

Local Elected Officials Executive Council Meeting – Region 8
South Central Indiana Workforce Service Area
Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom Invite or Call-In
September 10, 2024
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Members Present:

Commissioner Dustin Gabhart (Lawrence County)
Commissioner Richard Dixon (Orange County)
Commissioner Paul George (Martin County)
Commissioner Ed Michael (Greene County)
Commissioner Nathan Gabhart (Daviess County)
Andrea De La Rosa (City of Bloomington – Mayor’s Office)

Member’s Not Present:

Commissioner Julie Thomas (Monroe County)
Commissioner Ron Sanders (Brown County)
Commissioner Bob Curry (Owen County)

Staff Present:

Rob King
David Tucker

Call to Order – On behalf of Dustin Gabhart, Rob King called the meeting to order and a quorum of the Council was confirmed as present.

Region 8 Operational Update - Rob King reviewed the Governance structure for Region 8 and provided a regional review of Economic Growth Region 8 and services provided. Explained counties represented, mission of Workforce Board, and current status for all WorkOne offices located throughout South Central Indiana. Additionally, Rob discussed WIOA Funding allocations for PY’23 and PY’24. Rob reviewed the recommended PY’24 WIOA budget allocations with the Council. Rob also explained that members present would make motions and vote at the LEO meeting, and would always be welcomed guests at the Workforce Board meetings. Rob provided PY’24 Workforce Board meeting dates.

Andrea De La Rosa moved to approve the recommended PY’24 Region 8 WIOA Budget Allocations. Richard Dixon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Elected Officials Agreement – Rob King reviewed the Region 8 LEO agreement (2023-2028), approved by members in June of 2023, which all members signed on behalf of their County. Rob explained that this new agreement is currently active through June of 2028. Rob reviewed LEO agreement requirements. All Council members agreed that per WIOA regulation, LEO's have to repay funds disallowed under audit in the event that funds are unable to be repaid by another entity. Members understand that there are built-in safeguards to make sure disallowed costs do not happen and that the Region 8 Fiscal Agent, Crowe LLC, periodically reviews and makes certain funds are spent in accordance with regulations. Members also understand how costs would be divided proportionally based on the population of government entities that sign the LEO agreement.

Chief Elected Official for Region 8 – Rob King explained the role of the Regional Chief Elected Official (RCEO) and stated that Dustin Gabhart had been the RCEO for Region 8 the past Three (3) years. Mr. Gabhart will no longer serve as an elected official as of January of 2025 and will no longer act as the RCEO past this date. Rob stated that Dustin had done a tremendous job as RCEO and will be missed. Dustin will remain a Lawrence County Business Representative on the Regional Workforce Board. That said, Rob stated that a new RCEO would need to be elected by the Executive Council.

Sam Craig, Mayor of Bedford, Indiana in Lawrence County, agreed that if appointed by his colleagues, he would be honored to serve as the RCEO for Region 8. After discussion with members, no objections were noted to Mayor Craig serving as the new RCEO for the region beginning January 1, 2025.

Dustin Gabhart moved to elect Mayor Sam Craig as Regional Chief Elected Official beginning January 1, 2025. Richard Dixon seconded the motion, and the group voted unanimously to elect Mayor Sam Craig as the new RCEO beginning January 1, 2025.

Next Meeting and Adjourn – Rob King advised that he would continue one-on-one meetings as requested by Council members and that he is always available to them as needed. The next LEO meeting will be scheduled as appropriate with an annual meeting to be around June or July of 2025. Rob also advised that each member would receive an invite to all Workforce Board meetings as well.

With no further business – *Ed Michael moved to adjourn meeting and Paul George seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.*

Prepared By: Rob King