

**VERMILION COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
YOUTH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2005 AT 1:00 PM
Vermilion County Court House Annex 6 N. Vermilion St., Danville IL**

Members Present: Muriel Barnes Nancy Boesdorfer Lynn Childs Tamara Fortenberry Scott Heatherton
Brian Hensgen Angela Joy Kevin Kegley Sandy Martin Jean Norton Renee' Poke
Dee Ann Ryan

Members Absent: Thomas Fisher Nancy Hamilton LaDonne Hightower Amy Johnson Streuer
Trisha Osterbur Betty Shaffer Patricia Shedlock Kay Smoot Debbie Stark

Guest/ Staff/ Proxies: Kim Kuchenbrod, ILDCEO Lori Brewster

CALL TO ORDER – Dee Ann Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM. Introductions were done.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ryan clarified that the State determines the local allocations. Brewster that the Federal Government requires that 30% of the allocated Youth funding be spent on out-of-school Youth. The Youth Council determines how much funding is spent on in-school Youth, and out-of-school Youth locally within the federal guidelines. Motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2005 meeting as presented was made by Kevin Kegley, seconded by Brian Hensgen. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP – None

PRESENTATION: E-LEARNING YOUTH INITIATIVE – IL DCEO Kim Kuchenbrod
Kuchenbrod gave a brief presentation on e-Learning an alternative program. The program is for students who drop out of high school and are 5 hours short of graduating. The individual can take the program at its own pace, based on the curriculum set up at the high school. There must be a good relationship between the high school and the program. The State gave out 4 Grants of \$90,000 last year for 4 pilot sites. The first year \$45,000 is given to get the program up and running, the State gives you \$45,000 and the local area must match with an additional \$45,000 within the first year. The student must have completely dropped out of the high school. The program cannot give a credit, the high school must give the credit. Ryan questioned whether this program could be placed in one of the existing alternative schools. Kuchenbrod stated no, that an alternative school is considered school. The program must be completely out of the school. Poke questioned what the student gets after completing the program. Kuchenbrod responded that the student gets a diploma or transition back in the traditional school. Question was asked if the program could be administered at the physical location of an alternative school, but not a part of the alternative school. Kuchenbrod stated that the program will be heavily LWIA monitored. Kegley questioned whether the student could be sitting in a classroom in an alternative school and be taught simultaneously by an alternative school teacher, would that student qualify in the E-Learning program. Kuchenbrod responded yes, but the student must be five credits or less short of graduation. If the student is six credits short, then that student would need to get the credit somehow, then dropout, to be eligible for the program. Kuchenbrod informed that this program is currently being evaluated by ISBE and ICCI. *Kuchenbrod informed that the State is still writing the RFP.* Ryan questioned whether there was other funding available outside of the Youth funding for projects like this. Kuchenbrod responded that there is funding available at the State level, but in order to qualify you have to get “this one to get that one”. For example, case management, there would be three people that would have to be tied to the E-Learning (intake, actual case manager, and monitor) whose salaries would be an in-kind match. There are two

grants that will be coming out in January for equipment, very competitive, and are distributed regionally. The High Tech Grant (worth \$75,000) is due December 6, 2005, and there are others in the community applying for that grant, as well as others in the region. If you can show that you are applying for this grant with that grant as a possible match, it makes your case stronger. There is also the Digital Divide Grant coming out in the spring. That would be a perfect fit in regards to buying equipment, additional curriculum, and supplies. The Coleman Foundation offers grants. Kuchenbrod stated that if the \$45,000 is already in house for your portion of the match, the question is how are you going to come with the additional \$45,000 for the second year, because the State is not matching the second year. Kuchenbrod stated that the High Tech program is working now at Parkland and at DACC. Ryan thanked Kuchenbrod for attending. Poke asked for clarification on the matching funds that the funds do not 100% have to come from the WIA funding, the matching funds can come from other funding sources. Kuchenbrod responded yes.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF WIA—TITLE 1 YOUTH PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – Hensgen reviewed changes to the RFP. Poke informed that on page 31-Program Income regarding “equipment purchased by subcontractor remains the property of VCJTP”, any equipment purchased is considered property of JTP because DCEO still owns it. DCEO will give JTP a release after approximately two years. This is because, for example, if a provider receives a contract for one year, but the second year is not successful, the provider cannot keep the equipment purchased, it must be returned to JTP.

A motion to approve the RFP as presented was made by Tamara Fortenberry, seconded by Kevin Kegley. Approved by a voice vote. Abstaining: Scott Heatherton, Lynn Childs, Muriel Barnes, and Sandy Martin. Motion carried. Brewster informed that it would go to the Executive Committee on November 10, 2005, and if approved taken to the full WIB in November. Hensgen informed that if the RFP is approved by the WIB, it will be sent out the first week in December.

COUNCIL EXCHANGE – Barnes informed that the students had met and decided that the Student’s Bazaar was not going to be open long enough, so they will be open on December 8, 2005 from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM with lunch from 11:00 to 2:00 PM. Also the students will not accept any wages for the preparatory work until after the project is over. At that time they will make a decision on whether to get paid minimum wage for the preparatory hours, if they would get a bonus, or if the profit margin was low enough to reduce their salary. Baked goods, noodles, breads, angel food cake, butter, have been ordered from an Amish supplier in Tuscola. Craft items and plants have been orders. The students opened the bazaar to vendors so that the daycare center could make chocolate covered pretzels and lemonade stand.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – Ryan announced that the Juvenile Justice Council has been cancelled until January 2006. Ryan also thanked everyone for helping with the RFP.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR – Childs questioned whether the RFP would be online. Chuck Brooks would be contacted to put the RFP online.

NEXT MEETING – After discussion, a motion was made to schedule the next meeting for February 7, 2006 at 1:00 PM was made by Lynn Childs, seconded by Scott Heatherton. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT - A motion to adjourn was made by Brian Hensgen, seconded by Nancy Boesdorfer. Approved by a unanimous voice vote. Motion carried.