

# SOUTHERN 14 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.

## MINUTES for September 9, 2025

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### I. CALL TO ORDER:

The September meeting of the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 . Dean Rogan called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, IL and via zoom. A quorum was met.

### ROLL CALL

### ABSENT

Scott Cohoon  
Brand Cross  
Lindsay Duvall (Zoom)  
Ginger Harner  
Shawn Healy  
Lena Hicks (Zoom)  
Tim Hocking (Zoom)  
Chris Hocking  
Shane Neuman (Zoom)  
Neil Wagner  
Dawn Williams (Zoom)  
Denna Williams (Zoom)  
Beth Wilson (Zoom)  
Rick Wilson (Zoom)  
Dean Rogan (Zoom)

Kaylee Adams  
Michael Belford  
Brandi Bradley  
Lori Cox  
Connie Duncan  
Wayne Eichorn  
Matt Fowler  
Libby Lingafelter  
Wendy Aly  
Angie Peyton  
Beth Rister  
Leah Seals  
Steve Smith  
Chad Wargel  
Patricia Wilson  
Tory Woods  
Rocky Wright

Also in Attendance: Pam Barbee, Sheryl Walker, Ryan Trueblood (zoom), and Jessica Barbre

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### II. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> BOARD MINUTES

A quorum was met and the June 10th minutes were approved.

1<sup>st</sup>: Neil Wagner

2<sup>nd</sup>: Shawn Healy

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

### III. ACCEPTANCE FINANCIAL REPORTS

All expenses were presented in member packets for the June, July, and August 2025 expenses and were accepted.

1<sup>st</sup>: Chris Howton

2<sup>nd</sup>: Rick Wilson

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

### IV. CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

We had three nominees for the IWP State awards this year. They were Bohdi Mason, Debra Baker, and Kevin Shoemaker. Members reviewed the entries and voted to submit Bodhi Mason as the LWIA 26 Individual Training Achievement Award winner. Mr. Mason will be honored at the December Board meeting.

We also submitted the City of Golconda for the Business Leadership award.

We still need members from Alexander, Edwards, Massac, Saline, Union and Wabash.

### V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

We received an increase of \$34,038 in the 1E grant for Incumbent Worker Projects and an extension of the grant to 6/30/26. We are starting incumbent worker projects with the White County Highway Department and the Wayne County Highway Department. Also, we will be doing our first Apprenticeship, with Wabash General Hospital. It is a two year project advancing two individuals who are currently employed as phlebotomist to registered nurses. WIOA will be paying the cost of the tuition and WGH will pay the cost of the work requirement.

We did get funds in the next round of State funding. Our project was approved for \$103,600 in funding for paid work experience. We are going to try a pre-apprenticeship component with these funding. Offering five individual training in the IECC Electric Lab, which is a component of the Industrial Maintenance program offered at IECC, followed by a work experience. We plan to recruit the individuals from area high schools and Adult Education.

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I have been visiting the County Boards. Reporting on our progress last fiscal year and reminding them of our services, as well as alerting the counties that have vacant seats. We served 234 individuals in last fiscal year, 18% were served as Dislocated Workers, 28% were served as Youth and 54% were served as Adults. Of those served, 12% were completed and in follow-up services, 24% were enrolled in paid work based learning, and 64% in occupational skills training. We also completed 11 incumbent worker projects. The majority of these were OSHA Safety related trainings, but we also provided three businesses with CDL training and two manufactures and a hospital with Leadership skills training.

Thank you for everything you do to assist us. We appreciate your efforts.

### VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Oversight Committee:**

The Oversight Committee met on September 3 at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Ginger Harner and seconded by Chris Howton to accept the proposal for adult and dislocated worker contracts as submitted and award the adult and dislocated worker contracts for the southern seven counties to SDC and the northern seven counties to WADI.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1<sup>st</sup>: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

#### **Youth Committee:**

The Youth Committee met on September 3 at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Neil Wagner and seconded by Shawn Healy to accept the proposal for youth contracts as submitted and award youth contracts for the southern seven counties to SDC and the northern seven counties to WADI.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1<sup>st</sup>: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

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### VII. SERVICE PROVIDER COMMENTS:

#### **Shawnee Development Council:**

##### **Monthly Narrative: Meeting Goals**

\*The Fall 2025 Semester has started. In September, there are some late start classes mostly in CNA and Phlebotomy that we will be enrolling eligible students in. Otherwise, the participants already attending are doing well. Two CNA students have dropped out recently due to health or personal reasons. Both are wanting to return in the Spring 2026 semester.

##### **Work Experience notes:**

\*The current Quest WEX grant continues until September 30<sup>th</sup>. We have obligated almost all of this funding. We have been informed there is more Quest funding coming but it may be 2 or 3 months before it becomes available. Below is the number of participants and what counties they are working in:

Quest Grant: Pulaski-1, Alexander-2, Johnson-1

##### **\*Meetings/ trainings/events attended:**

August 7<sup>th</sup>: Advisory Council Zoom

August 18<sup>th</sup>: LWIA 25 & 26 Zoom

August 19<sup>th</sup> SDC 60-year celebration

August 28<sup>th</sup>: Quest Zoom

##### **\*Upcoming Events:**

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Youth & Oversight Committee Zoom Meeting

September 9<sup>th</sup>: Interagency Zoom Meeting

September 15<sup>th</sup>: LIHEAP Annual Training Meeting @ SDC

September 25<sup>th</sup>: SO14 WIOA Monitoring

#### **Wabash Area Development Inc.:**

##### **PROGRAM**

WADI had 4 CDL, 1RN, and 1 Cosmetology student graduated over the summer.

We have 19 new college participants in the fall semester including 14 nursing students, 4 cosmo students, 2 Physical therapy assistants

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### **OUTREACH**

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Ryan Douthitt attended the SIC nursing orientation to give out WIOA information. Lena Hicks and I attended the SIC CTE building grand opening in Carmi on August 5<sup>th</sup>. On August 19<sup>th</sup>, Nelda attended WVC orientation and handed out flyers.

### **SUCCESS STORY**

Rachel Kitzinger came into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act office at Wabash Area Development, Inc. in July 2022. She was seeking assistance for the RN Program offered at Wabash Valley College which she had been accepted into. Rachel started the RN Program in August 2022 and completed the program in May 2024. She passed the NCLEX exam for her RN License in June 2024. Rachel started her RN job at St. Mary's Warrick Hospital in July 2024. Rach Aptos (Body) el is very appreciative of the assistance she received through the WIOA Program with the tuition, books, fees, uniforms and mileage assistance. She told me that she was looking forward to her new journey as an RN.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Neil Wagner made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ginger Harner, carried via Voice Vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm by Dean Rogan.

Minutes Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_