



## Employer Connections Committee

### Minutes

January 18th, 2023, at 9:00 AM

#### **Waukegan City Hall**

100 North Martin Luther King Junior Avenue, Waukegan, Illinois

*Present: Michael Darling, Carrie Espinosa, Josh Fischer, Antonio Garcia, Dennis Kessler, Noelle Kischer-Lepper, Troy McIntosh, Julie Savitt, Jennifer Serino*

*Absent: Kevin Considine, Pete Govorchin, Sylvia Johnson-Jones, Eric Kurtz, Mary Ross-Cunningham, Carla Schroeder,*

#### **I. Meeting Opening**

1. Call to Order.....Michael Darling, Committee Chairperson

*Call to order: 9:02 A.M.*

*Quorum: Yes*

2. *No Public Comment.*

3. Chairperson’s Report

*The new committee chairman, Michael Darling introduced himself and provided information on his background.*

#### **III. Consent Agenda**

1. Approve the October 2022 Employer Connections Meeting Minutes

[Attachment A](#)

*Motion to Approve: Member Dempsey*

*Second: Member Savitt*

*No corrections. No discussion.*

*All in favor: Motion carried*

#### **IV. Welcome**

1. City of Waukegan

Chief of Staff, George Bridges, City of Waukegan

Human Resources Director, Tameika Jones, City of Waukegan

*Tameika Jones introduced herself as the current Director of Human Resources for the City of Waukegan and welcomed the committee to City Hall.*

## VI. Updates and Information

1. Rapid Response Services at-a-Glance – Laid-Off Worker and Employers  
Antonio Garcia, Business Services Manager, Lake County Workforce Development

*Member Garcia provided an overview of the Rapid Response program delivered by Workforce Development in partnership with state and local agencies. Member Garcia shared information on the Illinois' Work Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN). The WARN notice is required when there is a 33% mass layoff. In 2022 Lake County Workforce Development responded to six WARN notices and provided Rapid Response activities.*

- 665 affected employees all in the manufacturing industry and companies located in Waukegan, Libertyville, Lake Bluff

*The KPI results for Rapid Response for six companies:*

- Filed WARN Notice – 100%
- Received a layoff presentation – 100%
- Allowed for employer engagement – 100%
- Attained worker contact information – 75% of 50% benchmark
- Received UI info “how to apply” – 100%
- Applied through the Lake County Job Center VIS – 10% of 10% benchmark

2. IWIB Business Engagement Committee – Data

*Member Serino shared that the IWIB Business Engagement Committee is charged with formulating data points to report business engagement across the state. Members contributed ideas on what meaningful data points could be reported.*

3. Workforce Development's Strategic Communication Plan

*Member Serino shared that Workforce Development has selected the communication firm to develop and execute Workforce Development's Strategic Communication Plan including strategies for the use of social media, update to the websites, communication materials and message for the individual and business customers and overall alignment across all medias and printed materials. This is a 12 month agreement funded through ARPA.*

## VII. Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings

1. Employer Connections Committee Meeting – March 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
2. Workforce Development Board Meeting – February 23, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.

*The Next Employer Connections Committee Meeting will take place March 15, 2023, at Fischer Paper Products in Antioch.*

*The next Workforce Development Board Meeting is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be held at CLC's Lakeshore Campus in Waukegan.*

## VIII. Adjournment

*Before we adjourn, I would like to thank Mayor Taylor for the hospitality and for hosting us this morning – thank you!*

*Motion to adjourned: Member Savitt*

*Second: Member Kessler*

*Meeting adjourned: 10:02 A.M.*