

Workforce Investment Board of Will County
Location: Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center
214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet
August 11, 2014
Minutes

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

Others Present: Pat Fera, Ryan Fisher, Nisha Floyd, Mary Gajcak, Pam McDonough, Gina Tuminello, and Paige Vanderhyden.

Welcome and Minutes

John Greuling called the meeting to order. The minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Herb Brooks, seconded by Cheryl McCarthy.

New Business

Fera provided an update on the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act. President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law. Fera provided the highlights of the legislation. The Department of Labor will issue proposed regulations reflecting the changes in WIOA soon after enactment. Fera noted that we are working with the other Boards in the Chicago Metro region to provide input on regulations.

Pam McDonough and Nisha Floyd from the Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing/NORBIT gave a presentation to the Board about the On-the-Job Training program. NORBIT received a contract from the Workforce Investment Board to market and implement the On-the-Job Training Program in Will County.

Youth Council

Cheryl McCarthy presented the Youth Council Report. A request for proposals was released in February 2014 to contract with a provider to facilitate youth enrolling in post-secondary education. Two proposals were received: First Institute and Joliet Junior College. The

occupational training program is underway. Both contractors presented at the Youth Council meeting and provided updates to how the program is doing so far.

McCarthy presented the Connect 2 Employment monthly report for June. Susan Flessner mentioned that with the new eligibility changes in WIOA, we will see an increase in enrolled students.

McCarthy mentioned that the 2014 Youth Provider Summit will be held on October 9th at the Joliet Junior College Healthcare Professions Building. The keynote speaker for the event will be Eddie Slowikowski.

System and Trends Committee

Pat Fera presented the System and Trends Report. The System and Trends Committee received a request from Joliet Junior College to add five programs to the Illinois State Provider Certification list: Automotive Service Technology, Basic Electronics, Basic Welding, Electronics Engineering Technology, Industrial Welding Technology. All five programs met the minimum qualifications and are being recommended for approved to be added to State list. The recommendations were approved on a motion by Betty Yott, seconded by Jerry Staley.

Fera presented the Dashboard Overview Report. The report provides general information about the economy and the workforce services provided to customers. Fera mentioned that unemployment fell in June to 7.3% and there was an increase in the labor force participation rate, both are great signs for the economy. 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.

Manager's Report

Fera presented an update on the Accelerated Training for Illinois Manufacturing Project (ATIM). The second year is underway. We have exceeded our goal of 177 customers enrolled in the program. There are currently 195 customers enrolled in manufacturing training in the Collar Counties as of August 6th. There is still funding available and we will continue to enroll people in the program.

Fera informed the Board of an event coming up on Will County's Long-Term Unemployed. This event will take place on August 28th at 7:30 am at the Joliet Junior College Health Professions Building and encouraged Workforce Board members to attend.

Fera informed the Board of a Walmart manufacturing initiative. Walmart is committed to buy additional \$50 billion of U.S. products to create more American jobs by supporting more U.S. manufacturing. Fera is attending a Workforce Summit this week to learn more about this initiative.

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

Fera presented an update on the Veteran's internship grant from Waste Management. Four veterans have been placed in jobs with three more potential candidates on the table. The funding should employ 10-12 veterans in internships each year for the next three years.

Fera presented an update to the Work Readiness Community Project. The Will County application has been accepted. A leadership team meeting will be held in late August to develop the implementation plan for the project.

Next Meeting

The next Workforce Investment Board meeting will be on October 20, 2014 at 7:30 am at Prairie Bluff Golf Course. 19433 Renwick Road, Lockport, IL.