



**Executive Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 20, 2024, at 8:15 AM**  
**Laser Precision**

---

*Present: Kim Wimer, Ann Maine, Carlotta Roman, Andrew Warrington, Jennifer Serino, Dennis Kessler, Lori Suddick, Tim Dempsey, Laura Crivlare, Michael Karner*

*Absent: Jennifer Harris*

**I. Call to Order**

Kim Wimer, Board Chair

*The meeting was called to order at 8:24 AM*

**II. Public Comment**

- *Antonio Garcia, LCWD Business Services Manager introduced new team member Rob Linerman.*
- *Jennifer Serino, LCWD Director introduced new Training Manager, Ashannti Ross*

**III. Chairwoman's Report**

Kim Wimer

*No report*

**IV. Consent Agenda**

1. January & February 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

[Attachment A & B](#)

*Motion to approve was made by: Member Maine and seconded by Member Kessler.*

*The motion was approved unanimously.*

**V. Speaker:**

Demar Harris, Assistant Director LWD

1. Overview of WARN Notices and Recent Trends

*Demar Harris, LCWD Assistant Director provided an overview of WARN notices and the trends being recognized by the business services team at LCWD. A few highlights of the presentation include:*

- *Services aim to prevent layoffs if possible by exploring options like incumbent worker training. If layoffs can't be prevented, services support impacted workers.*
- *Recent WARN notices in Lake County have affected over 967 employees across industries like manufacturing, retail, food/beverage, and professional services.*
- *Workforce development uses grants like the One Emergency Grant to provide services specifically for workers impacted by WARN notices, like supportive services, paid work experiences, and training.*

**VI. Regular Agenda**

1. Grant Modifications

*Jennifer Serino provided an update that the additional \$144,537 grant modification was approved to support more impacted workers*

2. Job Center MOU

*DJ Newport reported that the MOU process is moving forward smoothly. Partners have had the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions, none was received.*

3. Apprenticeship Employer Incentive Policy Review

Reference: WIOA Policy: [WIOA NOTICE NO. 22-NOT-05](#)

**Apprenticeship Employer Incentive Policy**

*Rason Grant gave an overview of the proposed policy to provide incentives of up to \$4,000 for employers creating apprenticeship programs. Further discussion addressed liability concerns for underage apprentices. The committee agreed with the policy and will bring it to the floor for approval at the April Executive Committee meeting.*

4. Budget and Related Legislation  
*Jennifer Serino shared that in the past the board has looked at the budget based on policies and the needed budget to meet commitments for the boards budget priorities. It was agreed upon that data would be shared for ITA's, Supportive Services, Barrier Reduction Services, work experience, OJT's and Incumbents workers at future executive committee meetings.*
5. One Stop Operator Certification  
*DJ Newport spoke to the need of 3 board members to be part of the recertification team, ideally with 1 of the 3 being from the executive committee. Member Suddick volunteered to be one of the recertification team members.*
6. LCWDB Networking Discussion  
*Item was tabled.*
7. Equity Task Force  
*Member Roman reviewed the accomplishments of the Equity Task Force and the next steps that the committee should take. The assessment of the WD programs is too large for the volunteer tas force and should be considered for a contractor.  
Member Roman shared that leadership of the task force is being transferred to a new chair in the coming months. She also discussed the task force becoming a committee, but no consensus was reached on if that should occur.*
8. Youth Action Plan Update  
*The Youth Action Plan is moving forward, and consultants are on site this week meeting with 4 groups of youth to collect data to be shared with LCWDB. The asset map is in production and moving along well.*

## **VII. Additional Updates**

### **1. IWIB**

*Member Warrington shared the following updates:*

- *The state workforce committee now has a new co-chair, Dan Serota from Aon, who has also been appointed to the US Department of Labor apprenticeship position.*
- *Illinois received a \$160 million, 10-year grant for water technology workforce development.*
- *The governor's budget includes funding for a new chief workforce officer position, potentially under DCEO*
- *Around 36,000 migrants were sent to Illinois from Texas and other states, and workforce organizations are coordinating services and support. 1,900 work permits have been issued so far.*
- *Illinois has been losing around 1% of its population annually, so more population growth is needed through births or immigration to support GDP growth.*
- *The upcoming WIOA summit in Madison County will focus on expert sharing of best practices.*
- *No progress on reauthorizing the federal WIOA legislation yet in Congress. Concerns include set-aside funds and the 50% training requirement*

### **2. NAWB**

Jennifer Harris

*Member Harris will share an update at the April meeting.*

### **3. Grant Updates**

- *\$2 million was allocated from the state budget to local boards in northeast Illinois to provide services to immigrant/migrant populations for 3 months. Lake County applied for these funds.*
- *The funds will be used to pass through funding to community-based organizations to provide humanitarian services via hiring for 3 months, with intent to continue funding next year.*
- *An online training program called Amgen will be purchased in multiple languages to provide occupational and life skills training to this population. Translator devices will also be purchased.*
- *A joint grant application between CLC and workforce development went in for the HOME Illinois workforce pilot, which will award 3-4 grants.*

## **VIII. Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings**

- Workforce Development Board Meeting – April 25, 2024
- Executive Committee Meeting – April 10, 2024

## **IX. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:51am*