

Minutes
Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board Meeting

August 4, 2022
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
HYBRID
Southeastern Career Center
901 US 50, Versailles, IN 47042
and
Dial-In Number: 669-444-9171
Meeting ID: 5375292442
Pin: 169767

Board Members in Attendance: Chip Orben, Kevin Turner, Jenny Moss, Tracy Bear **Board Member Online:** Gary Norman, Kathy Huffman, Beth Meguschar **Guests in Attendance:** Carla Crowe, Kurt Kegerreis, Margo Olson, Lissa Griffin, Jennifer Montgomery, Kristal Biehle, Charlotte Gunter, Stephanie Perkins, Amanda Getzendanner **Guests Online:** Brad Wood, Kirk Kuhn, Karen Snyder, Gage Pace, Mike Perleberg, Clarice Patterson, Mickey King

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved by email vote.

DWD Update – Beth Meguschar

Beth Meguschar gave an update on DWD. Fred Payne has left DWD for a position with the United Way. Josh Richardson is serving as the Interim Commissioner. Beth is the Associate Chief in charge of Workforce Education and Training. Part of her team's responsibility is to manage the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and INTraining. They are working to make the processes to add to INTraining easier. Indiana is looking to get a large amount of funding with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. Broadband will be a focus.

EcO Network – Kathy Huffman

Kathy Huffman gave an update on the EcO Network. The Bridge Student Success Center on the Columbus Airpark campus has opened. Due to shortages, not all of the furniture and technology is in place, but the center is open. The center is meant to reimagine how to support students and connect them with resources to help them succeed. The shared space will also centralize career services. Those interested can see the center at the next EcO Network meeting on October 24th.

Southeastern Career Center – Tracy Bear

Tracy Bear gave an update on the Southeastern Career Center (SCC). The SCC currently has 22 programs, 45 employees, 8 buildings on 42 acres and 880 students, which is 130 more than last year. The SCC will host summer camps for grades 5-8. They will also be hosting career days for freshman and sophomores. Tracy also updated the student database system to PowerSchool, which will allow better communication with parents and students.

1Dearborn – Mike Perleberg

Mike Perleberg gave an update on 1Dearborn. The Agri-Business conference went well in June. There is a list of businesses being compiled to add to the Rural Economic Development Model.

Ivy Tech – Kevin Turner

Kevin Turner gave an update on Ivy Tech. Working on getting employers more engaged prior to 8th grade. They are hosting a reverse job fair with Madison Consolidated on August 25th, where the employers bring their resumes to entice students. The students involved will be WBL students and their parents. The following week, students will take a tour of either a manufacturing facility, healthcare facility or a culinary/hospitality business. Molly Dodge is moving up from Chancellor of the Madison Ivy Tech.

Hanover College – Jenny Moss

Jenny Moss gave a presentation on Hanover College. She runs the Levett Career Center on campus. Hanover offers 34 different majors, 60 organizations and 20 sports teams. 96% of students finish in 4 years or less in their chosen major. 99% of graduates were employed for continued to graduation within seven months of graduation. The Levett Career Center is also tracking results in the Future Foundations Program. Jenny also presented on the Coach Mentoring Program, which allows students to gain connections and career advice, and the Good Neighbor Internship program, which provides students experience and supports local businesses. A Return to the River faculty tour, hosted by Hanover and Ivy Tech, is meant to expand the partnerships in Jefferson County, as well as improve faculty engagement and student placement, talent and retention.

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 May 2022 shows the Region at 2.2%, Indiana at 2.4% and the US at 3.5%. These numbers do not include those not looking for work. There remains a chronic need for workers. The emphasis remains on talent attraction, recruitment and retention.

The Region held its first All-Staff meeting in 3 years. It was a very good event, well received by staff. It included all staff from all 6 offices and all of the JAG instructors. It remains a wonderful opportunity to hear from the crew regarding what they are dealing with at ground level.

Unfortunately, the Region did not receive the Good Jobs Challenge. Other development opportunities still exist. The Region is waiting on notification for the BJA grant. The ABA grant is an expansion of the ASE grant through DWD is expected. There is also the possibility of a JAG expansion with READI funding. Indiana is also receiving \$500M from Big Pharma. Region 9 submitted a proposal for drug misuse and corrections.

