



**The Workforce Connection Board and Chief Elected Officials
Meeting Minutes**
**The Workforce Connection Board,
Workforce Board for Boone, Winnebago, and Stephenson Counties**

Meeting: December 3, 2019

Time: 8:00 am

Location: Regional Design Center, 315 N. Main St., Rockford, IL,

Board Members Present (20): Ben Bernsten; Scott Bloomquist; Karen Brown; Nathan Bryant; Todd Cagnoni; Len Carter; Fred Delarosa; Gary Evans; Pamela Fettes; Sue Fischer; Bob Guirl; Tim Hood; Vanessa Hughes; Paul Logli; Amy Ott; Jordan Priest; Kraig Reichwald; Frank Rotello; Craig Steege; Mark Stefanic; Dr. Rudy Valdez; Ed Wood; Jeff Zeal

Board Members Absent (14): Mark Adams; Eric Black; Michelle Cassaro; Einar Forsman; Al Golden; Dr. Daniel Grohens; Jerry Guinane; Greg Harle; Angela Hite-Carter; Dr. Doug Jensen; Jim Pirages

CEO Members Present: William Hadley; Frank Haney; Karl Johnson; Thomas McNamara;

CEO Members Absent: None

Board Staff Present: Dr. Lisa Bly; Chris Connors; Cathy Cornelius; Mike Johnson; Robert Jones; Amanda Sink; Dan White;

Partner Staff Present: Tom Austin; Cira Bennett; Ted Duckett; Jessica Gonzales; Courtney Geiger; Kim Haley; Mary Ann Kolls

1. **TWC Board Call to Order:** Board Chair Frank Rotello presided and called the TWC Board to order at 8:03 am.

CEO Call to Order: Mayor McNamara called the CEO meeting to order at 8:20 am.

2. **TWC Board Roll Call:** A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

CEO Roll Call: A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

3. **Approval of Consent Agenda – Action Item:**

- **TWC Board Meeting Minutes – 09/10/2019**
- **CEO Meeting Minutes – 09/10/2019**
- **Service Integration Report of Process and Results Report**
- **MOU Technical Changes Made**

- **Revised Communications, Grievance and Complaint and FOIA Policy**

TWC Board

Motion: Wood Second: Ott Approved

CEO

Motion: Boone (Johnson) Second: Winnebago (Haney) Approved

4. September 2019 and October 2019 Financial Report

Finance Committee Chair, Amy Ott reviewed the October Financial Report with the Board and CEOs reported that training expenditures for Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth are above the goal and trending in all areas of concentration.

Adult training funds are nearly 100% obligated at this point and a small waiting list for training is anticipated. The funds are being closely monitored so they can be moved into training when a spot opens up. Discussions will be held with the Employer & Public Engagement Committee and the Finance Committee regarding considerations for a mid-year budget modification.

5. Pathways to Career Committee

ITA Program Approval ***TWC Board Action Item***

The Pathways to Careers Committee approved the requests by current Eligible Training Providers for training programs to be available to further the skill development and education/training of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act participants. Board staff reviewed labor market information and outcome data to garner information on the effectiveness of programs as well as available industry recognized credentials. All the programs listed meet the individual Training Account (ITA) federal and state guidelines, Local Workforce board policies and are on the approved training provider list for the State of Illinois:

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rock Valley College</u> Industrial Welding</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rockford Career College (re-approval)</u> Diploma in CNC and Robotic Manufacturing Diploma in Electrical Technician Diploma in Welding</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>St Anthony College of Nursing (re-approval)</u> Nursing BSN</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Methodist Medical Center</u> Second Degree Accelerated BSN-Nursing</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Americare Technical School</u> Practical Nursing</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Columbia College</u> Business Administration General Studies</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Northern Illinois University</u> Computer Science</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>College of DuPage</u> Diagnostic Medical Vascular Sonography Diagnostic Medical Imaging Sonography Diagnostic Medical Imaging Sonography Degree</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Technology and Manufacturing Association</u> CNC level 1 CNC level 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ambria College of Nursing</u> Bachelor of Science in Nursing</p> |
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Abstentions: Kraig Reichwald, Member of the Technology and Manufacturing Association

