

Minutes

Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board Meeting

August 7, 2025
10:00 am – 11:30 pm

Online via Zoom

Board Members Online: Patti Yount, Gary Norman, Dustin Bentz, Bryan Robbins, Missy Cooper, Daniel Noel, Stephanie Spillman, Sherry Butler, Denise Smith, Sonja White **Others Online:** Kurt Kegerreis, Margo Olson, Charlotte Gunter, Carla Crowe, Kristal Biehle, Shanell Clayton, Brittany Dyer, Karen Snyder, Konnie McCollum, Clarice Patterson, Madi Corya, Jennifer Tyra, Eric Kranz, Amanda Getzendanner, Stephanie Perkins, Austin Clark, Mariah Brison

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved by email vote.

Executive Staff Updates - Kurt Kegerreis

Kurt Kegerreis gave an update on Region 9. The Region continues to weather the changes in the State. Those changes include JAG transitioning. Region 9 is doing better than most with JAG. The SCSEP program has been put on hold, similar to programs in the rest of the nation. DWD had extensive layoffs and reassignments that have had some effect on the offices.

The All-Staff Meeting was held on July 11th. There are big policy changes still looming. EGR's are under review. The Federal WIOA grant is still up for reauthorization. Kurt is still doing outreach with elected officials and landlords.

There are plenty of big opportunities still to come. Everyone is staying aggressive and forward focusing. Apprenticeships are a big opportunity. The Region is applying for the next round of Career Coaching funds. The Workforce Alliance conversations with Lilly are on-going, and are still pursuing Opioid Settlement funds as a means to prolong JAG.

The Board officers are up for re-election. The current officers are Board Chair Patti Yount out of Lochmueller & Associates. Jon Bond out of Concord Strategy Group, he holds the Vice Chair position on the Board. Gary Norman out of Ripley County Economic Development, he holds the Secretary position on the Board. Scott Hubbard out of Arvin Sango, he holds the Treasurer position on the Board. Board nominations were approved by email vote.

JAG Updates - Kristal Biehle

Kristal Biehle gave an update on JAG. The counties that still have JAG are Bartholomew County at the Community Education Coalition, Franklin County, Jefferson County, Decatur

County, Jackson County, Ripley County, Dearborn County, Jennings County and Switzerland County. Switzerland County and Jennings County High Schools have Career Coaching. All remaining Corporations have CHE Ambassadors. Kristal and her team are looking at Operating Funds, Student Opportunities, and other Grant Ideas to keep JAG going.

In the past school year they served 925 participants. There was an average of 112 contact hours. There were \$2,467,259.00 Scholarships Earned. They were close or met all of their goals except for the Improvement in attendance. While there was an improvement in attendance it is a varied scale on how it looks. There were 187 participants last year in the Follow-Up. They excelled all their goals in this category.

The Program Highlights are Expanded Reach. Services were expanded in 13 of the 17 school corporations through support from the CHE grant. JAG footprint expanded to 23 programs with some schools having 3 programs. Student Achievement is another program highlight. Eleven students placed top three at the State Career Development Conference CDC, earning a combined total of \$5,400 in scholarships. National Participation is another program highlight. Twenty-four Region 9 students represented Indiana at the National JAG Career Development Conference, with 15 of them competing at the national level. Leadership Recognition is another program highlight. South Ripley's Angel Tunny and Milan's Shelby Williams Served as Indiana JAG State Officers. Shelby Williams was also elected to the National Career Association.

CHE Updates - Jennifer Tyra

Jennifer Tyra gave an update on CHE. The students served with this grant in Pre-K - 2nd grade are 340. Pre-K has 12 students and they covered the topics, Self Portrait of Interest, and Good Habits Chart. Kindergarten has 13 students and covered the topics, Self Portrait of Interest, and Good Habits Chart. 1st Grade has 162 students and covered the topics, Self Portrait of Interest, and Good Habits Chart. 2nd Grade has 153 students and covered the topics Self Portrait of Interest, and Good Habits Chart.

The students served in 3rd through 5th Grade. In 3rd Grade they served 251 students, and they covered the topics, Career Interest Assessment, and Choose a Career. In 4th Grade they served 423 students, and they covered the topics, Career Interest Assessment, Choose a Career, and Financial Literacy. In 5th Grade they served 287 students, and they covered the topics, Career Interest Assessment, Choose a Career, and Financial Literacy.

The students served in 6th through 8th Grade. In 6th Grade there were 0 students served. In 7th Grade there were 76 students served, and they covered the topic Career Interest Assessment. In 8th Grade there were 84 students served, and they covered the topic Career Interest Assessment.

