

Meeting Minutes
South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc.
Quarterly Meeting
Stone Gate Arts and Education Center
December 13, 2017 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM

Board Members Present: Brenda Reetz, Darrell White, Laura Cooper, Michelle Ellis, Michael Stieglitz, Scott Baker, Laura Cooper, David Brinegar, Angie Taylor, Jason Flinn, Steve Johnson, Lynn Coyne, Marilyn Pitzulo

Others Present: John Corcoran, Shannon Laurent, Tina Judd, Carla Crowe, Rob King, Nancy Karazsia, Richard Rampley, Earl Isom, Robin Branch, Susan Neal, Brian Rawlins, Phillip Dart, Dave Tucker, Cassie Janes, Randy Wells, Jennifer Montgomery, Leslie Crist, Tony Pitzulo, Neil Theobald

Board Members Absent: Nathan Walker, Christy Langley, Frank Guratzsch, Ken McKee, Terry Pittman, Trent Todd, Gene McCracken, Teresa Hudson

Call to Order

Brenda Reetz called the meeting to order at Noon. Each person present introduced themselves. A quorum of the Board was confirmed as present.

Approval of Minutes

Lynn Coyne moved to accept the minutes of the 9/20/17 meeting of the South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc. Laura Cooper seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Bloomington WorkOne Certification

John Corcoran described the process involved in the Certification of WorkOne Centers. The Department of Workforce Development has established criteria for the Certification. Richard Rampley and John Corcoran completed technical aspects of the review and Board Members Jennie Vaughan, Chancellor of Ivy Tech Bloomington and Jason Flinn, HR Director at TASUS, Inc. along with key staff and WorkOne partners participated in an overview discussion of the criteria. John Corcoran said that the criteria had been met and recommended that the Bloomington WorkOne be certified.

Jason Flinn motioned to Certify the Bloomington WorkOne. Jennie Vaughan seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion.

John Corcoran thanked Jason and Jennie for participating and said that the other offices will be scheduled in the coming months and that the Board will be invited to participate.

Indiana Workforce Board Association (INWBA)

John Corcoran stated that several regions are withdrawing or have withdrawn their INWBA participation. Voting members of INWBA are the Board Chair and Vice Chairs of each of the 12 regions. Generally voting members have not attended these meetings. John reported that he attends as do the other Regional Directors and while he is able to discuss agenda items we are not permitted to vote. John recommended to the Board that we withdraw from INWBA effective 12/31/17. The dues are approximately \$1,800 per year. John stated that INWBA is meeting today to discuss the future of the organization. If most the regions decide to participate then we should reconsider and participate.

Darrell White stated that he had attended a couple of meetings and saw limited benefit but we should keep our options open in the future. Brenda Reetz agreed.

Steve Johnson moved to withdraw from INWBA effective 12/31/17. Brenda Reetz seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion.

Next Level Jobs

John Corcoran distributed a summary of the Governor's Next Level Jobs initiative currently underway and funded by the State through DWD. There was a discussion of the training application process. Brenda Reetz stated that Greene County Hospital had applied. Jason Flinn stated that TASUS had applied. Angie Taylor with Manchester Tank said has also applied. There was a discussion about the how easy the process is. Marilyn Pitzulo reported that 600+ individuals have applied for training. If these individuals do not have a HS Diploma they are referred to Adult Education for help.

JAG Expansion

Shannon Laurent gave an overview of the expansion of the Jobs for America's Graduates program in Region 8. DWD is providing \$422,000 to expand this program from 3 current JAG sites to 7 High Schools in the Region. These new classes will enroll 40 participants each and will begin in January. The schools are excited and engaged.

Leslie Crist, DWD stated that when looking for new JAG sites that DWD looks to stronger Regions that can effectively implement new programs. Region 8 was selected based on the level of support and its strong management of JAG. Leslie discussed the JAG funding and State management and the active support and participation of the Governor in this program.

Shannon Laurent reminded the Board that the JAG Regional Competition will be held Feb. 2nd at Ivy Tech Bloomington. Board members are encouraged to volunteer as judges.

Work Indiana Update

Shannon Laurent thanked Marilyn Pitzulo for the Work Indiana funding for the Region 8 competitive proposal. The Region 8 proposal will target 60 students and provides funding for Work Based Learning. Region 8 will be a pilot for this activity.

Shannon provided the Board with an overview of the Work Indiana program. The program provides 14 weeks of training leading to a credential while at the same time these individuals are working on their HS Equivalency Diploma. Marilyn Pitzulo stated that Region 8 is a leader in WorkIN programming and that each Region determines demand occupations for certification.

WorkOne Report

Richard Rampley discussed the WorkOne report which was distributed to the Board. Richard discussed changes in the Paoli, Inc. closure. Richard and Robin Branch will be meeting with the company.

Rob King discussed the Dashboard that DWD has developed for the Regions.

Financial Report

Carla Crowe with Crowe Horwath LLP the Board's fiscal agent, distributed and presented the financial report for the period ending November 30, 2017. Carla reviewed adjustments to the Budget and Expenditures compared to the Budget.

There was a discussion of the budget. John Corcoran recommended the Board direct as much of the funding as possible to Vincennes University including adjustments to the Board line items. There was a discussion of Marketing WorkOne initiated by Michael Stieglitz. Michael would like to see the Board reserve the \$20,000 being allocated to Vincennes University from the board line items. Michael stated that we need to recruit a larger audience.

Shannon Laurent stated that the Board had sustained a \$270,000 cut in Federal Funds and an increase in rent paid by the Region due to staff reductions made by DWD. We have a shortfall in WorkOne operational funding.

There was a discussion of how WorkOne is currently marketing, the marketing efforts of DWD and the need to reach out to other organizations to make referrals to WorkOne.

Brenda Reetz asked the Regional Staff to present a WorkOne Marketing Strategy at the next meeting in March. There was more discussion. Michelle Ellis stated that Turning Point Adult Education is doing radio and television advertising.

Michael Stieglitz suggested we hold some funding back for marketing. Carla Crowe stated that we have funds should we determine that we need to use it for marketing.

Steve Johnson moved to approve the financial report. Jennie Vaughan seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Other Business – Public Comments

John Corcoran asked if anyone had any other comments. Marilyn Pitzulo stated that all core WorkOne partners are trying to reach out to the population that is not connected to the workforce. There was additional discussion of Adult Education programs by Michelle Ellis and the efforts of DWD and the Family and Social Services Administration.

Michael Stieglitz motioned to adjourn the meeting, Laura Cooper seconded the motion and all voted in favor of adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 1:24 PM.

Prepared By: John Corcoran