



Talent Pipeline & Employer Connections
Joint Committee Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 9:00 AM

Zoom Meeting URL:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87986446285?pwd=Mzc3a04xRW92WFMyRGY1MStENE9oQT09

Present: Chair Kim Wimer, Jennifer Everett, Tim Kirshner, Tim Kirschner, Myra Gaytan, Steven Smart, Chris Hammerlund, Kevin Considine, Antonio Garcia, Sylvia Johnson, Dennis Kessler Noelle Kischer, Eric Kurtz, Julie Savitt, Carrie Espisona, Mary Ross-Cunningham, Angela Baldwin, Cara Schroeder

Absent: Lorenzo Bess, Maria Colunga, Maria Elena Jonas, Kristi Long, Ali O'Brien, Eric Pfligler, Gina Schuyler, Steven Smart, Gina Smith, Jennifer Serino, Michael Karner, Ann Maine, John Bradarich, Emily Garrity, Kathy Nellis, Josh Fischer, Arlene Santos-George, Pete Govorchin

I. Call to Order .....Kim Wimer, Talent Pipeline Committee Chairwomen

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.
Roll call was taken.
There is not a quorum.

II. Public Comment

No public comment.

III. Chairman's Report .....Kim Wimer

Governor Pritzker's lifted the mandate for Illinois this committee will begin meeting in person May 18th. The option to participate virtual will be available. However, your vote will not be counted in the quorum. You must attend the meeting in-person to be included in the quorum and your vote to be recorded.

IV. New Business

Panel Discussion

- Department of Labor Apprenticeships – A Workforce Solution
- College of Lake County - Career and Job Placement Center
Dr. Sylvia Johnson Jones, Executive Director
Daniel Ortego, Apprenticeship Manager
- YouthBuild Lake County
Tamika Wilson, Executive Director
- Youth Conservation Corp
Jennifer Yonan, Executive Director
- AMS Elite Solutions, Inc
Julie Savitt, President

*The goal of Apprenticeship is a career pathway so employers can develop and prepare to fill job openings in their future workforce. Apprentices receive financial assistance and employers pay wages, benefits, and apprenticeship costs. A Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) will provide mentors and training. Currently, there is a need for more employers to participation in apprenticeships for age 18+ years old who are interested in starting a career or changing careers.*

*College of Lake County (CLC) apprenticeship program provides support for Lake County's workforce needs and to create equitable opportunities for Lake County residents to secure employment and training. This will lead to jobs with family sustainable wages. CLC has three convenient campuses located in Waukegan, Grayslake, and Vernon Hills. CLC program are 4 semesters or an average of 2 years to complete. Participants must maintain good academic standing and good attendance at the worksite and classes to stay in an apprenticeship. Classes and work are limited to 40 hours per week. CLC regularly contacts all participating companies. Qualifications for apprenticeship requires an overall high school GPA of 2.5 or a 70% or higher score on the college placement test in math and reading. There needs to be a plan to address these barriers to qualify for an apprenticeship.*

*The Department of Labor industry sectors have added new Fall 2022 apprenticeships in Manufacturing, Education and Social Science. The average retention for apprenticeship completion is 91%. After the individual completes the apprenticeship 94% of employers retain the apprentice.*

*Youth Build Lake County (YBLC) is designed for youth enrolled in school, students who drop-out, currently earning a G.E.D or not quite ready for college. The participants are paid for on the job learning as well as classroom learning. The program is a type of Earn and Learn with flexible training schedules. The program creates home-grown talent and increases loyalty to the communities they have grown-up.*

*The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) mentors and empowers young adults to succeed through education and training in life skills, career pathways and environmental stewardship. The Youth Summer Employment Program (YSEP) is 8-weeks of employment program for students 14 -24 years old who have not completed high school. There is success in bringing back companies for a work experience. The YSEP registration information is on the Job Center of Lake County website, their high school and word-of-mouth.*

*AMS has served the Northern IL, SE WI, NW IN area for over 15 years. As a WBE/DBE leader in the construction materials and logistics industry, AMS has built a strong reputation with its customers and vendors as a company you can trust. They provide comprehensive and creative solutions to daily projects while nurturing an environment that will empower people to learn, grow, give back and provide exceptional communication and service. They are actively seeking talent and the hourly wage has increase by \$2.00 over the past 2-years. Applicants must have a CDL and complete a specific number of hours. Currently, there is currently no apprenticeship program. They intend to create an apprenticeship program, and have it approved by their Union.*

## **V. Updates and Information**

- Business Service Team Report: July – December 2021  
Antonia Garcia, Business Services Manager,  
Lake County Workforce Development

[Attachment A](#)

*The unemployment rate for Illinois has dropped to 3.7%. Workers expect more from their employers, for example, higher wages, training, and promotions. There are too many millennials moving out of communities they grow up after completing college or apprenticeships. A program should exist to motivate millennials to stay in their communities.*

- Employer Engagement Task Force – Workforce Solutions
- Youth Task Force - New Ways to Work, 2022 Youth System Report

*A chairman for the Employer Engagement Task Force will be announced shortly.  
Dr. Michael Karner, Regional Superintendent of Schools will chair the Youth Task Force.*

## **VI. Upcoming Dates**

- Joint Committee Meeting – Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 9:00AM
- Workforce Development Board Meeting – Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 8:00AM

*Laura Gergely will send new meeting dates and locations via email. Governor Pritzker rescinded the state mandate for local government meetings to take place remotely. Going forward the Workforce Development Board and Committee meetings will be held in-person.*

## **VII. Adjournment**

*Member Ross-Cunningham motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Everette seconded the motion.*

*All in favor.*

*Meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.*