

SOUTHERN 14 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.

MINUTES for March 11th, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The March meeting of the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, Inc. was held on Tuesday, March 11th. Dean Rogan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, IL and via zoom. A quorum was met.

ROLL CALL

ABSENT

Michael Belford
Scott Cohoon (Zoom)
Lori Cox (Zoom)
Brad Cross
Connie Duncan (Zoom)
Ginger Harner
Shawn Healy
Lena Hicks (Zoom)
Tim Hocking
Chris Howton
Wendy Aly
Angie Peyton
Neil Wagner
Dawn Williams (Zoom)
Denna Williams (Zoom)
Beth Wilson (Zoom)
Dean Rogan (Zoom)

Kaylee Adams
Brandi Bradley
Wayne Eichorn
Matt Fowler
Libby Lingafelter
Shane Neuman
Beth Rister
Leah Seals
Steve Smith
Chad Wargel
Trina Warren
Patricia Wilson
Rick Wilson
Tory Woods
Rocky Wright

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

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II. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 10th BOARD MINUTES

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

1st: Neil Wagner

2nd: Chris Howton

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

III. ACCEPTANCE FINANCIAL REPORTS

All expenses were presented in member packets for the December 2024, January, and February 2025 expenses and were accepted.

1st: Ginger Harner

2nd: Tim Hocking

Roll Call Vote: Motion Carried

IV. CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

We have two new Board Members:

Shawn Healy is joining us from Gallatin County. Mr. Healy is with It's Time Solutions.

Michael Belford is joining us from Hardin County. Mr. Belford is with Belford's Heating and AC.

We still need 2 Board members each for Alexander, Massac, Union and Saline – Those counties have no representation. Also Edwards and Wabash each have one vacant seat.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

I do not really have any update on the government shut down. I was on a call with DCEO on Monday and we did discuss contingency plans. We were asked to submit the plan for our area-ours is fairly straight forward since we have no other source of funding if our funds were not available we would have to lay off staff temporarily until funds could be accessed. On the call we were specifically instructed to not request additional funding this week, which we did not. Both the providers and the Board office generally have enough funds to go through two pay periods and are continuing to request funding so we are not in immediate danger. DCEO did remind the group that in past the funds already obligated remained available even in shutdown, just new fund were delayed.

At just past the mid-point of the fiscal year, we have served 60 youth – 30 are active now and 30 have exited, 113 Adults – 51 active and 62 exited, Dislocated Worker 42 – 12 active and 30 exited. This is a total of 215. At the end of January we had spent \$829,487 giving us an estimated cost per participant of \$3,858. Board office expended on operations \$80,323, \$42,370 for Incumbent worker projects and the Service Providers expended \$706,793. The Service

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providers spent 45% of those funds on operations, 20% on Classroom Training, 16% for supportive services and 18% on work based training.

We are meeting or exceeding 9 of the 15 performance measures, but the career planners are working hard on those that we are not meeting. A large portion of these measures involve employment after exit so we will have two more quarters of data to improve the performance. We still need a little work on meeting the two benchmarks. We are required each fiscal year to expend at least 50% of our allocated funding for adult and dislocated worker on direct client services, as of the January reporting's we were at a combined 48% expended on direct client services. I anticipate that as the expense increase with the spring semester costs and the work experience that % will increase to meet the needed 2%. Also we are required to spend 20% of each allocated grant's youth funding on work-based learning. We are very short on this benchmark presently we have only expended 13% of the PY23 allocated grant and 2% of the PY24 allocated grant. Both service providers are working diligently to recruit employers to be work sites as well as individuals under 24. So if any of you know an individual that needs that first time job or an employer who could use a temporary worker please let us know.

We continue to be busy with incumbent worker projects. We have 11 projects for a total obligation of \$148,556. All but one of those projects is scheduled to be completed by 6/30/25. The majority of the training is safety or leadership related. So far all of the projects have been for employers in Illinois Eastern Community College district, but we are working with Shawnee Community College on a couple of potential projects in their district.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

One Stop Committee:

The One Stop Committee met on March 3rd at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Lena Hicks and seconded by Trina Warren to accept PY 25 MOU as presented and approve its submission.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Approved

Abstaining: Lori Cox

Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met on March 4th at 3:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Connie Duncan and seconded by Dawn Williams to award the PY25 IT Services RFP to B-All Technology Solutions.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

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Roll Call Vote: Approved

Policy and Planning Committee:

The Policy and Planning Committee met on March 10th at 10:00 am via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Tim Hocking and seconded by Trina Warren to accept the Fast Track CDL program at Shawnee Community College with Ginger Harner abstaining.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Approved

Abstaining: Ginger Harner

Personnel Committee:

The Personnel Committee met on March 10th at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Lori Cox and seconded by Beth Wilson to accept the personnel evaluations as presented.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Voice Vote: Approved

The Personnel Committee met on March 10th at 1:00 pm via Zoom, we did have a quorum. A motion was made by Beth Wilson and seconded by Lori Cox to accept and award the employee incentives as presented.

The Committee then brought this to the board.

1st: Committee

Roll Call Vote: Approved

VII. SERVICE PROVIDER COMMENTS:

Shawnee Development Council:

Shawnee College's spring semester began on 1/13/25 and Southeastern College Started on 1/14/25. At last count SDC had 12 new students enrolled.

Currently, SDC has two Work Experience workers enrolled in the Quest Grant. SDC has one enrolled in Out of School Youth. They also are awaiting a background check to place another on the State Grant.

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Meetings/Trainings:

- February 6th: SDC Safety Meeting
- February 24th: LWIA 25/26 Zoom with Man Tra Con
- February 24th: Zoom with CEJA

Upcoming Events/Trainings:

- March 27th: SO 14 Quarterly Monitoring
- April 2nd: Job Fair at SCC
- May 8th and 9th: Illinois Workforce Summit, East Peoria, IL

Wabash Area Development Inc.:

Program

We have 15 students on track to graduate this spring semester including 10 nursing students, 2 criminal justice students, 1 diesel tech student, 1 early childhood student, and 1 business management certificate student. We also have had 2 CDL students get their licenses, and one other should be getting his this month. We are starting a WEX participant for Bryan Tomms Farms in Carmi. We also have a potential WEX outreach worker for Wayne County Office. These two should exhaust all of our 23 WEX funds. We are currently working diligently on surpassing our performance goals for those who have exited.

Outreach

May 26th Ryan Douthitt and Amy Seidel will be attending the SIC Kids Fair.

On April 6th, Ryan Douthitt and I will be attending Harrisburg High School Job Fair.

On April 16, Ryan D. and I will be attending the SIC Job Fair.

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Success Story

Kevin Shoemaker was referred to the Wabash Area Development, Inc. office in Fairfield to inquire about their Work Experience Program.

Kevin was a recent graduate of Southwestern Illinois College receiving an Associate in Applied Science – Baking and Pastry. He had not found employment after graduation.

Kevin enrolled in the Work Experience Program through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grant for him to gain meaningful work experience. He enjoyed learning the ins and outs of everyday Inn-keeping tasks as well as doing the baking and pastry work. He learned how to schedule and prepare for the Teas that The Victorian on Main held for special events.

He successfully completed the Work Experience program, and he is currently employed there. He told me that the Work Experience opportunity has given him a better aspect for the future in having a place of his own to run and that the Work Experience program through WIOA was an incredible experience.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chris Howton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ginger Harner, carried via Voice Vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm by Dean Rogan.

Minutes Approved by _____ Date _____