

**Workforce Investment Board of Will County**  
**Location: Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center**  
**214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet**  
**February 10, 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, Nick Palmer, Anika Todd, Gina Tuminello, and Paige Vanderhyden, Larry Walsh.

***Welcome and Minutes***

Jim Tromp called the meeting to order. Introductions were done. The minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting were approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Cheryl McCarthy.

***Youth Council***

Susan Flessner provided the Board with the most recent report of the Youth program *Connect 2 Employment*. Flessner mentioned that the participant numbers are low and have been for some time. In an effort to serve additional youth who may need occupational training in order to obtain long-term employment, the Youth Council recommended that a Request for Proposals be released to identify vendors to recruit and enroll youth in post-secondary occupational training. The recommendation was approved on a motion by Susan Flessner, seconded by Don Moran.

Flessner also mentioned that the Youth Provider Summit will be held on September 26, 2014 at the Girl Scout Promise Center. A task force was formed to assist in the planning and organization of the event.

***System and Trends Committee***

Pat Fera presented the System and Trends Committee report. Governors State University submitted two programs to be added to the State list of approved programs: Weatherization Technician and Energy Auditor. Both programs are entirely on-line. It is the policy of the Workforce Investment Board to reject programs that only provide on-line training. The System

and Trends Committee recommended rejecting both programs. The recommendation was approved on a motion by Don Moran, seconded by Greg Dover. The Committee did request that staff review the on-line training program policies of other workforce areas to determine if a change to our local policy is warranted.

Fera also presented the Joliet Junior College – Process Operations Technology program which had a tuition increase of \$200. She noted that anytime an approved program has a significant change such as tuition cost, it requires that the change be reviewed and approved by the Workforce Investment Board. Fera provided a Management Letter stating that the program meets the criteria to be recertified. The recommendation was approved on a motion by Pete McLenighan, 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. 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. A new section was added to the Career Scholarship policy stating that customers seeking eligibility for services as a dislocated worker shall be determined using a “look back period” of two years. This has always been our practice but was not written in the policy. This revision was approved on a motion by Greg Dover, seconded by Cheryl McCarthy.

Fera presented an update on the Accelerated Training for Illinois Manufacturing Project (ATIM). Joel Goldberg, Project Manager for the ATIM Project presented to the Board an update on the project. It was suggested that Fera bring back the characteristics of the participants of the program.

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

Fera distributed the State of the Workforce Board – February 2014, a look back at the activity of the Workforce Investment Board in this past year.

Fera also distributed, “*Let’s Try a New Approach to Workforce Development*”, an article about what needs to change in workforce programs. Fera stated that we already do the practices here in Will County. The article also states that workforce boards only spend 20% of funds on training. Again, Will County already spends a minimum of 40% of funding on training.

### ***Announcements***

Susan Flessner informed the Board that the Illinois Department of Employment Security Bolingbrook office is closing. That is currently where our Mobile Workforce Center (MWC)

stops. Flessner has been working with Fountaindale Public Library in Bolingbrook to establish that it will be the new weekly stop for the MWC. This change takes place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

***Next Meeting***

The next Workforce Investment Board meeting will be on April 14, 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.