

SOUTHERN 14 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.
MINUTES for DECEMBER 10, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The December meeting of the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, Inc. was held on Tuesday, December 10th. Dean Rogan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, IL and via zoom. A quorum was met.

ROLL CALL

ABSENT

Scott Cohoon

Brad Cross (Zoom)

Ginger Harner

Lena Hicks (Zoom)

Tim Hocking (Zoom)

Chris Howton (Zoom)

Shane Neuman (Zoom)

Angie Peyton

Neil Wagner

Chad Wargel (Zoom)

Trina Warren (Zoom)

Denna Williams (Zoom)

Rick Wilson

Rocky Wright

Dean Rogan

Kaylee Adams

Brandi Bradley

Lori Cox

Connie Duncan

Wayne Eichorn

Matt Fowler

Libby Lingafelter

Wendy McClusksy

Beth Rister

Leah Seals

Steve Smith

Dawn Williams

Beth Wilson

Patricia Wilson

Tory Woods

Also in Attendance: Pam Barbee, Ryan Trueblood, Victor Duckworth Sheryl Walker, and Jessica Barbre

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II. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 10th BOARD MINUTES

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

1st: Chris Howton

2nd: Rick Wilson

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

III. ACCEPTANCE FINANCIAL REPORTS

All expenses were presented in member packets for the September, October, and November 2024 expenses and were accepted.

1st: Ginger Harner

2nd: Neil Wagner

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

IV. CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

We would like to congratulate Tracy Sutton as the State Individual Achievement Award Winner. Tracy will receive a Certificate and a \$25 gift card for this award!

Tracy Sutton came into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity office at Wabash Area Development, Inc. in June 2022. He was seeking assistance for the Radiography Program offered at Olney Central College.

Tracy had been employed at Champion Laboratories, Inc. He was laid off from his job after 27 years of employment.

Tracy had applied to the Radiography Program at Olney Central College and was accepted into the program. He completed the 2-year program with all A's and B's in the classes and clinicals. He enjoyed the various clinical sites obtaining knowledge and experience.

Tracy graduated in May 2024. He passed the ARRT exam for his Radiologic Technician License. He started his employment right away at Saint Vincent's Health System as a Radiology Technologist.

Tracy is very appreciative of all the assistance that the program was able to give him with tuition, books, uniforms, mileage reimbursement and testing fee reimbursement.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

We did a modification to the Quest grant to move funds from supportive service and direct training to work experience. We do have most of the funds expended or obligated. Our goal for

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the project was to serve 20 individuals and as of the end of November, we have provided work experience training to 16 individuals and classroom training to 8, serving a total of 23 individuals. All of the participants met the definition of historically marginalized. Nine of the participants have been exited and eight have entered employment. This has proven to be a good fit grant as it allows us to serve individuals that we might not have had the opportunity to serve. If it is offered again, I think that we will apply.

We are still waiting on the State grant. We were given the notice that we were awarded \$114,711. I checked with DCEO and the grants are at the accounting level so we should be receiving our fully executed grant within the next few weeks. Both service providers are eagerly awaiting this grant in order to start some work experience individuals. Our projection was to fund 14 WE trainings, but were sure that we would be able to serve more than the goal. Additionally, the grant has \$6,000 funds that will be used by Adult Education students for non-traditional trainings.

We were once again asked to apply for Trade Case Management funds. We were awarded \$10,166. The purpose of these funds is to keep Board office staff aware of the Trade program in the event we have a Trade event in our area. The funds are budgeted in Salary/Fringe and the cost of the One Stop that is allocated to Trade.

We did have our annual State monitoring second week of November. State staff reviewed both programmatic and fiscal documents and procedures. We have not yet had our exit conference so we do not really know how we did. I did receive a short email “We did have a few observations but no disallowed costs.” The exit conference will be December XX with a letter to follows. We will then have thirty days to craft and submit our response.

The Audit is underway. I checked with the CPA firm to get an idea of timeframe and to make sure they had received all of the requested documents from our office. I plan to stay on top of them this year so that we can get our audit submitted timely and avoid the FEIN hold.

