

Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes  
August 22, 2024

**In Person**

Dan Bates  
Ben Beckwith  
Chris Casey  
Richard Gloede  
Dr. Val Harris  
Robert Heape  
Matt Jones  
David Lacy  
David Mansfield  
Chuck McEvers  
Joena Meier  
Marsha Mueller-Boehler  
Willie Rees  
Robert Sancamper

**Online**

Vicky McElroy  
Jennifer Russell  
Stephanie Stahlhut

Chair Dan Bates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken by self-introductions.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Bates asked if there were any corrections or comments on the minutes from the May 23, 2024, Workforce Development Board Meeting as provided in the meeting packet. There being none:

**Motion:** It was moved by Willie Rees, seconded by Robert Sancamper, to approve the May 23, 2024, Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes as presented. All votes aye. **Motion carried.**

**Staff Reports**

Marsha Boehler reported there has been a lot of traffic in the Carlinville Job Center. The Workforce Development Board membership is being updated to add two new members. Lindey Hays is replacing Debbie O'Dell as a private sector member and Sarah McConnell will be replacing Tonya Flannery as Economic Development. Jim Timpe will need to be replaced in the near future.

**Fiscal Officer's Report**

Ben Beckwith was called on to give the Fiscal Officer's Report. The report was included in the meeting packet. Ben reviewed the closed and current grants, upcoming grants, key financial metrics, budgets, obligations, overhead, year-to-date projections, and the PY 24 Formula Grant Budget. The new budget increased by \$110,000, but with an 11.33% decrease in the Dislocated Worker program. Chair Bates asked for a motion to approve the PY 24 Budget as presented.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Joena Meier, seconded by Dick Gloede, to approve the PY 24 Formula Grant Budget as presented in the packet. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Ben then reported on the status of the five grants the agency is working with. The PY 22 Formula Grant has been closed with the entire budget of \$1,254,212 being spent and the Supplemental Grant has been closed with the entire budget of \$182,305.47 being spent. The PY 23 Formula Grant, QUEST 1 and QUEST 2 Grants are still being utilized. Pending and upcoming grants include the PY 24 Formula Grant (July 2024 – June 2026) with a budget of \$1,382,858, PY 24 Supplemental Funding Grant (July 2024 – June 2024) with a budget of \$83,412 and the Homeless Grant (likely a 2-year cycle) with a budget of \$190,000. At the November meeting, the participant mileage amount will be revisited, and the upcoming audit will also be discussed.

#### **Program Manager's Report:**

Chris Casey directed the board to the LWIA 21 CEO and LWIA 21 Program Oversight Charts included in the packet. The Oversight Report, as of August 15, 2024, reflects 75 active participants, 78 participants were exited or in the follow-up stage and 18 completed the program. The total participants served is 171. Three percent of the enrollments are dual enrolled. Other graphs and charts Chris presented and reviewed are Breakdown of Enrollments by Program Area; Number of Participants by Education Provider; Percentage of Enrollments by Department of Labor Category; Overview of Paid Work Experience by County; End of the Year Program Oversight; Program Overview by Education Provider (7/1/23 – 6/30/24), for Work Experience (7/1/23 – 6/30/24), by Education Provider (7/1/23 to present), for Work Experience (7/1/23 – present) and by Career Specialist and County. Also included was a Demographics Overview for Intake 2023-2024 Report. Chris then reviewed a list of events that were attended since April 2024. As an upcoming event, on September 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a Lincoln Land Community College Workforce Career Fair. Chris then referred board members to the WCDC Website Usage by Month chart, showing that from May 2023 through June of 2024, there was a total of 4,677 “hits” on the site.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Matt Jones started his report by complimenting Ben and Chris on the quality of their reports. DCEO is very pleased with the information being generated. He then stated there are two voting items on the agenda. The first agenda item under the Director's Report is for the Slate of Officers. The officers' terms expired in July, so we need to deal with this immediately. According to the By-Laws, the Chairperson will have a two-year term retroactive to July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, must have at least one-year board experience, must be a private sector member and must be nominated by the board. He then opened the floor for discussion. Chuck McEvers nominated Dan Bates as Chair because of his experience and Willie Rees as Vice-Chair. Matt asked for a motion to approve the nominees.

**Motion:** Chuck McEvers made the motion and Dr. Val Harris seconded, to approve Dan Bates as the nominee for Chair and Willie Reese and Vice-Chair. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Matt thanked Dan and Willie for the great job they have done during their service as Chair and Vice-Chair and that Annie had commented about the work they and the entire board has done, especially during the previous years the organization was in corrective action.

