

Vermilion County Workforce Innovation Board
Minutes of the Meeting – Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 8am
DACC Bremer Conference Center, 2000 E. Main St., Danville, IL 61832

Members Present: Jeff Fauver, Chair Jonathan Jett Chris Zionie Larry Moss
Stephen Nacco Melissa Hill Minki Willemse Kathie Porter
Laura Williams John Vogt Maruti Seth

Others Present: Lindsay Light, Administrative Assistant Brian Hensgen, One-Stop Operator
Willie Christian, FITM Ariel Nieves, FITM Chris Hightower, FITM Chuck Jones, VCW
Becky Robinson, DHS-ORS

The meeting was called to order at 8:05am. Introductions were made.

Motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by John, seconded by Melissa. No opposed, motion carried.

Motion to approve last meeting’s minutes was made by John, seconded by Laura. No opposed, motion carried.

Audience Comments:

Brian informed the board about the AJC Roundtable coming up today at 10am to discuss the referral process and to talk about a new database created to identify the needs of the workforce. He currently has approximately 377 people entered into the database. Once approved, he will share with the WIB and its committees. They will have targeted events based on the clients’ needs and interests. He is also working on getting the new signage up and installed.

GED/Middle College Presentation:

Laura gave a GED/Middle College update. She distributed a brochure for the board’s information. She stated people may be answering employment applications differently as there are different options to be considered a high school graduate. The students have options based on what is considered the “easiest” for them. They can either take it with pencil and paper or take it on a computer. She stated HSE is being used more often rather than GED when referencing a high school equivalency program. She has sites at DACC, the One-Stop, Westville, and out at Fair Oaks. Middle College is an alternative for high school in our area. It is used to prevent students from dropping out of high school. Their classes are at DACC, but they graduate from their high school. Those students take the DACC placement test, and they’re assigned classes based on those results. They also have a credit recovery computer-based system. Laura gave statistics on the programs. FITM asked about case management and supportive services and if Laura’s program provided those. Laura stated they had to provide their own transportation to get into the program. FITM will share any resources needed with Laura. Dr. Nacco stated he can see the passion with Laura and her students’ success. Becky questioned if HSE was acceptable to a university or to the military. Laura answered that she’s sure it does, but couldn’t immediately validate that.

Action Items:

Approval of New Appointments – Motion to approve the news appointments was made by John, seconded by Chris. No opposed, motion carried.

Approval of Priority of Service Policy (Updated) – JJ stated with the adult population, the past policy was at least 51% low income, but under new law it has changed. He narrated the policy attached in the packet stating it just changes the priority of services. Motion to approve the updated policy was made by John, seconded by Laura. No opposed, motion carried.

Approval of Revisions to the 2017-2018 Regional & Local Plan – JJ stated DCEO requested some small changes to the regional and local plan. Page 10 included the edits for the regional plan – they wanted them to identify what skills the employers were looking for and what our area was going to address. The local plan included edits on how they were going to combine what they're doing with the youth into WIOA services, so that was beefed up quite a bit on page 51. VCW plans on keeping guidance counselors involved, giving them information on services, working with College Express @ DACC, the contracts with the youth providers making sure they have information on services, and the WIB continuing to approve training providers who remain on-demand. The referral services were beefed up, and on the next page spoke about how under the new AJC partner umbrella we intend on keeping the partners together and informed including cross-training and communication to avoid duplication of services. Motion to approve the revisions to the regional and the local plan was made by Laura, seconded by Minki. No opposed, motion carried.

Approval of One-Stop Operator Agreement – Jeff stated with the changes that occurred through WIOA and the One-Stop Operator, we offered a contract to DACC as the one-Stop Operator to make things official. Motion to approve the agreement was made by JJ, seconded by John. No opposed, motion carried. Laura and Dr. Nacco abstained.

Approval of One-Stop Certification – A group including representatives from Champaign and Danville all met to go over the requirements for One-Stop Certification. The application was attached in the packet. Once we hear back on our submitted application, we can begin working on affiliate sites as planned. Motion to approve the One-Stop Certification Application was made by John, seconded by Chris. No opposed, motion carried.

Approval of the 2017-2018 Budget & Allocations – JJ presented the allocations for the new year stating there was an increase in funding. We received just over \$1 million. VCW is hoping to serve 90 of the adult, 90 DW, 60 youth population. Last year when the budget was tighter, enrollments were cut. They are optimistic with this year's funding that all number will be met. Motion to approve the budget and allocations was made by Chris, seconded by Kathie. No opposed motion carried.

