

Minutes

Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board Meeting

October 6, 2022

11:00 am – 1:00 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: Patti Yount, Kevin Turner, Denise Smith, Bryan Robbins, Brandon Briner, Jon Bond, Tracy Bear **Board Member Online:** Gary Norman, Noah Shelton, Tara Burcham, Nickie Nolting **Guests in Attendance:** Carla Crowe, Kurt Kegerreis, Margo Olson, Brad Wood, Lissa Griffin, Shelley McClintock, Sonja White, Sarah Lamping, Charlotte Gunter, Stephanie Perkins, Amanda Getzendanner **Guests Online:** Gage Pace

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved by email vote.

Southeastern Career Center – Tracy Bear

Tracy Bear gave an update on the Southeastern Career Center (SCC). The SCC currently has 860 students enrolled, servicing six counties and 11 high schools. Tracy is looking to introduce a Veterinary Science (2 year) program for the next school year. Seniors will begin doing WBL applications in November.

READI Grants – Jon Bond & Bryan Robbins

Jon Bond said that the READI grant was a challenge at the beginning, making sure that projects got qualified. The challenge now is just needing more funds. Bryan Robbins said that his area's READI grant has all projects approved and are getting ready for READI 2.0. Kurt Kegerreis said the Board is willing to offer support to all of our partners. Patti Yount mentioned the broadband issue needs to remain on the radar.

Ivy Tech – Kevin Turner

Kevin Turner gave an update on Ivy Tech. Kevin is working on interacting with high schools in the Region. There was an event with Madison Consolidated for 450 students, ranging from freshmen to seniors. Students were surveyed to see what their expectations are of employers.

Kevin got together with Jenny Moss at Hanover to work together on these events. There will be structured Virtual Reality demonstrations at several of the schools for career awareness.

Vocational Rehabilitation – Denise Smith

Denise Smith gave a brief update on Vocational Rehabilitation. They are currently attempting to hire a contractor for a 3-year contract. The contractor would be a liaison between VR and the Region's WorkOne offices.

Executive Staff Report – Kurt Kegerreis & Stephanie Perkins

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 2.6%, Indiana at 3.1% and the US at 3.8%. 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.

Kurt has been working to bring on new Board members. The hard part is getting back to an in-person format, where members are more involved. The hybrid format is functional, but there are technical issues involved.

INWBA has gotten organized. They will be holding a conference on November 17 in Indianapolis. The conference will highlight what Boards do, separate from DWD.

Contracts are currently a challenge. DWD is still working to get the new program year contracts out. The policy department at DWD has been very active. One change is new Board members must complete a Board Training Curriculum. All Board members have access to the training, but it will only be required for new members.

The final phase of the Columbus move is imminent. It should be happening the beginning of November. The crew has been in a small suite for a year. The move into the full suite will be greatly appreciated by staff.

There have been several leadership changes at DWD and the State. David Adams is the new Commissioner. He has a background in Higher Education. Kurt hopes to have a meeting with him soon. The Governor's Workforce Cabinet (GWC) has a new Executive Director, Whitney Ertel. The GWC is over most of the departments at the State. Kurt met with her, and her COO was very excited to hear what the Region needs. The GWC will be hosting their meeting in Region 9 in June.

Stephanie Perkins discussed current grants. The Opioid grant received two extensions, but no more will be coming. The expiration date is June 30, 2023. DOL was super excited about the Televerde project. The Region asked for additional Opioid funds, but received \$77K in additional ER-DWG funds, which will help those who are affected by COVID-19, rather than Opioids. To date, there have been 151 individuals enrolled in the Opioid grant, which is three times the amount requested. The Region continues to try to find additional funding to sustain operations.

For the H1B grant, Region 9 is the only region to be meeting or exceeding all of the current metrics. The grant still has 2 more years. There has been almost double the amount required enrolled in the Apprenticeship grant. There have been 121 apprentices enrolled, with 12 of those being funded by the Duke Energy grant.

Service Provider Report – Brad Wood

Brad Wood gave the update for the Service Provider. The specific data information is available upon request. DWD released dashboard trends for programs between PY18 through PY21. Wagner Peyser enrollments are up since COVID-19. WIOA Adult enrollments are up, but additional funds will be needed to continue. Region 9 enrollments are up by 87%. COVID-19 drastically affected the WIOA Dislocated Worker enrollments. Alternately, the RESEA enrollments saw significant growth during the pandemic. The WIOA Youth enrollments dropped at the beginning of the pandemic, but have since been holding steady.

There have been no WARN notices for the Region. There have been 27 companies who have applied for the NextLevel Employer Training grant 6.0.

The Vet reps from Region 9 did well at the State Conference Awards. Chris Dorn, out of the Columbus WorkOne, received the 1st Quarter of 2022 incentive award. And Jordan Griffin, out of the Madison WorkOne, received the Service Provider of the Year for FY22. Brad told a story about how Jordan assisted a veteran who was living in transitional housing. The veteran had an interview following a visit to the WorkOne, but had nothing appropriate to wear. Jordan had a clean shirt in his car for family pictures. He gave the shirt to the veteran, who landed the job.

The RESEA team recently participated in a team building activity at an escape room. The team has grown over time, and developed internal processes to meet RESEA requirements. The Region's Failed to Participate for PY21 was 26%, against the State's established requirement to be at or below 30%.

JAG had their Leadership Development conference on September 23rd. JAG officers from across the Region met at IUPUC to network and begin developing leadership and communication skills to carry back to their individual programs. The officers attended five breakout sessions, including communication skills, identifying network mentors, and workplace problem solving. On November 15th, JAG will be hosting a Dirty Jobs Adventure in Versailles.

Young Adult Services has been busy. Julie Himes will now be working 50% Youth, and 50% Adult/DW. She will be assisting youths in Greensburg. There are 12 new youths enrolled in the Youth program to-date. Many are in training like CNA, Welding, Phlebotomy, CCMA and CDL.

Budget Review

Carla Crowe gave the review of the preliminary budget through August 31st. The total funding available was just over \$5.5M. There was \$174,309 added for the RESEA Grant, as well as \$852,076 received for NextLevel Jobs. Overall planned expenses were almost \$5.2M. Planned carry-in for PY23 is \$366,085, with \$234,425 of that being WIOA funds and the remaining being

unrestricted, unallocated or uncontracted funds. Some funding sources carryover into PY23, 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 benchmark to-date is 17%. A lot of the contracts are still in flux, as the Region is still waiting on grants from DWD. Year-to-date claims on available funding is just over \$700K. In the actual expenses, the Executive Staff expenses are at 15%. The Service Provider is at a 14% benchmark. WorkOne Expenses are at 13%. Board expenses are at 29%, due to several large expenses that come at the beginning. This should balance out throughout the year. The overall expenses are at 14%. The overall WIOA expenditure rate is at 12%. In school and out of school rate is at 21% and 79% respectively. Current direct client services are at 19%.

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

Adjourn