I have visited all but one of our County Boards since our last meeting and have just one more to attend. I gave them a short view of what we had accomplished in the past fiscal year, as well as asked them to appoint members to fill our vacant board seats. It is my annual reminder that we are still here and that we need their assistance and support. We do have two appointments in the process – leaving only Massac, Union and Alexander with no representation.

The Board office will be closed December 24 & 25, as well as January 1 for the holiday. Board staff will be using their four personal days for December 23, 26, 30 & 31. We will all have the ability of working remotely should the need arise and will monitor our emails. Additionally, the office phone will be forwarded to my cell for coverage.

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VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Oversight Committee:

The Oversight Committee met on December 2nd at 1:30 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Chris Howton and seconded by Beth Rister with Ginger Harner abstaining to accept the new programs at SCC: EKT Technician, Medical Biller, Medical Coder, Medical Coding Specialist, and Medical Office Assistant.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Motion Carried with Ginger Harner abstaining.

The Oversight Committee met on December 2nd at 1:30 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Chris Howton and seconded by Neil Wagner to accept the new programs at Southeast Health College of Nursing and Health Sciences: Associate of Nursing, DMS, LPN, Radiologic Technology, and Surgical Technology.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

The Oversight Committee met on December 2nd at 1:30 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Chris Howton and seconded by Neil Wagner to accept the new program at West Kentucky Tech: DMS (Sonography).

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

VII. SERVICE PROVIDER COMMENTS:

Shawnee Development Council:

Training Notes: The Fall 2024 semester is almost completed. We will start adding new students on December 16th for the Spring 2025 semester.

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Work Experience notes: We have one OJT contract with a solar power company. We added 2 Youth In-School on Work Experience this month. One is in Alexander County and the other is in Pulaski County. We are currently waiting on funding for another State Grant.

Meetings/ trainings attended recently or upcoming:

- November 7th : R3 Advisory Council Meeting
- November 12th-14th: DCEO Monitoring
- November 13th : Presentation to the Shawnee College LPN's, ADN's & OTA's about the WIOA program
- November 20th : DORS Vocational Rehabilitation Meeting & Zoom at SDC
- November 21st & 22nd : Fall Summits at Shawnee & Vienna Correctional Centers
- November 22nd : Truck Driver's Advisory Meeting at SCC

Upcoming Events/Trainings

- December 3rd-4th : WIOA Eligibility Training for newly hired in Effingham. Michele Hunsaker is attending
- December 10th : SO14LWIB meeting

Wabash Area Development Inc.:

PROGRAM

We have one participant completing their welding program this semester. He has not decided on where he wants to work until after the new year.

Because of funding shortfalls, we will ask colleges to have Pell Grant monies pay the first \$1500 each semester toward their tuition, books, and fees.

Regarding mileage reimbursement, we are asking each participant to send us direct deposit information in order to make processing more efficient.

Amy Seidel attended a WIOA eligibility training in Effingham December 2nd and 3rd.

December 9th, we had a WIOA Retreat where we learned about office ergonomics, Americans with Disabilities Act, and proper self-esteem practices.

We have several dislocated workers from the Baldwin Company interested in CDL program at IECC.

OUTREACH

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I gave a WIOA presentation to 13 FCHS students at their career fair as well as had a table set up in the gym.

SUCCESS STORY

Samantha Locey obtained her GED from Frontier Community College in 2022. Looking to further her education, she came to Wabash Area Development, Inc. to inquire about assistance through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act(WIOA) program. The WIOA program was able to provide assistance with tuition, books, fees, and mileage reimbursement for Samantha to enroll in the Certified Medical Assistant program at Frontier Community College in the Fall of 2023.

All of Samantha's courses were passed with A's and one B. She completed her program internship with Christopher Rural Health Planning Company in Albion, Illinois. At the end of the summer semester in 2024, Christopher Rural Health offered her a staff position due to her good performance during her internship.

Samantha is very appreciative of the assistance she received through the WIOA program at WADI. She loves her job and is proud of the success she has achieved.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chris Howton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Brad Cross, carried via Voice Vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm by Dean Rogan.

Minutes Approved by _____ Date _____