Approval of Youth Providers for the 2017-2018 Program Year – The RFP received no responses. It was discussed in the youth committee to continue the current contracts. There was a changeover in staff at the YMCA, but they're beginning to enroll for this year's plan. FITM was recommended to be given \$190,000 to serve 40 youth, while the YMCA was recommended to be given \$68,400 to serve 20 youth. This totals allocations to \$258400 to serve youth from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Motion to approve was made by Dr. Nacco, seconded by Kathie. No opposed, motion carried.

Approval of the Youth Contract Amounts for 2017-2018 – This action item was combined with the previous action item since they both addressed the youth contracts.

Board Development Committee:

Bylaws – Member in Non-Compliance – Jeff stated attendance of the board was reviewed to see if there were any compliance issues. Board members are required to attend at least 50% of the meetings in the fiscal year. An email was sent to those out of compliance and both resigned due to scheduling conflicts. Jeff stated we have to have 51% of our members from the private sector, and he expressed appreciation for Larry and Maruti joining.

Appointment Request(s) – Lindsay stated there are several additional private sector people who are interested and will be coming on-board within the next month. She also informed the board that Dr. Burns is interested in becoming an official member, and that the Board Development Committee was actively recruiting more private sector members to offset the possibility of the additional public sector member.

New Member Orientation – Lindsay and Jeff will be putting together orientations to help acclimate the new WIB members to the board procedures. Kathie stated she felt it was extremely important to learn at the committee level.

Board Member Presentations – To encourage more participation from the members of the board, each WIB and/or committee meeting will have a new partner make a presentation or give an update as to the things occurring within their entity. Private sector members are also encouraged to participate to inform the public sector of their needs, if interested.

Accountability Committee:

Review of the Adult Ed & Literacy Competitive Grant Applications – WOIA law includes core partners including Adult Ed, and so this year the WIB was required to review grant applications, appointing or requesting a private sector member to volunteer. Melissa Hill volunteered and reviewed the Adult Ed grant application after meeting with Laura to review her application. The review was completed and sent to DCEO, and Laura has already heard that she's received her funding.

Vermilion County Works Budget Review – The budget was reviewed – all obligations and ratios are in compliance. JJ informed the newer members on the different percentages and ratios that need to be met. The IWIB will meet in September and they're talking about increasing the goal, so VCW is going to use that goal now to be ready for if they do make the increase. Nothing additional to report at this time. Everything looks good.

Youth Services Committee:

Did not meet. Kathie stated when the change from WIA to WIOA happened, the Youth Committee increased to include several individuals throughout the county rather than just WIB members, and everything was going well.

Executive Committee:

Nothing additional.

Workforce Solutions Committee:

Final Numbers from the Job Projection Survey – it will be relayed to the board.

Upcoming Training Events – JJ stated DACC Corporate Ed has several events coming up beginning this month and listed them to the board.

Sub-Committee Planning – This was put together to address different issues including work-readiness. It is on hold until after Labor Day.

HS Student Entering the Workforce – There is a Guidance Counselor coming onto the committee. We want to make sure information is exchanged and build communication for the future.

Update on Vermilion County Works Projects/Budget/Enrollments – JJ stated his staff has been working on getting people enrolled since allocations came. There are a couple of different apprenticeship programs coming through with IBEW and ThyssenKrupp Presta. They've also met with Flex N Gate. They are also looking at incumbent worker programs.

Youth Providers – JJ invited FITM to speak. Willie thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. They've started a new program which is a 13-week course that teaches basic computer skills to anyone with a barrier.

He invited employers to send anyone their way. Laura asked about a cost and an age limit. Willie stated no age limit and no cost. They're hoping to branch out to adults as well as youth.

Tour of Industries Update – October 21st from 9-3. www.madeinvermillioncounty.com is the website for more information. JJ listed the companies participating.

World of Opportunities Event – New event under consideration to replace the Career Lab which will end in December.

John stated AnnMarie Cross has been invited to be a “Career Counselor” to spend some time with high school kids and Counselors working with career development. She is part-time and is a part of a pilot program to “clone” Kim.

Member Comments:

Jeff thanked Larry and Maruti for stepping up and joining the board. Brian stated there is an open position as a “One-Stop Operator Assistant” at DACC. The position closes September 1st.

The next WIB meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28th at 8am.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kathie, seconded by JJ. No opposed, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56am.