

NORTHWEST INDIANA WORKFORCE BOARD MINUTES
Center of Workforce Innovations
February 4, 2016

Present:

David Broad, Frank Cardello, Adam Collins, George Douglas, Kris Emaus, Ric Frataccia, Rich Gamblin, Clausell Harding, Rayanna Henderson, Keith Kirkpatrick, Mary Lewis, Joe Medellin, Karen Morlan, Dan Murchek, Gary Olund, Arlene Pearson, Ben Scheiner

Proxies:

Debi Baughman, Jim Clarida, Barb Sacha, Bob Schaefer, Judy Stanton

Absent:

Thomas Coley, Kim DeQuis, Kristine Lukowski, Gary Miller, Bonnie Maxey, Chris Smith

Staff:

Crissy Dooley, Barb Grimsgard, Robyn Minton, Tammy Stump, Linda Woloshansky, Jennifer Zatarski

Guest:

Mike Zimmerman

CALL TO ORDER

George Douglas welcomed and thanked everyone for attending today's meeting.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda, including the minutes of the last meeting, the dashboard, and performance information was presented for consideration.

Motion: A motion was made by Ric Frataccia and seconded by Frank Cardello to approve the consent agenda. **The motion passed.**

Chair George Douglas said that the agenda is being changed to allow the business items to be addressed first and the reports can be last.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Sector Strategy

Linda Woloshansky reviewed the sector strategies for engaging Northwest Indiana's employers. Work has already been done in Tier 1 for manufacturing. The Manufacturing Consortium has had several meetings and submitted a grant application for Skill UP! Discussions for the Manufacturing Consortium will include topics like OSHA, government regulations, compliance, and workforce development. For the Manufacturing consortium, topics outside of education and workforce development will be handled by the NWI Forum. The consortium will also be provided information about curriculum modifications and funding opportunities. On February 17th grant recipients will be announced for the Skill UP grant. Healthcare will likely be the next Tier 1 consortium and possibly Information Technology. Tier 2 industry sectors will only be focused on organizing and strategies.

The Board recommends the consortiums provide their findings and recommendations to the Board for advocacy and policy considerations. February 25th at 8:30 a.m. is the next Manufacturing Consortium meeting. This will be a meeting of consortium members only as an organizing meeting. However board

members can attend to listen and board members representing the manufacturing sector are encouraged to attend if they have not attended a meeting in the past..

Board Member Joe Medellin says that ArcelorMittal is a part of the Indiana Manufacturing consortium out of Indianapolis and it may be logical to work with them. Board member Kris Emaus stated that she wants to ensure that sector strategy work is not duplicated across different entities. Board member Ric Frataccia would like to engage with adults in the Valparaiso community, and is working to offer certifications in Information Technology for tech support and Bio Med/Bio Tech classes in the evening.

Linda Woloshansky stated that the Skill UP! grant will last for 15 months and Ivy Tech has already been positioned to deliver training to the employers involved. A number of employers are also beginning to look at Vincennes University in addition to Ivy Tech for training.

Motion: A motion was made by Kris Emaus and seconded by Keith Kirkpatrick to approve the sector strategy as presented. **The motion passed.**

NWIWB Request for Proposal

George Douglas stated that the work on the NWIWB's Request for Proposal will continue. He will be reaching out to the committee members to convene since the RFP process must be completed by June 30th.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Audit

George Douglas congratulated Linda Woloshansky and the staff at CWI for another successful audit. He stated that it was good to know that the public funds are being used appropriately and that all internal controls are being followed successfully.

Motion: A motion was made by Gary Olund and seconded by Mary Lewis to approve the audit as presented. **The motion passed.**

Individual Training Policy

The debt students are taking on for education and training is increasing. The regional individual training account (ITA) cap is currently set at \$3,000 and the two year ITA cap is \$6,000. After careful review of the increasing costs the recommendation to the board is to increase the ITA cap amount to \$5,500, which moves the two year ITA cap to \$11,000. The fund includes items like tuition, books, and required supplies/materials required for education and training. Robyn Minton stated that WIOA designated money is used after all other funding streams have been exhausted. The completion rate for individuals in these training programs is near 90% because participants are screened and sign a commitment. Board members request more information on the number of people that will benefit from this higher amount.

Motion: A motion was made by Dan Murchek and seconded by Arlene Pearson to approve the Individual Training Policy as presented. **The motion passed.**

Schedule for Board Meetings

Recently there have been scheduling conflicts with the current Board meeting date. The Board members are asked to indicate on a slip of paper which meeting date, the 2nd or 4th Thursday of every other month, would they prefer to meet.

4. STAFF REPORT

Works Council

The CTE teacher packets for the *21 Under 21* awards luncheon have been sent out. The awareness campaign continues with new printed materials available.

Youth Council

The JAG Conference occurred on January 29th and was a great success. Board member Ben Scheiner suggested that future JAG events have better time keeping.

5. DATES TO REMEMBER

The next Board meeting is on March 17th from 2-4pm.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned.

David Broad, Secretary

Crissy E. Dooley, Recording Secretary