



LCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 8:00 AM

College of Lake County – Grayslake Campus

Room A013

Present: Laura Crivlare-Maglio (Zoom), Timothy Dempsey, Carrie Espinosa, Christian Fernandez, Josh Fischer, Ed Gallagher, Lisa Johnson, Dennis Kessler (Zoom), Kathy Nellis (Zoom), Dr. Darryl Rader, Dr. Carlotta Roman, Carla Schroeder, Jennifer Serino, Quinton Snodgrass, Dr. Lori Suddick, Ken Swanson, Dr. Andrew Warrington, Kimberly Wimer

Absent: John Castillo, Kevin Considine, Yvette Ewing, Jennifer Harris, Laticia Holbert, Marcus Jordan, Dr. Michael Karner, Noelle Kischer-Lepper, Troy McIntosh, Mary Ross-Cunningham, Julie Savitt, Dr. Tasha Shell, Amy Van Strien

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

The meeting was called to order on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 8:10 AM by Board of Directors Chairwoman Dr. Carlotta Roman.

II. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

III. Chair Report

Chairwoman Dr. Roman reflected on the recent Workforce Impact Awards, noting strong attendance and meaningful engagement across workforce partners, employers, and community members. The event emphasized the impact of workforce programs, including success stories connected to career pathways and youth programming.

It was also noted that Dr. Lori Suddick will be resigning from the College of Lake County, and appreciation was expressed for her leadership and partnership. Continued collaboration with the College was emphasized despite the leadership transition.

Consent Agenda

- a. *February 2026 LCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes*
- b. *Approve the revisions to Policy 22: Employer Incentives – Apprenticeships to maintain an ongoing local policy framework for employer incentive payments under the Apprenticeship Illinois Expansion Grant.*
- c. *Approve the 2026 modification to the Local and Regional Plans for 2024–2028 for Local Workforce Innovation Area 1, including Chapters 1–3 Regional Components and Chapters 4–6 Local Components, and authorize staff to submit the approved modification package to the State of Illinois in accordance with WIOA and Illinois planning guidance.*
- d. *Approve the Program Year 2026 Memorandum of Understanding and cost sharing agreement for the Job Center of Lake County.*
 - i. *Motion to approve: Quinton Snodgrass*
 - ii. *Motion seconded: Kimberly Wimer*
 - iii. *Motion carried.*

IV. Regular Business (ACTION ITEMS)

- a. *Approve the selection of a One-Stop Operator for the Job Center of Lake County through the completed competitive procurement process and authorize Workforce Development to finalize and execute an agreement for One-Stop Operator services for a three-year term in an amount not to exceed \$46,455 annually.*
 - i. *During discussion, LCWD Executive Director Jennifer Serino proposed an amendment to explicitly include approval of the **Partnership Consortium** (Workforce Development, College of Lake County, IDES, and DRS) as the selected One-Stop Operator.*
 - ii. *Motion to approve: Dr. Andrew Warrington*
 - iii. *Motion seconded: Timothy Dempsey*
 - iv. *Motion carried with abstentions – College of Lake County (Dr. Lori Suddick), Illinois Department of Employment Security (Laura Crivlare-Maglio), Illinois Department of Human Services: Rehabilitation Services (Dr. Darryl Rader), and Lake County Workforce Development (Jennifer Serino).*
- b. *Authorize Workforce Development to negotiate Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) In-School Youth Career Readiness and Work-Based Learning agreements with the following entities selected through an RFP process: Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep, Lake*

County Regional Office of Education, North Chicago Community Unit School District 187, and Grayslake Community High School District 127, in amounts not to exceed \$138,000 each.

- i. Motion to approve: Timothy Dempsey
 - ii. Motion seconded: Quinton Snodgrass
 - iii. Motion carried with abstentions – Lake County Regional Office of Education (Dr. Michael Karner), and PACE (Ed Gallagher).
- c. Authorize Workforce Development to negotiate renewals with the Lake Zurich Area Chamber of Commerce and the Green Oaks, Libertyville, Mundelein, Vernon Hills Chamber of Commerce, in amounts not to exceed \$75,000 each, based on performance and available funds.
 - i. Motion to approve: Dr. Andrew Warrington
 - ii. Motion seconded: Timothy Dempsey
 - iii. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Strategic Focus

- a. No strategic discussion was brought to the table.

VI. Other Business / Updates

- a. **NAWB Forum Recap** – DJ Newport shared key takeaways from the National Association of Workforce Boards Forum, including emerging national trends, innovative workforce strategies, and opportunities to apply best practices locally. Topics included employer-driven models, sector partnerships, and the evolving role of workforce boards.
- b. **Illinois Workforce Partnership / Association** – Jennifer Serino shared an update on the transition from a partnership model to a more formal statewide workforce association. This includes the development of a structured membership model and increased focus on statewide advocacy and legislative engagement.
- c. **Lake County Workforce Ecosystem / Lake County Workforce Collaborative** – Ongoing work to strengthen the local workforce ecosystem was discussed, including efforts to align workforce, education, and economic development partners through the Lake County Workforce Collaborative. This includes shared goals, coordinated strategies, and improved measurement of collective impact.
- d. **DECO Monitoring & Lake County Single Audit** - Updates were provided regarding recent monitoring activities conducted by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic

Opportunity (DCEO), as well as the status of the Lake County single audit. No major findings or concerns were reported at this time.

- e. State and Federal Updates** - *General updates were shared regarding workforce-related developments at the state and federal levels, including funding outlooks, policy considerations, and emerging priorities that may impact local workforce programming.*

VII. Member Time

- a. *Dr. Carlotta Roman, on behalf of Kevin Considine, shared a reminder about the upcoming Lake County Partners Big Event on Friday, April 24, 2026.*
- b. *Dr. Andrew Warrington shared updates regarding the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB), including going statewide workforce initiatives and alignment efforts.*
- c. *Dr. Lori Suddick shared remarks expressing appreciation and offered a farewell and thank you to the Board.*

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 AM.

Upcoming Meetings:

LCWDB Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting

- Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 9:00 AM

LCWDB Employer Connections Committee Meeting

- Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 9:00 AM

LCWD Board of Directors Meeting

- Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 8:00 AM
- College of Lake County – Grayslake Campus (Room C106)