

Minutes

Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board Meeting

June 1, 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: Jon Bond, Sonja White, Kevin Turner, Denise Smith, Tracy Bear
Board Member Online: Gary Norman, Bryan Robbins, Jenny Moss, Brandon Briner
Guests in Attendance: Kurt Kegerreis, Brad Wood, Margo Olson, Chris Henry, Kristal Biehle, Charlotte Gunter, Judy Anderson, Shelley McClintock, Emili Uden, Gayle Willman, Holly Wehr, Amy Spears, Lissa Griffin, Stephanie Perkins, Amanda Getzendanner
Guests Online: Carla Crowe, Leslie Crist, Gage Pace, Bev Smith, Roy Melton

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved by email vote.

Kids Discovery Factory – Emili Uden

Emili Uden gave a presentation on the Kids Discovery Factory in Batesville. Their mission is to inspire young learners to innovate and create through exploration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM). It currently serves 15 counties throughout Indiana and Ohio. In three years, their attendance has gone from 2,100 to over 8,300 to date. The Mobile Factory has visited over 30 regional schools. They have a mini-museum space open to all visitors that was donated by Batesville Tool & Die. Their Smithsonian Spark!Lab is the only one within 60 miles of Batesville. The Factory portion has been designed with influence from local employers. Kids Discovery Factory is currently searching for donors to help fund exhibits. Exhibit Design will begin later this year.

River Valley Resources – Brad Wood

The presentation on RVR started with a presentation by Gayle Willman, a success story out of the Lawrenceburg and North Vernon WorkOnes. Gayle had spent two years in prison for drugs. While incarcerated, she was supposed to start the welding program, but was released before it began. She started looking at taking the classes on her own, then discovered WorkOne. Allie Trammell from the Lawrenceburg WorkOne reached out to help her get necessities and documents needed to receive the training. RVR helped her pay to get her license back so that she could start school at the Southeastern Career Center. She graduated on May 8, and started a new

position two weeks ago. Allie and Amy Spears from the North Vernon WorkOne both provided support and encouragement throughout the process.

Brad Wood gave an update on River Valley Resources. The VOS counts dipped for office attendance in April, but virtual visits remain steady. Monitoring by DWD went well. They found RVR's Youth policy to be very detailed. The local Priority of Service categories were well-thought out with some unique categories and a view toward improved life.

NextLevelJobs Employer Training Grant 6.0 is underway. There is over \$1M in funds available for Region 9. Two companies have already invoiced, with 6 more working on invoicing. On April 25, the Region held a job fair at Madison Ivy Tech. There were 41 employers, 6 resources, and 43 job seekers in attendance.

The RESEA program has two new coordinators, increasing the RESEA team to six across the region. 938 individuals have been selected for RESEA program participation so far this year. The JAG class of 2023 have received almost \$1.5M in scholarships. The JAG program is on-track to receive the 6 of 6 award. The Young Adult Services has allocated all their WEX funds. They have collaborated with 9 businesses, with 3 more future WEX sites planned.

Southeastern Career Center – Tracy Bear

Tracy Bear gave an update on the Southeastern Career Center. Their Automotive program is looking for 4-5 cars for students to work on. SCC has also hired a career coach who will develop Capstone courses and post-graduation placement.

Madison Precision Products – Kevin Turner

Kevin Turner gave an update on Madison Precision Products. Several Women's inmates are coming to work. They offer excellent benefits and education reimbursement for those hired on after release.

Town of Versailles – Holly Wehr

Holly Wehr gave an update on the Town of Versailles. Versailles is planning for READI 2.0. The focus will be placed on childcare. There is discussion about possibly implementing a program at the Southeastern Career Center.

Executive Staff Update – 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 April 2023 shows the Region at 2.4%, Indiana at 2.6% and the US at 3.1%. State budgets are out. JAG funds have increased, and the WRG and ETG grants are being sustained. The WIOA budget cuts were not as expected. Region 9's cuts were nominal this year. This may not be final.

DWD has another new commissioner, Richard Paulk. Kurt has had email communications with him, and is still working on getting a sit-down. The executive staff continues to prioritize development. The region has received some smaller grants, and continue to submit proposals for larger grants. A Board Priorities Survey will be sent out soon to determine strategic planning. Kurt hopes to get it out in June, so that results can be discussed at the August Board Meeting.

On July 21, the region will be hosting its annual All-Staff Meeting in North Vernon. This meeting is to support and celebrate staff. Board members are welcome to attend.

Budget Review

Carla Crowe gave the review of the budget through April 30. The total funding available is just over \$7M. Overall planned expenses are just over \$5.9M. Planned carry-in for PY23 is \$1,105,159. \$234,425 of that is WIOA funds and the rest are unrestricted and unobligated funds, to help carry into the next program year. Several grants have just been received that have not been obligated.

The second page of the reports shows the revenue received so far and the budget compared to actual expenses. The benchmark is 83%. The WIOA grants are currently 56% spent, but should hit 80% by July 1, with 20% remaining for carry over. The TAAOJT grant was not spent, but that grant was not expendable, after it was received. The Executive Staff expenses are at 84%. The Service Provider is at 54%. This is below the benchmark because many of their contracts go beyond June 30, as well as being skewed because of NLJ. The WorkOne expenses are at 82%. The Board expenses are at 50%, but some expenses will be coming through shortly, to bring this up. The overall WIOA expenditure rate is at 56%. In school and out of school rates are at 20% and 80% respectively.

The third page is a comparison between this program year and last program year. Financials were approved by email vote.

Adjourn