Community College – mock interviews, employers, parent panel for northern schools, Tuesday at Pine Tech for Kanabec and Mille Lacs County schools.
- North Branch Job Fair will be soon

Diana Ristamaki

- Camp flyers coming out soon
- Thanked Lord for connection with Great River Energy – will be hosting one day of Central Trades Camp
- Heads-up posted for another career navigator in Central Region
- Beise suggested connection with PACER, Assistive Technology Lab for camps

Discussion

- Board training rescheduled to May 8 – Youth Committee will be in-person again for those who can

NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

No new items

NEXT MEETING DATE

May 8, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Lord made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am. Seconded by: Smith. Motion carried.

2026 Meeting Dates

- March 13, May 8, September 11, December 11, 2026