- **TWC Board**

Motion: Fettes Second: Ott Approved

- **CEO**

Motion: Winnebago (Haney) Second: Stephenson (Hadley) Approved

6. **Board Development:**

- Changing the Image of Local Workforce Boards

Dr. Lisa Bly informed the Board & CEOs that as a Capstone project for the NAWB Executive Director Bootcamp where she was a participant, the group discussed the image of Local Workforce Boards across the country. There are 500 Workforce Boards and their structures are different.

Some of the key points were:

- Workforce Board is a coordinator, identifying training needs and works together with workforce education.
- Workforce Board is more than WIOA. Expand message, expand participation, showcase work you do, and system alignment.

Does the Board want to expand and what does it mean to be different than what it has been?

- **Moving from Compliance to Mission**

The Key Initiatives of the Board can be: diverse funding sources, cause and compliance and the Board as a community partner and Economic Development Asset.

- Funding Expansion would bring the opportunity for flexibility in the mission of workforce.
- Workforce Boards across the country are expanding their funding sources and moving away from 100% WIOA funded.
- We have the infrastructure and experience to diversify.
- Opportunity for partnerships.

7. **Executive Director Report:** Dr. Lisa Bly shared her written report with the Board and CEOs, highlighting board initiatives and events that have recently taken place and other community initiative discussions where she has participated. Dr. Bly gave an update to the Board and CEOs on the Regional/Local Plan. Amanda Sink was introduced in the new role of Board Strategic Initiatives Manager. Amanda spoke about her role and the efforts she put forth since she came aboard in September to align the Board strategically.

8. **Board Chair's Perspective:** Frank Rotello showed a chart of Roger's Innovation Adoption Curve and talked about changing perceptions. He noted that we do not want to grow for growth's sake but to deliver workforce services needed by the Region and not be self-limiting. How we speak about the organization both internally & externally and collaborating with partners is key. Building momentum is hard work and change is hard. Start with a coalition of the willing and build momentum and others will join. The focus is on the employers and ensuring that the training programs and dollars spent are resulting in the skills employers need. This is the focus of the strategic plan. It is critical that we work together in the region to be a good partner to employers. We will talk about how to leverage technology to increase our workforce. We need to engage the business community and community stakeholders to

9. **Announcements:** Nathan Bryant shared about an event being held at Rock Valley College on December 4, 2019 on middle skills with manufacturing employers to show them how this program can work for their business. It is a very flexible program and can be an add-on to apprenticeship and classroom programs and will result in the certifications manufacturers need.

Because the lease for the One-Stop Center is expiring in June 2020, an Ad Hoc committee is being formed to review needs of the One-Stop Center. If interested please contact Dr. Lisa Bly.

Gary Evans is retiring at the end of the year and will be leaving the Board. Frank thanked Gary for his service as a board member and also as co-chair of the Employer & Public Engagement Committee.

Employer Forum tomorrow, December 4th on new laws affecting employers in 2020 from 7:30am – 9:30 am at RVC Stenstrom Center.

10. **Public Comment:** None

11. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 9:13am

Board Motion: Steege **Second:** Brown **Approved**
CEO Motion: Winnebago(Haney) **Second:** Stephenson(Hadley) **Approved**

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Cornelius

Date: January 10, 2020

ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE MEETING PACKET

TWC Board Meeting Minutes September 10, 2019
CEO Meeting Minutes September 10, 2019
Service Integration Report of Process and Results Report
MOU Technical Changes made
Revised Communications, Grievance and Compliance and FOIA Policy
Finance Report September 2019 and October 2019
ITA Program Approval Action Item Form
