

# **Minutes**

## **Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board Meeting**

**February 2, 2023**  
**11:00 am – 1:00 pm**  
**HYBRID**  
**Southeastern Career Center**  
**901 US 50, Versailles, IN 47042**  
**and**  
**Online via Zoom**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Kevin Turner, Denise Smith, Sonja White, Jenny Moss, Nickie Nolting, Kent Stroud, Tracy Bear, Bryan Robbins **Board Member Online:** Gary Norman, Joshua Kuhn, Jon Bond, Brandon Briner, Josh Wilber, Daniel Noel, Noah Shelton **Guests in Attendance:** Kurt Kegerreis, Brad Wood, Whitney Amuchastegui, Holly Wehr, Margo Olson, Deb Thomason, Jane Angst, Clarice Patterson, Sarah Lamping, Charlotte Gunter, Stephanie Perkins, Amanda Getzendanner **Guests Online:** Kirk Kuhn, Carla Crowe, Lissa Griffin, Shelley McClintock, Chuck Sage, Angela Adams, Mike Perleberg

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were approved by email vote.

### **Executive Staff Report – Kurt Kegerreis**

Kurt Kegerreis gave the Executive Staff report. Region 9 continues to have a lower UI rate than the State. The UI rates as of November 2022 shows the Region at 2.5%, Indiana at 2.8% and the US at 3.4%. These numbers do not include those not looking for work. The Region is definitely being affected by the “Great Resignation.” There remains a chronic need for workers. The emphasis remains on talent attraction, recruitment, and retention.

DWD now requires all new Board members to take a self-directed online Workforce Board training. This training is available to all Board members, but it is not required. Feedback is encouraged.

The final phase of the Columbus move is in progress. Staff are in the space and the remodel for the front of the area of the office is underway. There should be an open house sometime in the Spring, once all phases are complete.

The region has several incoming grants. The first is the Conexus Running Ambassador Pilot. It connects businesses to schools and educators. If it goes well, it could get future funding. Another grant is the Quest Grant Pilot. It is a dislocated worker grant, but DWD is going to try to keep the scope as broad as possible. DWD is working with Regions 1 and 9 on this project. The last is the

ABA Apprenticeship grant. DWD and the regions are working to make sure it is more in order than the ASE grant.

Kurt is working with other region's Executives on outreach. Everyone is wondering how the legislative session is going, and how it is going to effect the regions. INWBA will be have a Legislator Meet & Greet later in February. The Governor's Workforce Cabinet (GWC) is expected to have a meeting in the Region in June 2023. Kurt will want to hear from the Board about what is going well in Region 9, and what needs to be addressed.

The executive staff has been doing "housekeeping" to make sure that everything in the region is in order. Kurt has Carla checking budgets now that the move is complete to make sure that the region can remain viable. Procurements for the Service Provider will be done in the spring.

Opioid Settlements are being released in Indiana. Checks are being sent to towns and counties. There will be an annual distribution over the next 18 years. Kurt has been spreading the word that these funds are able to fund a workforce component.

### **River Valley Resources – Brad Wood**

Brad Wood gave an update on River Valley Resources. Program funding is at 53% spent, with 99 clients in training. There have been 1,124 total enrollments, 76% of the current goal, which is on-track to exceed the goal. Brad presented the VOS count, which shows how many clients are coming into the offices. It also shows the region is offering more in virtual services. There are 60 participants that have been enrolled in the H1B grant. There have been 164 participants enrolled in the Opioid grant, and 88 participants enrolled in the Employment Recovery grant. These are difficult to service when unemployment is so low. There are 33 clients being helped by the Workforce Ready grant, with 26 completed and 23 certifications earned. There have been 27 clients assisted by the WIOA Performance Support grant, which is on target for this grant.

A mystery shopper recently visited the Columbus WorkOne, inquiring about Veteran services. The staff were recognized for doing a wonderful job with no concerns. The Madison WorkOne was named Best Employment Service in Madison for 2023 through the Madison Chamber of Commerce. Over 200 customers responded to surveys given in the WorkOnes from October through December. The overall satisfaction rate for the region was 98.84%.

A CCMA class kicked off January 17, 2023, at the Ivy Tech Madison. There were 11 students enrolled. Of these, 3 students were funded by WRG and the remaining were funded by the H1B grant. There are no WARN notices in the region. The region has just over \$1M in NextLevel Jobs funding available. Almost \$860K of that has been obligated, with the remaining balance in various stages of the grant process. The region held 5 hiring events in December.

The vet staff served 91 veteran job seekers in the past quarter, with 433 services provided. Staff outreach efforts consisted of job fairs, Heart House Homeless Shelter, incarcerated veterans resources fairs, a Camp Atterbury transition event, Vocational Rehabilitation and several Purdue outreach events.

JAG has five areas that they must meet for metrics. The region is currently 5 for 5. The JAG CDC will be held tomorrow at the Education and Training Center in North Vernon. This is not open to the public this year due to space availability, but anyone wanting to attend the awards ceremony may arrive at Willow Lake by 12:35.

Margo Olson announced that Brad had been rewarded the Leadership Award from the Madison Chamber of Commerce.

### **Hanover College – Jenny Moss**

Jenny Moss gave an update on Hanover College. The Good Neighbor program is expanding. They are also piloting micro-internships, which are only 5-50 hours. Some of this is embedded in course work.

### **Southeastern Career Center – Tracy Bear**

Tracy Bear gave an update on the Southeastern Career Center. This summer, the SCC will offer a summer camp for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders, to expose them to technical education. Middle school and high school counselors will be invited to a lunch and learn in June. The SCC is on-target for students to earn over 4,000 dual credits this year, with over 700 certifications awarded by May.

### **JobCorps – Joshua Kuhn**

Joshua Kuhn gave an update on JobCorps. They have completely lifted all COVID-19 restrictions. There are over 200 spots available for students.

### **Budget Review**

Carla Crowe gave the review of the budget through December 31<sup>st</sup>. The total funding available is just over \$6.2M. Overall planned expenses are almost \$5.9M. Planned carry-in for PY23 is \$401,736. \$234,425 of that is WIOA funds and the rest are unrestricted and unobligated funds, to help carry into the next program year.

The second page of the report shows revenue received so far and the budget compared to actual expenses. The benchmark is 50%. The current overall grant usage is 33%. In the actual expenses, the Executive Staff expenses are at 49%. The Service Provider is at 33%. This is below the benchmark because many of their contracts go beyond June 30<sup>th</sup>. The WorkOne expenses are at 45%. The Board expenses are at 37%, but Carla expected this to catch up to the benchmark once planned costs come in. The overall expenses are at 35%. The overall WIOA expenditure rate is at 37%. In school and out of school rates are at 1% and 84% respectively. Current direct client services are at 26%. The third page is this program year versus last program year in graph form.

Voting was conducted via email vote.

### **Adjourn**