

NORTHWEST INDIANA WORKFORCE BOARD MINUTES
Center of Workforce Innovations
January 26, 2017

Present:

Frank Cardello, Jim Clarida, Adam Collins, Kim DeQuis, Kris Emaus, Clausell Harding, Alishea Hawkins, Keith Kirkpatrick, Mary Lewis, Joe Medellin, Dan Murchek, Arlene Pearson, Bob Schaefer, Judy Stanton

Proxies:

Thomas Coley, Rich Gamblin, Gary Olund, Barb Sacha, Ben Scheiner

Absent:

Debi Baughman, George Douglas, Ric Frataccia, Angela Hampton, Karen Kopka, Kristine Lukowski, Gary Miller, Chris Smith

Staff:

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

Board quiz.

CALL TO ORDER

Adam Collins welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. George Douglas was called away for an important matter.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Adam presented the consent agenda which included the minutes of the last meeting, the financials, and performance information.

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

2. REPORTS

INWIBA

George Douglas and Linda Woloshansky met with Workforce Board (WB) Chairs from across the state, reviewed some challenges and opportunities that will be coming in the future, and discussed new legislation like House Bill 1008. HB1008, sponsored by Republicans, provides an employer-based tax credit for incumbent worker training. At the meeting, Commissioner Braun spoke about future of workforce development with constancy and clarity. He stated that focus will continue to be on Career and Technical Education (CTE), high wage/high demand jobs, and stated that roughly 20 million has been put aside for CTE programming. More funding for the JAG program will be made available so the program can expand to 30 more locations. Commissioner Braun also focused on a Hamilton project where post-secondary education, WorkOne, adult education, and other partners work together fluidly to deliver unified services. An example in Northwest Indiana would be how k-12, post-secondary, CTE, and economic development work together in Starke County.

Marketing Task Force

Mary Lewis reviewed the proposed NWIWB Logo. It places the Workforce Board in the forefront of the logo to show importance but allows WorkOne to be displayed as a secondary focus. Board members discussed the logo and requested the task force to take a second look at the magnifying glass and how Northwest Indiana is identified. Member Alishea Hawkins added that new legislation requires the text "American Job Center" be added to a State's job center name.

Ms. Lewis requested volunteer presenters from the Board to do a 10-15 minute presentation to local chambers, rotaries, Kiwanis, economic development boards, and other organizations to provide a brief

overview of the NWIWB's work. Volunteers will be provided a PowerPoint presentation, talking points, and if requested a CWI staff person to help. Barb Grimsgard passed out a signup sheet for members to fill out. Joe Medellin reviewed some of the talking points included in the Board packet.

Youth Employment Council

Keith Kirkpatrick and Tammy Stump just completed interviewing six students for the JAG achievement award for the Career Development Conference that is taking place January 27, 2017.

Thirteen schools applied for a competitive grant that was funded. These funds will be used to determine and set program standards, train other schools, and develop curriculum.

The Governor's program only gives youth the Work Ethic certificate after graduation. Our region has concluded that certificates should be given while in high school to allow for job opportunities and skill development.

A Youth Council PowerPoint is being created to take to chambers and other meetings to talk to employers about hiring youth. The work ethic certificate is an important piece of the work experience conversation with the employers.

Works Council

Kris Emaus stated that the 21 Under 21 event will be on May 18, 2017 at the Ivy Tech Campus in Valparaiso. Applications are out to counselors, superintendents, principals, and those in the trades.

The schools that received the Works Council grants provided a report on their activities to the Council. These reports included the Michigan City CTE Center's NIPSCO Academy, Pulaski County's Mechanical Maintenance program, and Newton County's Advanced Agriculture program.

Work continues on the work based learning grant. Using information from surveys received from post-secondary institutions and employers, we will be developing common criteria for work-based learning programs. Survey responses were received from 81% of the schools and 33% of employers. Of the schools surveyed 55% of them have some kind of work and learn program in place. 6% of schools refer their students to Career and Technical Education for work experiences. 45% of employers have accepted people in work and learn experiences. Safety and employability of students continue to be top concerns for employers.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Local Plan

The Local Plan which was updated to include DWD changes was approved.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Annual Audit

The results of the annual CWI audit are included in the Board Packet. The Board congratulated the CWI staff and questioned if an annual audit was necessary. Jennifer Zatarski said that the law regarding the acceptance of funding requires a full annual audit.

Motion: A motion was made by Keith Kirkpatrick and seconded by Mary Lewis to accept the audit as presented. **The motion passed.**

5. PRESIDENT & STAFF REPORTS

Linda thanked Adam Collins for stepping in to chair the meeting and to George Douglas for attending the INWIBA meeting. Also to Mary Lewis, Kim DeQuis, Bob Schaefer, and Ben Scheiner for being JAG CDC

judges, and to Joe Medellin for sending staff and to Jim Clarida and the IBEW Local 531 for sponsoring the Career Development Conference.

Impact of WIOA & Reduced DWD Staffing

Linda Woloshansky stated that there might be a potential WIOA funding reduction of 10%. DWD has reduced their staffing within the WorkOne offices and therefore requires our region to adjust how we deliver service to our communities. DWD has expressed the desire to have two offices in our region. One office will serve communities in the East, and the other will serve communities in the West. Additional/alternative locations are being considered.

The state issued requirements for new WIOA infrastructure agreements and possible new Federal funding implications with new the Administration. DWD released information on the one-stop certification process.

Motion: A motion was made by Judy Stanton and seconded by Kris Emaus to approve the planning and implementation of the WIOA requirements as it relates to service locations. **The motion passed.**

Sector Strategies

Allison Bertl presented information on the Skill-UP! manufacturing sector strategy. The goal for this sector strategy was to meet NWI's manufacturing employer needs while creating a manufacturing career pathway. As part of the effort, there is an employer manufacturing consortium, a newsletter, and a prep camp that was implemented. With the input of the employers involved in the consortium, a revised curriculum was created with Ivy Tech to ensure employer needs are met.

Susan Richardson presented information on the Rise-In-Retail sector strategy. Ms. Richardson has over 25 years of retail experience as an employer and takes pride in promoting this sector strategy. Working with Wal-Mart and the Chicago-Cook Workforce Partnership, the goals of the program are to create a retail career pathway, to advance the skills of entry-level employees, and increase the number of qualified candidates active in the retail career pathway. A retail consortium has been created with a newsletter for participating employers. A few Board members were present for the Retail Training Lab opening at Southlake Mall. There have been hiring and career events at the mall and at the WorkOne offices.

Closing Notes

Joseph Medellin appreciates the WorkOne success stories included within the Board packet.

DWD is releasing an RFP for Adult Education.

6. DATES TO REMEMBER

The next Board meeting is March 23, 2017, from 2-3:30 pm Central time and the JAG CDC is January 27, 2017 at IUN starting at 9:30.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned.

Gary Olund, Secretary
Crissy E. Dooley, Recording Secretary