The second voting item is the Incumbent Worker Project and the details were included in the meeting packet. The project involves Ronk Electrical Industries LLC in Nokomis. The project is a one-time training for \$9,600. The training will be provided by UL Solutions. The West Central Development Council Board has already approved the two-day training for six to ten people.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Dan Bates, seconded by Dr. Val Harris, to approve the Incumbent Worker Project as presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Next, Matt went over the Performance Measures Preliminary Outcomes report. All measures were exceeded. Chris and staff worked hard to exceed the goals. Matt reviewed the Core A Services, the Unemployment Report for LWIA #21, the IDES Labor Market Report, and the Dept. of Labor Report. He then discussed three participant success stories. All three were Shelby County participants. Connie Pitts and Patti Sellers were given plaques honoring their forty years of service with the Job Center in Jacksonville. Matt informed the board that the state has put out their 2024 Economic Growth Plan. If anyone is interested in reviewing the plan, he can forward a copy. Ronk Electrical and Callie Clearwater were nominated by the agency for the statewide awards given to local businesses and individuals for their success through WIOA. Revisions were made on the Regional and Local Plans and have been resubmitted for approval. We are still waiting on revisions, if needed, on the MOU. Matt and Chris have been working on making West Central Development Council an Economic Development lead organization. They have been working with DCEO and EDA to try to bring it back to the agency.

### **Committee Reports**

*Business Services Team* – Robert Heape reported on the Business Services Team Committee Meeting held at 3:00 p.m., before the WDB Meeting. Upcoming events were discussed. Springfield Chamber of Commerce is having a Job Fair on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Several people, including Chris, will be attending Department of Corrections Re-entry Resource Fairs at Graham Correctional and possible the Jacksonville facility. The website was also discussed.

*One-Stop Partner Committee* – Dr. Val Harris reported on discussions during the One-Stop Partner Committee Meeting held at 3:30 p.m. The main focus of the meeting was the new Service Integration Goals. We are going work on one goal at a time starting with the process of collecting data for customer and business satisfaction. Then we'll move on to the referral process.

*Policy Committee* – Chris Casey reported there was no meeting, but committee members need to be on standby. DCEO is releasing more and more policy changes, and the committee will need to work on incorporating those into our policies.

*Youth Committee* – Chuck McEvers reported on the Youth Committee Meeting held at 4:30 p.m. The committee is working on setting up a meeting with Bunker Hill High School to help them

with expanding their Youth Paid Work Experience Program. North Greene School District is moving forward on an application to DCFS to start a Day Care Program that is district sponsored. This daycare would support district employees and students if there is a need. This would allow participants in the Youth Program to get experience in daycare opportunities.

### Partner Reports

**Jennifer Russell, U of I** – Boyd Hospital in Carrollton has a new CEO, Stace Holland. Jennifer also asked about the Ticket to Work program. Robert Heape explained that it is a program through Social Security Disability that would allow the person to work without affecting their Social Security benefit.

**Stephanie Stahlhut, Illinois Valley** – They are currently waiting for additional funds their two programs that help with staff who are doing employment. One is the Barrier Reduction Program and the other is their CSBG program.

**Vicky McElroy, Labor Rep.** – In the locals, things are slowing down.

**David Lacy, IDES** – IDES is currently doing a Webex on their website on resume writing, cover letters, and other job search topics.

**David Mansfield, Private Sector** – There has been a lot of digging for the Fiber Optic cable

**Val Harris, Lewis and Clark Community College** – They had their Illinois High School Diploma graduation. Enrollments are up, especially in Adult Education. The college has some new non-credit training courses, Drone-Training to become FAA certified, CDLB training and Solar/Clean Energy Basics. They are hiring a couple of people around the clean energy. Avionics will be a high school to college to apprenticeship pathway in avionics such as the electronics of an airplane. They have a solid partnership with both Gulf Stream and West Star Aviation. The freshmen initiation will be tomorrow. There is a Wellness Fair on September 10<sup>th</sup> on campus. Val reported on a success story. Two homes will be housing families in Alton that the Youth Build students have played a major roll in. These homes are being built from the ground up with Habitat and Rehabbing with the City of Alton. They have also built a cat condo for some homeless kitties.

**Dick Gloede, Private Sector** – There is need for handymen, but no one wants the job. It is difficult to find help in general.

**Bob Sancamper, Labor Rep.** – Union work is slowing down.

**Chuck McEvers, Private Sector** – Early next month he will be attending a Skills USA Advisory Development Conference. There is a building for lease just off the Carrollton Square if anyone is looking for office space.


**Joena Meier, Private Sector** - Retail business is going strong.

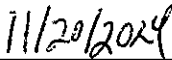
**Willie Rees, Private Sector** – There is a new Starbucks & Mexican restaurant in Jacksonville.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next Workforce Development Board meeting falls on Thanksgiving Day. The WCDC meeting is scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup>. After some discussion, it was decided to have the WDB meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>, the evening before the WCDC meeting. The committee meetings will be held the same day as the WDB meeting at the usual times.

**Adjournment** was at 7:13 p.m.

  
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Chair

  
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Date