

**Workforce Investment Board of Will County  
August 12, 2024, Minutes**

BOARD MEMBERS								
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Dana Bradley		X	Paul Lauridsen	X		Doug Pryor	X	
Jayne Cain	X		Cornell Lurry	X		Anne Rapp	X	
Beth Gonzalez	X		Judy Mitchell	X		Juan Rico		X
Doc Gregory		X	Kimberly Mokris	X		Jim Rink	X	
Linda Guerrero	X		Pat Mudron	X		Michele Stiff	X	
Maribeth Hearn	X		Clyne Namuo	X		Ben Stortz	X	
Carlos Interial	X		Mike Paone	X		James Tromp	X	
Kraig Kistingner	X		Josh Potter	X		Maggie Wolf		X
STAFF								
Caroline Portlock	Pat Wendholt	Lisa Borrelli	John Hall	Dakota Mashak	Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant			
GUESTS								
Dain Meza-Gotto	Keri Peter	Kelli Manigrasso	Belithia Johnson	Tamra Bienemann				

**Welcome and Introductions** –Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM.

**Resolution:** Workforce Development Month (September) Proclamation presented by Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, County Executive.

**Presentation:** WCCCC Presentation by Belithia Johnson, Community Service Director and Tamra Bienemann, Associate Director – Belithia and Tamra presented information on WCCCC Programs & Services. Information on the presentation and these programs will be sent to the board.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Minutes of June 10, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion by Mitchell; seconded by Interial. Motion carried.

New Training Programs for Certification as received in the packet from Governor State University, Joliet Junior College, and Lewis University. Motion to approve as presented was made by Lurry, seconded by Interial. Namuo and Rapp abstained. Motion carried.

Training Programs for Recertification as received in the packet from Governor State University, Joliet Junior College, Lewis University, Rasmussen College and University of St. Francis. Motion to approve as presented was made by Kistingner, seconded by Mitchell. Namuo Rapp, and Hearn abstained. Motion carried.

Employee Training Grants: Portlock presented the Allocations of Funds from WIOA Title 1A/1D to Incumbent Worker Training Grant in the amount of \$50,000, as presented in the packet. Motion to approve as presented was made by Rink, seconded by Lauridsen. Motion carried.

2024-2028 Regional and Local Plans -Revisions: Portlock reviewed the revisions required to the 24-28 Regional and Local Plans. On a motion by Interrial, seconded by Stortz the revisions were approved.

**Reports:**

- Communications Committee – Mudron reviewed the information as presented in the packet.
- Program Operations Committee – Stiff presented the information as presented in the packet
- Systems & Trends Committee – Interrial reviewed the information as presented in the packet
- One Stop Operator / Workforce Center Report- Stiff reviewed the Workforce Center Report as presented in the packet noting the events, activities, and partner referrals.

**Director's Report-** *Portlock discussed the following funding opportunities and events:*

- A reminder to WIB members to list their job openings on the WSD online job board.
- A list of the upcoming guests scheduled for the Will Works Podcast was announced– the next will feature Mayor Noak and Josh Potter from the Village of Romeoville.

**WIB Member Updates/Announcements:**

- Paone mentioned that this Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup> is the New Orleans, which will be held at the Joliet Slammers stadium and if anyone would like to volunteer, they have openings from 7:30pm to 10:00pm.
- Naumo informed the board members and guests that the city center is under repairs from the July 14 storm that took out their air conditioning unit. He thanked WSD for opening their doors to staff while the repairs are being made.
- Pryor gave an update on the CED Internship program; informing the board that 38 students were accepted (~350 applied) and hoping for more next year. Pryor asked everyone to consider becoming a business to sponsor this next year.
- Lurry presented information regarding the Midland Institute's CEO program with 20 in the first cohort.
- Meza-Gotto presented - JJC is utilizing \$50,000 in Supplemental Funding provided by Workforce Services of Will County to launch pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship program for Early Childhood Development professionals. The College is in the process of hiring a full-time staff member to coordinate this program, which will engage high school seniors in pre-apprenticeship programs. The goal is to grow the number of lead teachers for daycare centers in our region. JJC also received funding on this initiative from the Grundy Livingston Kankakee Workforce Board.

**Public Comment:**

- Bertino-Tarrant invited everyone to attend the State of County budget meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the County's Administration Building.
- Bertino-Tarrant talked about the Will County Expansion of Dial-a-Ride services to the Wilmington and Braidwood areas for people with disabilities and senior citizens.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Pryor, seconded by Mitchell at 8:32 AM. Motion carried.  
Next meeting October 21, 2024, at 7:30am