

Executive Committee Minutes

April 10, 2024, at 8:00 AM

Lake County Workforce Development

Present: Kim Wimer, Ann Maine, Carlotta Roman, Andrew Warrington, Jennifer Serino, Dennis Kessler, Tim Dempsey, Laura Crivlare, Jennifer Harris

Absent: Michael Karner, Lori Suddick

I. Call to Order

Kim Wimer, Board Chair

The meeting was called to order at 8am.

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments

III. Chairwoman's Report

Kim Wimer

Chair Wimer conceded the floor to Board Member Marcus Jordon to share his experience at NAWB where he was the only labor representative attending the conference. Marcus shared that labor board representation was asked about many times and he, and LCWD staff were asked about the relationship between labor and our board. Marcus has, and will continue to advocate for labor involvement on WD boards.

Member Jordan shared that he had met with a Youth Taskforce from Tacoma who shared how they were reaching out to youth in malls and parks, as well as how they provided services to those youth.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. March 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

[Attachment A](#)

Motion to Approve: Member Warrington

Second: Member Maine

Discussion: No

All in favor: Motion carried.

V. Action Items

1. Approve the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Four-Year Plan (2024 – 2028) for the Northeast Economic Development Region and the Local Plan

[Link](#)

Motion to Approve:

Second:

Discussion:

All in favor: Motion carried.

2. Approve the PY'24 Job Center of Lake County Memorandum of Understanding Outcome Report of Annual Budget Negotiations for PY'24

[Attachment B](#)

Motion to Approve:

Second:

Discussion:

All in favor: Motion carried.

3. Approve Employer Incentive Policy Attachment C
 Apprenticeship Illinois Expansion Grant Fund (PY23) Policy
Motion to Approve:
Second:
Discussion:
All in favor: Motion carried.
4. Accept WIOA IE Grant Modification Attachment D
Motion to Approve:
Second:
Discussion:
All in favor: Motion carried.
5. Accept Low to Moderate Income Eligible Individuals Grant Attachment E
Motion to Approve:
Second:
Discussion:
All in favor: Motion carried.

VI. Regular Agenda

1. Budget Strategy
- Jennifer Serino provided budget updates for the current and next program years, showing expenditures versus allocated amounts.
 - Training budgets were highlighted as typically being exceeded, and the new 10% variance reporting requirement was discussed.
 - Industry-targeted budgets and expenditures for work-based learning programs were presented. Discussion led to further review of this area to ensure that the new budget will meet the needs of most needed industries. It was decided the board would focus on aligning future budgets with 5-year industry projections.
 - Support services budgets were reviewed, noting underspending that was reallocated to training. The committee then discussed the process of notification and approval if the expenditures go more than 10% over budget.
 - Individual Training Account budgets and obligations versus spending were shared.
 - Challenges with fluctuating grant timelines and restrictions in relation to budget planning were addressed. Jennifer Serino shared that grants are often only approved for one year at a time, making it difficult to plan ahead when timelines are uncertain. Shifting between program year budgets, like from PY22 to PY23, impacts spending as grants and funding streams change throughout the year. This highlighted the difficulties grant timeline fluctuations create for long-term budget planning.
 - Jennifer Serino requested the next meetings focus on presenting direct participant costs, specifically training budgets, as the board begins budget planning for the next program year.

VII. Additional Updates

1. IWIB Dr. Andrew Warrington
 Andrew Warrington provided an update on the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB). Some key points he mentioned:
- IWIB had their systems building academy conference, where 9 workforce boards were invited initially and labor was included at those tables.
 - For the second cohort of the academy, there was no labor represented at the tables, which is why the LCWDB session was highly attended as they were the only ones with labor present.
 - IWIB has been having an extensive discussion about replacing the current head of IWIB, as there was a changeover in the governor's staff who was previously part of IWIB leadership.
 - Ensuring longevity in the replacement position will be important from a strategic perspective.

2. NAWB

- *The annual NAWB forum was recently held and was sold-out.*
- *NAWB is one year away from hosting the forum in a new location outside of DC, looking to potentially take it on the road to a different part of the country.*
- *The board is still onboarding the new NAWB CEO following some recent staff changes.*
- *NAWB will be crafting a public response to the proposed 50% training funding threshold, which is a concern especially for smaller, rural boards.*

VIII. Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings

The following meetings were shared;

- Workforce Development Board Meeting – May 9, 2024
- Executive Committee Meeting – May 15, 2024

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am