There have been several State leadership changes, including the DWD Commissioner. INWBA is advocating as a group on behalf of all of the regions in the State. One thing being advocated for is for the WorkOnes to provide local unemployment services.

Kurt has been meeting with many of the Local Elected Officials. With physical meetings being difficult to convene, he has been meeting one-on-one. Several possible Board Member referrals have come from these meetings.

JAG budgets are a concern again this year. Of all the programs, there is proven ROI, to substantiate the benefits of JAG. There has been some local fundraising with the schools and local donors to contribute. Most schools were able to assist, or find assistance.

DWD has mandated that all new Board Members complete a Board Training Curriculum. It will be required for all new Board Members. This is a resource that everyone will have access to.

The Region is considering a Corrections Roundtable, as corrections related to substance abuse is gaining traction again.

Service Provider Report – Margo Olson

Margo Olson gave the year-end review for the Service Provider. In PY21, 261 clients received training, in a disaster relief employment or receiving a supportive service. 1281 clients were case managed. There were 235 enrolled in National Dislocated Worker grants. There have been 145 enrollments in the Opioid Grant, with a goal of 150. There have been 69 enrollments in the Employment Recover grant, with a goal of 75.

The TAA program is a program that assists clients who lost their job due to foreign imports. There has been an increase this year.

The Region has met most of the Performance goals through March 2022. Margo also discussed the foot-traffic coming into the WorkOnes. There has been a steady decline in traffic. The teams are working on ways to increase client engagement.

The Veterans team has been working diligently to meet business needs and developing job-ready veterans. The team reached out to 171 veterans. There were 1115 services delivered. 47 participants obtained employment. There were 1504 clients selected for RESEA in PY21. RVR added one RESEA staff member to assist with the increased requirements.

The Business Services Team recently dealt with a WARN notice in Seymour. There were 130 employees affected. They have also been facilitating NextLevel Jobs 5.0. Over \$730K in reimbursement have been delivered to employers. The Region will be receiving over \$800K to assist employers in PY22.

In Youth, there were 62 new enrollments, almost doubling from the previous PY. In JAG, over \$2M in scholarships were earned for 2022 Seniors. There were 28 Career Credentials earned. The 21/22 cohort participated in 37K hours of Service Learning, 51K hours of Employability Skills Training, 57K hours of field trips or guest speaker interactions, and 31K hours of leadership development opportunities. Region 9 met the 5 of 5 this program year. Sierra Shouse from Madison received the JAG National Outstanding Specialist award, Carol Schmidt from Milan received the JAG Indiana Outstanding Specialist award and April Pearson from Lawrenceburg received the JAG National High Performer award.

Budget Review

Carla Crowe gave the review of the preliminary budget through June 30th. The total funding available was just over \$7.3M. There was \$70K added for the Apprenticeship Grant. Overall planned expenses were almost \$6.5M. Planned carry-in for PY22 is \$768,525, with \$272,301 of that being WIOA funds and the remaining being unrestricted, unallocated or uncontracted funds. Some funding sources carryover into PY22, so are not in jeopardy of expiring.

The second page of the report shows revenue received so far and the budget compared to actual expenses. The Business Consultant grant expired at the end of the program year, but this is a grant that is received yearly. The RESEA grant is only 59% expended, but this is a grant that is received every year, so Carla is not sure the current funds will be renewed. This grant was greatly affected by COVID, as people were not coming into the offices. A portion of the Infrastructure Agreement remains, but that is due to the Columbus office being budgeted at the higher rent for the full year. In the actual expenses, the Executive Staff expenses are at 97%. The Service Provider is at a 67% benchmark, due to many of the grants not expiring at the end of the program year. WorkOne Expenses are at 82%. Board expenses are at 68%. The overall expenses are at 69%. The overall WIOA expenditure rate is at 68%. In school and out of school rate is at 20% and 80% respectively. Current direct client services are at 16%.

The last page is a graph that shows the current program year to the prior program year. Financials and the PY22 preliminary budget were approved by email vote.

Adjourn