The students served in 9th and 10th Grade. In 9th Grade they served 1078, they covered the topics of Career Fair, Career Interest Assessment, Revisit Grad Plan, Mock Interviews, and Paying for College/Financial Aid Workshop. In 10th Grade they served 1014, they covered the topics of Career Fair, Career Interest Assessment, Revisit Grad Plan, Mock Interviews,

Resumes, and Paying for College/Financial Aid Workshop.

The students served in 11th and 12th Grade. In 11th Grade they served 2006 students, and they covered the topics Career Fair, Career Discovery Meetings, Career Interest Assessment, SAT/ACT Completion, and College Visits. In 12th Grade they served 1438 students, and they covered the topics Career Fair, Career Discovery Meetings, Career Interest Assessment, SAT/ACT Completion, and College Visits.

The total students served in Region 9 was 6997. The goal was 3000 in the time frame of October 2024 - June 2025.

The other part of this grant was the Peer Career Coaching. This is where we had students within the schools go to the elementary schools and teach lessons about careers and financial literacy based on framework. They had 2 students do this last school year and this fall they have 8 students ready to do this.

Apprenticeships - Austin Clark

Austin Clark gave an update on Apprenticeships. They have been successfully funding apprentices and pre-apprentices since the ABA Grant first started back in 2022. While having this grant the success has put our region at the forefront of statewide initiatives that are coming out of Indianapolis associated with apprenticeship.

There have been 103 apprentices funded. There have been 28 Pre-Apprentices funded. There are six Registered apprenticeship programs created. There are four pre-apprenticeships programs created. The total number of grant funding allocated to date is over \$180,000.

The Projections of the ABA Grant is there are 150+ Apprentices in the pipeline. There are more than three Programs to be registered. There are 170+ pre-apprentices in the pipeline. There are projected grant allocations of over \$320,000.

River Valley Resources - Shanell Clayton

Shanell Clayton gave an update for RVR. She shared a work experience story about a customer who has shown remarkable perseverance and resilience in building a new future for himself. He applied for assistance to obtain his CDL A license. The SAMHSA Grant has helped with the ability to help him with this. His training began on April 28, 2025. He passed his exam on the third try. He got his license on June 2. He now works at the City of Seymour as a truck driver.

The key accomplishment that RVR has done in ABA is Increased enrollments, continuing enrollments, and more to come. In SCSEP, closing out strong and giving participants two additional training weeks. In BST, they launched the ETG Grant. In WIOA Adult/Youth, they did the BST Crossing Training.

The challenges that RVR has been facing in ABA are to ensure that all required participant

documentation is submitted prior to or at time of enrollment to maintain compliance and eligibility standards. They are also facing the challenge of DWD State staff changes. The other big challenge is Funding Cuts/Delays this includes SCSEP, WIOA, and JAG.

The ongoing initiatives for ABA are preparing for upcoming apprenticeship enrollments in partnership with: Alliance of Indiana Rural Water, SCC Building Trades & Construction and Welding. Clark Co. Jail Pre-Apprenticeship in coordination with IKORCC. Coordinating with partner organizations to ensure smooth registration and onboarding processes. They are doing cross training and workshop reviews for WIOA Adults.

The important updates that RVR has is JAG and CHE to report directly during this meeting. SCSEP has paused participant training and is still awaiting DOL Funding.

READ-I - Bryan Robbins & Gary Norman

Bryan gave an update. On August 21, 2025 at the Greensburg City Hall at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., they are having an event. They have Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Department of Education, Connexus, Ascend Indiana, and Richard Fairbanks Foundation.

Gary gave an update on the READ-I. He also mentioned that we should start doing Career Expo's more often and still do Job Fairs. However, to push Career Expo's more.

Ivy Tech - Missy Cooper

Missy gave an update about Ivy Tech. They just completed a great training with Batesville Tool and Die with OSHA30. They are also working on maintenance training with the City of Lawrenceburg. They also now offer CDL training in Lawrenceburg.

Budget

Carla Crowe gave the review of the budget through June. The total funding available is just over \$10M. Overall planned expenses are just over \$9M. Planned carry-in for PY25 is \$400,618. \$107,923 of that is WIOA funds and the rest are unrestricted and unobligated funds.

The second page of the report shows revenue received so far and the budget compared to actual expenses. The benchmark is 100%. The current overall grant usage is 68%. In actual expenses, the Executive Staff expenses are 86%. The Service Provider is at 69%. The WorkOne expenses are at 81%. The Board expenses are at 99%. The overall expenses are at 71%. The overall WIOA expenditure rate is at 79%. In school and out of school rates are at 7% and 93% respectively. Current direct client services are at 32%. The third page compares our current program year to last program year.

Financials were approved by email vote.

Adjourn