

**Executive Committee
Workforce Investment Board of Will County
Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center
214 N. Ottawa Street, Room 424, Joliet, IL 60432**

**June 2, 2014
Minutes**

BOARD MEMBERS					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Greg Dover	X		Cheryl McCarthy		X
Susan Flessner	X		Don Moran	X	
John Greuling	X		Suzanne Sallay	X	
Mark Jepson	X		Jim Tromp	X	

Others Present: Pat Fera, Gina Tuminello

Welcome and Introductions

Jim Tromp called the meeting to order. The minutes from the April 7, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Mark Jepson.

Public Hearing

Jim Tromp announced that a public hearing must be held to review and accept PY14 allocations. The public hearing was called to order on a motion by Susan Flessner and seconded by Suzanne Sallay. Fera presented the PY14 Allocations. Tromp asked if there were any comments or questions about the additional funds. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed on a motion by John Greuling and seconded by Mark Jepson. The allocations were approved on a motion by Suzanne Sallay, seconded by Greg Dover.

New Business

Fera provided an overview of the Work Readiness program contract. All customers (adult and youth) who receive a Career Scholarship for training must complete the Work Readiness Training program and take the NCRC Plus assessment. It was recommended that Joliet Junior College be awarded a one-year extension to their current Work Readiness contract. This would be the third year of a three year contract. This extension was approved on a motion by Don Moran, seconded by Greg Dover.

Fera provided an overview of the GED Attainment/Academic Skills Attainment program contract. The program is designed to improve the academic skills of youth enrolled by WSD who are deficient in reading and math. It was recommended that Joliet Junior College be awarded a one-year extension to their current contract. This extension was approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Don Moran.

Old Business

Pat Fera provided an update on the On-the-Job Training project. The purpose of the project would be to assist manufacturing employers in hiring new employees. A contract was awarded to North Business and Industrial Council (NORBIC) to be the broker of the project. \$350,000 will be awarded to companies for salary reimbursements to companies who hire eligible customers and train them on the job.

System and Trends Committee

A change to the Training Provider Certification policy is being recommended by the System and Trends Committee. After reviewing several other workforce area policies related to on-line training programs, a revision to the policy was presented: New language to be added to the policy stating that an entirely on-line training delivery method would be considered on a case-by-case basis following certain criteria. This modification to the policy was approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Don Moran.

The Career Scholarship Policy was also recommended by the System and Trends Committee. A revision to the policy was presented. New language was added to the policy to allow for exclusively on-line programs that fall under the Training Provider Certification policy and are approved by the Administrative Manager of the Workforce Services Division of Will County. The revision to the policy was approved on a motion by Don Moran, seconded by John Greuling.

Every year all approved programs need to be reviewed for annual recertification. Pat Fera reviewed all programs and provided a Management Letter recommending 158 programs that met policy criteria and appear on the DCEO Demand Occupation list for Northeast Economic Development Region. 17 programs are not being recommended for recertification. The recommendation was approved on a motion by Don Moran, seconded by Greg Dover.

The System and Trends Committee received a request from the University of St. Francis to add two programs to the Illinois State Provider Certification list: Business Administration-BS and Healthcare Leadership-BS. The Committee rejected the Business Administration program because it is offered entirely on-line and under the local WIB policy cannot be approved. The Healthcare Leadership program met the minimum qualifications and was offered in a combination of on-line and in classroom method and was approved to be added to State list. The recommendations were approved on a motion by Suzanne Sallay, seconded by Mark Jepson.

Pat Fera gave an overview of the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate and discussed the Work Ready Community project. Fera asked for approval to move forward in becoming a Work Ready Community. This request was approved on a motion by John Greuling, seconded by Don Moran.

Pat Fera presented the Dashboard Overview Report. The report provides general information about the economy and the workforce services provided to customers.

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.

Managers' Report

Fera gave an update on WIA Reauthorization. A bi-partisan and bi-cameral bill was proposed two weeks ago. Fera discussed the main bullet points of the bill to the Board. If approved, the reauthorization would be in place for six years.

Fera presented an update on the Accelerated Training for Illinois Manufacturing Project (ATIM). We have exceeded our goal of 177. There are 178 customers enrolled in manufacturing training in the Collar Counties as of June 1st and 30 of those are employed region-wide.

The latest Fiscal Report was reviewed. This report shows expenses from July 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014. The most recent Layoff Report was also reviewed. There were several new layoffs in Will County

The US Department of Labor released *Ready To Work Partnership* grant program. This program will utilize approximately \$150 million in revenue from the H-1B Visa program to support high performing partnerships between employers, non-profit organizations and the public workforce system to help provide long-term unemployed individuals with the range of services, training, and access they need to fill middle and high-skill jobs. Two organizations have requested that we participate in their applications: DCEO and Skills for Chicagoland Future. Both organizations applied separately for this grant. We have agreed to participate in both. Two other grant opportunities have been identified which we were asked to partner with other organizations. The first is the TAA-CCCT which is a grant for system improvements at Community Colleges. JJC is the lead applicant in a proposal with 10 other community colleges in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. The grant is related to advanced manufacturing and the development of a NIMS credential for industrial maintenance workers. The other is a Job Ready Training grant that DCEO is applying for. We will partner with a consortium of other WIBs in the Collar Counties to partner in this grant around IT training.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Monday, July 28, 2014 at 7:30 am at the JJC Renaissance Center, 214 N. Ottawa Street, Room 424, Joliet, IL