

LCWDB Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 8:15 AM

Job Center of Lake County

Present: Kevin Considine, Laura Crivlare (Zoom), Ed Gallagher, Marcus Jordan (Zoom), Dr. Michael Karner (Zoom), Dennis Kessler, Dr. Carlotta Roman, Jennifer Serino, Dr. Lori Suddick, Dr. Andrew Warrington, Josh Fischer

Absent: Timothy Dempsey, Jennifer Harris, Mary Ross-Cunningham, Kimberly Wimer

I. Call to Order..... Chairwoman, Dr. Carlotta Roman

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 8:19 AM by Executive Committee Chairwoman Dr. Carlotta Roman.

II. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

III. Chair Report

Chairwoman Dr. Roman welcomed members and provided brief remarks, highlighting ongoing workforce initiatives and the importance of continued collaboration across committees and partners.

IV. Consent Agenda

a. January 2026 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

i. Motioned to approve: Kevin Considine

ii. Motion seconded: Dennis Kessler

iii. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Regular Business (ACTION ITEMS)

There was no regular business for the table.

VI. Strategic Focus

The committee engaged in a strategic discussion utilizing themes identified during the Workforce Board's December networking and strategy session. The conversation focused on how the

workforce system is evolving and beginning to operate differently in response to changing economic conditions and workforce needs.

LCWD team members provided an overview of key takeaways from the breakout sessions, including the importance of strengthening employer engagement, enhancing cross-sector collaboration, and continuing to build accessible and flexible career pathway opportunities.

Committee members discussed the need to move toward a more skills-based and demand-driven system, emphasizing work-based learning, employer partnerships, and alignment with high-growth industries. There was also discussion around improving coordination across committees and programs to ensure a more seamless and efficient workforce system.

Additionally, Additionally, members highlighted the importance of innovation and adaptability, particularly in response to funding changes and emerging workforce trends. The use of data to inform decision-making and measure impact was also emphasized as a critical component of future planning.

Overall, the discussion reinforced the Board’s commitment to strategic alignment, system integration, and continuous improvement.

VII. Other Business / Updates

a. Local and Regional Plan Published for Public Comment – Monday, February 23, 2026

- i. Staff shared that the Local and Regional Plans will be released for public comment on February 23, 2026. Members were encouraged to review and share feedback.*

b. In-School Youth and OSO RFP Published in March 2026

- i. An update was provided regarding the release of the In-School Youth and One-Stop Operator (OSO) Request for Proposals. Staff noted timelines and next steps in the procurement process.*

c. The Workforce Impact Awards Ceremony – Thursday, April 2, 2026

- i. LCWD team shared details regarding the upcoming Workforce Impact Awards Ceremony and encouraged participation. The event will recognize key partners and achievements across the workforce system.*

d. Deloitte Presentation following April Board of Directors Meeting – Thursday, April 16, 2026

- i. The Committee was informed that Deloitte will provide a presentation at the April Board meeting. Additional details will be shared in advance.*

e. Legislative Points of Discussion

- i. LCWD team provided updates on relevant legislative topics and emphasized the importance of monitoring policy developments that may impact workforce programming and funding.*

VIII. Member Time

- a. Board Member Kevin Considine shared information regarding the upcoming Lake County Partners “The Big Event” scheduled for April 24, 2026. Kevin noted that the event will bring together regional leaders, businesses, and community partners to support economic development, collaboration, and investment across Lake County. Kevin emphasized the importance of this event as an opportunity to strengthen partnerships, promote regional growth, and showcase the collective work being done across the business and workforce ecosystem.*

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 AM.

Upcoming Meetings:

LCWD Board of Directors Meeting

- *Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 8:00 AM*
- *College of Lake County – Grayslake Campus, Room A013*

LCWDB Executive Committee Meeting

- *Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 8:15 AM*
- *Job Center of Lake County*