



MISSION
To ensure a workforce is equipped for today and prepared for tomorrow.

VISION
To be the leader of the Lake County workforce system that produces a highly skilled workforce and powers the region's economic vitality and quality of life.

Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 8:00 AM
Zoom Meeting URL:
<https://zoom.us/j/97442265364>

Present: Chairman Andrew Warrington, Vicechair Stoneman, Kurt Beier, Kevin Considine, Laura Crivlare, Tim Dempsey, Emily Garrity, Chris Hammerlund, Jennifer Harris, Dennis Kessler, Edward Melton, Noelle Kischer, Kristi Long, Kathryn Nellis, , Carlotta Roman, Arlene Santos-George, Michael Rummel, Jennifer Serino, Patrick Statter, Lori Suddick, Kim Wimer, Christian Wallis, Ginny Weekly, Roycealee Wood

I. Call to Order Andrew Warrington, Chairman

Chairman Warrington called the meeting to order at 8:16 AM.

A roll call was made, and a quorum was present.

II. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

III. Chairman's Report Andrew Warrington

- Strategic Agenda and Dashboard

Chairman Warrington noted that at the June Board meeting the 2020 – 2024 Strategic Plan was approved. This plan will be an active strategy to move the needle on our workforce development goals, instead of a document that sits on a shelf and collects dust. The Executive Committee has redesigned the Workforce Board and committee meetings to be more focused on the Strategic Plan and revitalized the agenda that mirrors that. You will see a larger consent agenda with the business actions included in the hope to have more time to create extra dialogue amongst the Board.

- [Illinois Workforce Partnership - Award Video](#)

Chairman Warrington announced that the Illinois Workforce Partnership (IWP) presents award winners from across the state. Each year, local workforce areas submit nominations and winners are selected by a panel of workforce professionals. This year due to the environment IWP has recognized all nominations in the video. The recognized individuals/business from LWIA 1 were:

Business Leader Award:

Advocate Aurora Healthcare

Innovation Award:

The WEST Program

Individual Achievement Award:

Jasmine Narvaez, Youth Participant

The award video was played to acknowledge the recipients.

- Equity Task Force

[Attachment A](#)

Chairman Warrington introduced the Equity Task Force and thank Carlotta Roman and Emily Garrity for agreeing to Co-Chair. He asked for volunteers to join the Task Force and shared that Laura Gergely will send a follow up email with the specifics. The Equity Task Force kick-off meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 9th at 9:00 AM.

IV. Consent Agenda Items

On behalf of the Lake County Workforce Development Board, Chairman Warrington thanked the Workforce Development team for all their hard work, flexibility and dedication always and especially during the past 6 months. Chairman Warrington noted that many of the items in the consent agenda demonstrate the best of this team and their ability to change gears and respond to the environment. He shared some of these successes before moving on to the Consent Agenda items – see below.

- Launching all programming virtually and remotely to provide the customers an experience and service that is second to none.
- Two DCEO monitoring's were completed virtually with outstanding results.
- Continuing to serve our business community through innovative recruitment solutions including job fairs (Abbot drive-thru job fair) and working with laid-off workers.
- As a result of WFD's ambition, the Summer Youth Program, overnight, changed the platform and design to offer a Boot Camp that was impactful to the 80 plus youth involved.
- WF Polices have been reviewed and modified to better meet the needs of Lake County's vulnerable populations and individuals most impacted by Covid.
- In addition the team has stepped up to be part of Lake County Government's response including working on programs funded through the CARES act - Small Business Assistance Grant Program, volunteer coordination, Park District childcare and E-learning support, prepared with hiring strategies when an Alternative Care site (ACS) was being considered.

Approve:

- Lake County Workforce Development Board June Meeting Minutes [Attachment B.1](#)
- Regional and Local Plan required modifications [Attachment B.2](#)
- Board Service Policy 15: Supported Services modifications as recommended by the Operations Committee [Attachment B.3](#)
- Board Service Policy 14: Youth Eligibility Requirements Policy modifications as recommended by the Talent Pipeline Committee [Attachment B.4](#)

Accept:

- US DOL Dislocated Worker Grant – Disaster Recovery Grant in the amount of \$1,223,650 [Attachment B.5](#)
- US DOL Dislocated Worker Grant – Employment Recovery Grant in the amount of \$298,011 [Attachment B.6](#)

Review:

- Summer Youth Program Update - [Work Readiness Bootcamp 2020](#)
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Monitoring Results
 - PY19 Fiscal and Program Combined Monitoring [Attachment B.7](#)
 - Equal Opportunity Compliance Monitoring [Attachment B.8](#)
- Lake County Workforce Development July 2020 Grant Expenditure Report [Attachment B.9](#)
- Lake County Workforce Development PY19 Contract Report [Attachment B.10](#)

Action: A motion was made by Member Harris, seconded by Member Melton that the Consent Agenda be approved.

A rollcall vote was made, and the motion carried.

V. State of Lake County - Presentation and Discussion

- Presenter: Connie Sharp, Workforce Development Specialist, [EMSI](#)
- Presentation slides can be found [HERE](#).

Chairman Warrington introduced Connie Sharp from EMSI. Connie presented on the State of Lake County.

Some takeaways:

- *The Lake County Workforce Development Board should be at the forefront of encompassing diversity, equity, and inclusion (“DEI”) into their governance and operations.*
- *Manufacturing, TDL, along with healthcare has a large presence in Lake County and will continue to have.*
- *Lake County is a very educated community with a large workforce.*
- *Automation is a necessity in order to respond to the aging workforce and meet supplier needs.*
- *The work of the Ecosystem partners is aligned and are making decisions off the same data sets.*

Some next steps:

- *We need clarity and seek additional data around manufacturing without the pharma sector included.*
- *Data sets are needed to show the disparities in Lake County – The Equity Taskforce will address this.*
- *The Workforce Board will continue to dissect the data to better understand our community, the gaps, and opportunities to make the biggest impact.*

VI. Workforce Board Strategic Plan

Member Serrino noted that Last week’s Talent Pipeline, Employer Connections and Operations Committee Meetings were focused on reviewing the new plan and strategizing on where each committee can make the most impact. This dialogue will take place again at the committee level in October and will be reported out to the Board in November.

- Increase industry-led workforce solutions
- Create a culture of equitable prosperity
- Develop solutions through career pathways
- Continue to be the Workforce Innovative Leader

VII. Next Board Meeting

- Workforce Development Board Meeting – Thursday, November 19th at 8:00AM

Board Chairman announced the next meeting will be on November 19, 2020 via Zoom.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by member Suddick and seconded by member Hammerlund that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 AM.