

WCDC Meeting
May 15, 2025

In-Person

Ben Beckwith
Chris Casey
Marsha Mueller
Jeremy Jones
Matt Jones
Gordon Rahe
Rich Wendel
Harry Starr
Robert Quarton

On-Line

Trevor Lawson

Gordon Rahe (in place of Board Chair Catherine Williams) called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Due to the number of voting items and the need for an in-person quorum, Chris Casey, Program Manager gave his report while waiting for a late arriving board member.

Program Manager's Report

Chris went on to give the Program Managers Report to the board as presented in the packet. Chris went over the LWIA 21 CEO and LWIB Program Oversight Report, Overview of Enrollment Status of Participants, Breakdown of Enrollments by Program Area, Breakdown by Providers, Career Specialist Caseloads, and the Website Overview. Chris reported that there are 66 Active Participants and 76 in Follow-up. The Summer Paid Work Experience will start shortly with a large number of participants being at North Greene High School.

Arrival of Rich Wendel, Board Member, meeting the required in-person quorum.

Roll Call taken by sign-in sheet. Quorum Present.

Gordon Rahe called for the approval of February 20, 2025, WCDC Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion: It was moved by Jeremy Jones, seconded by Rich Wendel to approve February 20, 2025, Meeting Minutes as presented. All votes aye.

Motion carried.

Fiscal Report

Fiscal Officer Ben Beckwith directed the board to the Fiscal Report included in the packet. Ben noted that PY 23 grant is spent out. Ben stated he feels we are on track to meet all Fiscal Measures. Ben went over the QUEST 1 & 2 and the Supplemental Grant budgets. Ben advised the board that the Homeless Grant (Home Illinois) is in operation, currently we don't have anyone enrolled. Ben also reviewed the Key Financial Metrics, 80% Obligations, Adult & Dislocated Direct Training, Youth Paid Work Experience, Youth Out of School, Budgets, Obligated Budgets, and Projected Overhead Costs Reports, all of which are included in the meeting packet. Ben went over the PY 24 Budget and updated the board on the changes in funding and the programs affected. Ben went over the consequences of not meeting the 50% as required by DCEO, if this were to happen it could cause us to go back to Corrective Action Measures, the 50% Out of School Youth number will go down in the spring when the Paid Work Experience Program starts. Ben went over the Overhead Budget by county, Ben noted that Greene and Scott Counties do not have any overhead expenses because they don't have physical offices.

Ben stated due to the current budget changes starting July 1, participant mileage would need to be modified. Ben presented the proposed new participant mileage of .30 per mile with a maximum of \$40.00 per day, the current participants would be grandfathered in at .50 per mile and \$60.00 max per day. Ben asked the board to make a motion for the new mileage as presented.

Motion: It was moved by Harry Starr, seconded by Jeremy Jones to approve the proposed mileage rate and review again at the November meeting as presented. All votes aye. **Motion carried.**

Ben discussed the Fiscal Monitoring Finding addressing the way participants mileage sheets were coded by Bookkeeping. Ben went over some of the policy/procedure changes the bank procedures, etc. The bank reconciliation process will be the Fiscal Assistant writes the checks, Betty balances the checks and Ben signs off. Both Matt and Ben email the bank if and when a drawdown would need to take place from the line of credit with CNB. Ben also addressed the record retention and added signatures for additional documentation.

Motion: It was moved by Jeremy Jones, seconded by Robert Quarton to approve the Fiscal Policy and Procedure changes as presented. All votes aye. **Motion carried.**

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Matt Jones stated that he will present 4 voting items to the board:

Voting Item #1

Matt Jones presented the current Incumbent Training Project programs and proposals for board approval. These projects are with CCK Automations (Jacksonville), Rutland (Jacksonville), Dometic (Litchfield) and Westermeyer Industries (Bluffs).

Motion: It was moved by Rich Wendel, seconded by Jeremy Jones to approve the Incumbent Training Projects presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Voting Item #2

Matt presented the tentative West Central Development Council Board Meeting schedule for PY 25'.

Motion: It was moved by Jeremy Jones, seconded by Rich Wendel to approve the WCDC Board Meeting Schedule as presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Matt included the LWIA 21 Organizational Overview in the packet. Matt went over the 15 Performance Measures and explained the fail one, fail all policy. Also included the packet are the Core "A" Services Report, IDES UI numbers and the Labor Market Report. Matt explained that the Federal Lay-offs numbers are not part of the UI numbers included in the report. Matt stated the monitoring findings have all been addressed and DCEO accepted all of our responses.

Voting Item #3

Matt stated that the MOU and One-Stop Budget were ready and are to be submitted at the end of May. Matt asked the board to approve the MOU and Budget as presented.

Motion: It was moved by Robert Quarton, seconded by Rich Wendel to approve the MOU and Budgets as presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Voting Item #4

The Jacksonville Office must relocate by the end of July. Matt and Chris have looked at several locations and have figured in the budget and office needs. They are waiting for the final word on the location and asked the board to approve the potential move to this location.

Motion: It was moved by Harry Starr, seconded by Jeremy Jones to approve the Jacksonville Office move as presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Matt Jones, Ben Beckwith, and Chris Casey are contractual management employees, and their annual review was completed. Chris Casey attended 2 re-entry programs; April 11, 2025 at Graham and May 13, 2025 in Jacksonville. Matt stated that Jacksonville Job Center received 2 positive emails from participants they had helped, and they wanted to thank them. Reynolds will be holding a hiring event in Beardstown. Budgets were discussed, Matt stated that we still do not know where we are at the state and federal levels. The proposed budget has cut Job Corps and eliminated the Senior Work Program, with cuts to Medicaid & other programs that support workforce development.

The Performance Manager's Report was presented in the packet. Matt explained the 15 measures of the report and explained that the goal is to meet or exceed by the end of June. Matt presented the IDES Report and Labor Market information for September. Matt explained the Illinois Workshare Program. Matt also spoke of the National Apprenticeship Program and success stories. Matt stated that close to 30 of these success stories are featured on the WCDC website.

No Public Comments

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned 6:04 p.m.



9/21/25
Date