

**Workforce Investment Board of Will County**  
**Location: Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center**  
**214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet**  
**April 14, 2014**  
**Minutes**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Nancy Baldwin	X		Allison Lizzadro		X
Tom Bloodgood		X	Colleen Mathy	X	
Herb Brooks	X		Cheryl McCarthy	X	
Jayne Cain Casimere	X		Peter McLenighan	X	
Debra Daniels	X		Don Moran	X	
Gregory Dover	X		Jim Moustis	X	
Susan Flessner	X		Pat Mudron	X	
Beth Gonzalez	X		Calvin Quarles		X
Cornell Graves		X	Jim Rink		X
John Greuling		X	Steve Rockwell	X	
Pam Heavens		X	Suzanne Sallay	X	
Rita Herrick	X		Christine Sanchez		X
Lyle Hicks	X		Jerry Staley		X
Lou Dawn Howard		X	Gayle Stricklin		X
Carlos Interrial	X		Joe Strong	X	
Matthew Janiak	X		James Tromp	X	
Mark Jepson	X		Betty Yott		X

**Others Present:** Pat Fera, Mary Gajcak, John Skaggs, Anika Todd, and Paige Vanderhyden.

***Welcome and Minutes***

Jim Tromp called the meeting to order. Introductions were done. The minutes of the February 10, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Don Moran.

***New Business***

Pat Fera presented a modification to the Five Year WIA Plan to incorporate \$118,633 of additional Dislocated Worker funds into the PY13 budget. The modification was approved on a motion by Don Moran and seconded by Greg Dover. Fera indicated that these funds would be used to implement a pilot On-the-Job training program with the Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing.

Fera also provided the Board with information on PY12 performance incentives. She noted that our area received an additional \$17,357 in funding for the results attained in the 10 WIA performance measures. She noted that Susan Flessner and her staff have done a great job with respect to performance and are the ones who made this happen.

A copy of the Mobile Workforce Center (MWC) data was reviewed. Fera indicated that the customer usage at Governors' State University (GSU) has been very low in the last few months. As a result, Susan Flessner will be working with the Village of University Park to see if the MWC can use the Village Hall as a regular stop in place of GSU.

Information about the Veterans' Internship program that is funded by Waste Management was provided to all Board members.

### **Youth Council**

Susan Flessner provided the Board with an overview of a new program that is being proposed for funding. The recommended contractors for Occupational Skill Training Program for youth will assist youth who have a high school diploma or GED in identifying a career choice and enrolling in post-secondary education. A Request for Proposals was released and a review team recommends the following contract awards:

- First Institute Training and Management, Inc: \$181,000 to serve 25 participants
- Joliet Junior College – Workforce Development: \$486,485 to serve 70 participants

The recommendations were approved on a motion by Flessner, seconded by Joe Strong. Deb Daniels abstained from the vote.

### **System and Trends Committee**

Fera presented the Dashboard Overview Report. The report provides general information about the economy and the workforce services provided to customers. It was recommended to add the employment participation rate to the report.

Fera also presented "*Where are the Jobs?*" This report is an indicator of jobs available and is created from an online program that uses web spider crawler technology to scour online job boards. Since this is just an indicator, the top 25 companies that post positions were removed from report and the top occupational categories were added. It was too misleading and many companies weren't being captured in the totals.

### **Manager's Report**

Pat Fera presented the Manager's Report. She did a presentation on unemployment data and how to interpret this data. Fera also introduced Lulu Blacksmith to the Board. Blacksmith has requested to use the Workforce Investment Board of Will County as the basis for her study on collaborations between business leaders – members of local Workforce Investment Boards – and local community college leaders. Blacksmith provided members with additional detail on the study.

In March, Fera and Flessner attended the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) conference in Washington DC. During their time in DC they visited with the staff of several representatives of the Illinois Congressional delegation. Fera provided a summary of those visits.

Fera presented an update on the Accelerated Training for Illinois Manufacturing Project (ATIM). As was suggested at the last meeting, Fera provided the Board with the characteristics of the participants of the program.

The latest Fiscal Report was reviewed. This report shows expenses from July 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. The most recent Layoff Report was also reviewed.

Other informational items that were shared with the Board were the US Department of Labor WIA Allotments to States, an overview of the Investing in Manufacturing Partnership Communities application, a three year summary of the local Return on Investment calculations,

and information about a new US Department of Labor website with resources for Workforce Board members.

***Next Meeting***

The next Workforce Investment Board meeting will be on June 9, 2014 at 7:30 am. The meeting location will be Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center in the Amerifed Room, 214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet, IL 60432.