

SOUTHERN 14 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.
MINUTES for December 9, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The December meeting of the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, Inc. was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025. Dean Rogan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, IL and via zoom. A quorum was met.

ROLL CALL

ABSENT

Scott Cohoon

Lori Cox

Brad Cross

Connie Duncan (zoom)

Lindsay Duvall (zoom)

Ginger Harner

Lena Hicks (zoom)

Tim Hocking (zoom)

Chris Howton

Joel Huffman (zoom)

Wendy Aly

Shane Neuman

Angie Peyton (zoom)

Beth Rister (zoom)

Leah Seals (zoom)

Neil Wagner

Chad Wargel

Dawn Williams (zoom)

Denna Williams

Rick Wilson

Rocky Wright (zoom)

Dean Rogan (zoom)

Kaylee Adams

Michael Belford

Wayne Eichorn

Matt Fowler

Shawn Healy

Libby Lingafelter

Steve Smith

Beth Wilson

Patricia Wilson

Tory Woods

Also in Attendance: Gail Barger, Cassie Smith, Lorie Walters, Bohdi Mason, Denna Williams, Victor Duckworth, Sandy Jones, Seana Hale, Pam Barbee, Sheryl Walker, Ryan Trueblood (zoom), and Jessica Barbre

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II. APPROVAL OF THE September 9th BOARD MINUTES

A quorum was met and the September 9th minutes were approved.

1st: Rick Wilson

2nd: Shane Neuman

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

III. ACCEPTANCE FINANCIAL REPORTS

All expenses were presented in member packets for the September, October, and November 2025 expenses and were accepted.

1st: Chris Howton

2nd: Neil Wagner

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

IV. CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

We still have some counties that need representation. Alexander county needs 2, Massac County needs 2, Union County needs 2, Saline County needs 2, Wabash County needs 1, and Edwards County needs 1. If you know someone who lives or works in those counties that might be interested in joining our group, please let Jessica know.

We have a new board member Joel Huffman who will be a labor representative.

Tonight, we have the privilege of honoring an individual and a business for their accomplishments. Congratulations to both and now Vice Chairman, Shane Newman will present the awards to our winners.

V. AWARDS PRESENTATION

 ***City of Golconda – Business Leadership Award***

Our first recognition of the evening is the **City of Golconda Business Leadership Award**. This award honors a private-sector company that has demonstrated outstanding leadership in both workforce and economic development within our community.

This year's recipient has distinguished itself in several key areas:

1. **Leadership in Workforce Development:**

They have taken a leading role in strengthening the local workforce system—either by creating

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new workforce initiatives or by significantly enhancing existing economic and workforce development activities.

2. **Contribution to Economic Viability:**

They have made meaningful, measurable contributions that support the economic stability and growth of our local workforce area.

3. **Collaboration and Partnership:**

They have consistently demonstrated strong leadership by working closely with partners and stakeholders to improve and elevate the local workforce system.

Please join me in recognizing and congratulating this year's **Business Leadership Award** recipient, **the City of Golconda**.

Bodhi Mason – Individual Training Achievement Award

Our next award is the **Individual Training Achievement Award**, presented to a jobseeker customer who has demonstrated exceptional focus, progress, and commitment while navigating workforce services to achieve their goals.

This year, we honor **Bodhi Mason**.

Bodhi has exemplified the spirit of this award in several important ways:

- **Commitment to Growth:**

He dedicated himself to gaining the training, knowledge, and skills necessary to succeed in the workplace.

- **Successful Employment:**

Through his efforts, Bodhi achieved employment and moved confidently toward his career goals.

- **Perseverance:**

His determination, hard work, and steady progress clearly demonstrate his commitment to achieving his goals.

- **Role Model Qualities:**

Bodhi's attitude, discipline, and personal growth make him an inspiring example for others pursuing their own career journeys.

Please join me in congratulating **Bodhi Mason** on receiving the **Individual Training Achievement Award**.

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VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Pam wished everyone a Merry Christmas, congratulated our winners, and welcomed our new board member Joel.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy and Planning Committee:

The Policy and Planning Committee met on December 1st at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Angela Petyon and seconded by Tim Hocking to accept the Applied Trades program from Shawnee Community College.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Motion Carried with Ginger Harner abstaining

Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met on December 1st at 2:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Beth Rister and seconded by Dawn Williams to accept the proposed budget adjustments which included transferring \$10,600 personnel funding to equipment funding.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

The Finance Committee met on December 1st at 2:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Denna Williams and seconded by Dawn Williams to accept the proposed software license purchase of \$5,514.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

The Finance Committee met on December 1st at 2:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Dawn Williams and seconded by Beth Rister to accept the proposed hardware purchase up to \$3,000.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

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1st: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

VIII. SERVICE PROVIDER COMMENTS:

Shawnee Development Council:

Monthly Narrative: Meeting Goals

*We are adding new & routing returning students entering the Spring 2026 semester. A few truck drivers, CNAs, and others have inquired about the next semester but no numbers to mention right now.

****Special Note:** SDC WIOA program has been selected for 2 different awards this past year. Bohdi Mason, a WIOA WEX participant, has been selected for a participant award. The City of Golconda was selected for a Worksite award. They both will be presented with the award at the SO14LWIB board meeting the evening of December 9th, 2025, at SIC in Harrisburg.

Work Experience notes:

*We just received our funds for State WEX which will be enough for about 7 Adult workers. We also have funding to put 5-6 Out of School Youth on. We are working to put these on asap. As of today, we have 1 State worker on in Alexander county and 3 Youth on in Pope & Hardin counties. Our goal is to have at least 1-2 WEX workers in each of our 7 counties.

***Meetings/ trainings/events attended:**

November 3rd & 4th: DCEO Annual Monitoring

November 3rd: GRF Technical Assistance Zoom

November 12th: Supportive Services Zoom

November 20th: CDL Truck Driver Advisory Committee Meeting @ SCC, Metropolis

Upcoming Events/Trainings:

December 16th: WIOA Case Note & Data Entry Training @ SIC, Harrisburg, 9am-4pm

December 9th: SO14 LWIB Board Meeting @ SIC, 7:00 pm

December 15th: LWIA 25 & 26 Zoom meeting

December 17th: PROUD Zoom meeting

Wabash Area Development Inc.:

We had 2 individuals pass their CDL tests in November. We do not have any graduates expected for this semester. We have 4 new WEX participants, one in Wayne County office, one at Saline County Animal shelter, one at the Harrisburg Park District and one at Hubele/Tomm Farms. We have 6 new potential participants for the spring semester. On December 8th, I had a meeting with Pam and Sharmilla at FCC regarding the upcoming State Grant implementation. The grant will

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focus on the Skill forge Manufacturing lab at the West Richland Center and its advanced industrial training. The four core training areas are: electrical systems, fluid power, mechanical systems, electronics and automation.

We had our WIOA retreat at FCC at the end of October, we had Adult Education updates, fraud and waste training as well as Narcan training.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Neil Wagner made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Chris Howton, carried via Voice Vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm by Dean Rogan.

Minutes Approved by _____ Date _____

DRAFT