

**Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board, Inc.**

**MINUTES OF August 5, 2008**

Site: The Workforce Connection, 303 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101

- I. **WIB Call to Order.** WIB Secretary, Shirley Walker called the Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Shirley Walker welcomed new members, Kate McMahon from Servicom, Matthew Jones from Gates, and Diana Barthelman from Rock Valley College

**WIB Present (24):** Allan Barsema, Diana Barthelman, Jon Bates, Dr. Jack Becherer, Karen Brown, Michele Caldwell, Linda Campos, Janet Ellis, Pedro Enriquez, Dr. Richard Fairgrievies, James Fehlhaber, Steve Gibson, Lynn Godina, Kate McMahon, Dave Morgan, Jim Pirages, Mark Podemski, Maureen Rosenberg, Jim Ryan, Mary Beth Scholten, Mark Stefanic, Nord Swanstrom, Elton Turner, Shirley Walker **Absent (15):** Steve Anderson, Shirley Burks, Paul Callighan, Kevin Dulian, Luanna Grimes, Matthew Jones, Todd Kindred, Harvey Lightbody Stephanie Lueder, Larry McKay, Richard Mowris, Dan Parod, John Phelps, Dr. Owen Phelps, C. Mark Williams

**CEO's Present:** Catherine Ward, Boone County Chairman

**WIB Staff Present:** Darcy Bucholz, Pamela Fettes, John Strandin, Robert Jones, Trudy Wellman

**Partner Staff Present:** Dan White – Rock River Training Corporation; Mike Williams – Rock River Training Corporation; Gary Lawson – Rock Valley College Dislocated Worker Program; Ted Duckett – IDES; Sue Molyneaux – Rock River Training Corporation; Amy Massoth – Rock Valley College Refugee and Immigrant Services; Linda Sullivan - disability works

**Guests Present:** Ruben DeLeon – AFL-CIO, Ronda Kliman – US DOL/OA

- II. **WIB Minutes of June 3, 2008:** Dr. Richard Fairgrievies made a motion to approve the minutes of June 3, 2008. Mark Podemski provided the second to the motion. The minutes were approved.

- III. **Consent Agenda:** Darcy Bucholz gave a brief overview of the consent agenda. The single item on the consent agenda is request for approval of an agreement with RVC Continuing Education Division to provide an expanded Employment Transitions course that would include on-going job-search/placement assistance through additional group activities. RVC Continuing Education Division was the successful respondent to an RFP that was released for this service.

Nord Swanstrom made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jim Pirages provided a second to the motion. The motion was approved with Dr. Jack Becherer and Diana Barthelman abstaining from voting.

- IV. **Slate of Nominees for WIB Officers:** Dr. Jack Becherer, Chair of the Ad Hoc Officer Nomination Committee, presented the slate of officers as follows: Richard Mowris – Chairman, Paul Callighan – Vice-Chairman, and Elton Turner – Secretary. In addition the Committee is identifying Karen Brown to be selected as Director at Large. All four individuals have been contacted and are willing to serve in the positions as presented. The election will take place at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Linda Campos inquired as to interest expressed by members representing small businesses. Dr. Becherer explained the process that the ad-hoc committee utilized in creating a slate of candidates and Darcy Bucholz also added that a requests for interest was sent to all eligible WIB business representatives and no one from small business expressed interest.

- V. **Apprenticeship Programs – Ronda Kliman:** Ronda Kliman provided information on apprenticeship training and programs under the United States Department of Labor/Employment Training Administration.

She spoke about the key elements of apprenticeship programs, who uses the program, myths versus facts, statistics locally, goals, and how other locations nation-wide are partnering with WIB to develop and deliver apprenticeship programs.

After much discussion, the WIB members came to a consensus to create an ad-hoc committee to develop strategies to increase apprenticeship opportunities in the region and increase collaboration with The Workforce Connection programs. Dr. Becherer suggested that Ronda consider locating her office at The Workforce Connection. The following Board members volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Committee - volunteers Jim Pirages, Jim Ryan, Steve Gibson, Linda Campos, Mark Podemski, Karen Brown, Mary Beth Scholten, Mark Stefanic, and Elton Turner. Nina Crick and Ron Schultz were nominated by Dr. Becherer and Diana Barthelman to represent RVC on the Committee; and it was suggested that Mike Cermak be contacted to represent the new career high school.

**VI. Financial Report:** Dan White gave an update on the WIA financial report through June 30, 2008. Dan did confirm that there are funds that could be used for apprenticeship training. Program year 2007 expenditures on training (as required by the new DCEO policy) were 39.5% in WIA Adult funds and 36.9% in the Dislocated Worker program.

**VII. Executive Director's Report:** Darcy Bucholz informed the board members that we are in a Board recertification year and asked each board member to please check over their appointment form information , and if all is correct, please sign and date the new form.

At 9:00 a.m. in Room #220 the Illinois workNet program will present information on the “High Growth Initiative” which is a partnership with CareerBuilder. This initiative will assist employers recruit in the areas of healthcare, IT, advanced manufacturing, and logistics.

**VIII. Other/New Business Report:** The next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. in Room #104.

**IX. Public Comment:** None

**X. WIB Adjournment:** The WIB meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

**Items included with the WIB and CEO meeting packets:**

- 1) 08/05/08 WIB/CEO Agenda
- 2) WIB Minutes of June 3, 2008
- 3) Consent Agenda
- 4) Committee Reports
- 5) Financial Report

Trudy Wellman  
Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board

Date

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(Signature affixed upon WIB approval)

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(Date affixed upon WIB approval)