



4620 W. Bethel Avenue • Muncie, IN 47304
Phone: (765) 282-6400 • Fax: (765) 282-6411
www.easternindianaworks.org

Eastern Indiana Workforce Development Board
Providing WorkOne Leadership to Eastern Indiana
Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Henry, Jay, Randolph, Rush, Union and Wayne Counties

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 27, 2024

9:00 am – 10:30 am

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Jamen Bales, Ron Best, Bryan Brackemyre, Chris Brown, Derek Dodd, Heather Flanigan, Kevin Polivick, Kirk Robbins, Joe Schumacher, Ashley Surpas, Shelley York

Board Members Absent: Caleb Beasley, Doug Brenneke, Phil Freel, Trevor Friedeberg, Joe Henry, Rob Keisling, Commissioner John Lancaster, Jamie Meadows

Others Present: Lyndsey Hellems, Gus Linde, Stephanie Clawson

CALL TO ORDER: Chair, Ron Best, called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. A quorum was present. Clawson took a roll call of all members present. Best welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Best called for any declaration of conflicts of interest from Board Members. None were noted.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Board Meeting Minutes from 10.24.23 were presented. Motion to approve by Kirk Robbins. Second by Kevin Polivick. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

YOUTHBUILD RFP RELEASE: Hellems asked for board approval to release the YouthBuild RFP if grant is received in May. There were no concerns. Motion to approve by Derek Dodd. Second by Bryan Brackemyre. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Hellems presented the financial report ending 1/31/24 with 58% of the year completed. Motion to approve the financial report by Chris Brown. Second by Derek Dodd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

EIW EXECUTIVE TEAM UPDATES: Hellems informed the board that the financial audit had been completed and presented by Mike Webber from WIPFLI to the Executive Board. There were no findings or areas of concern. Our next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for May 28th which is the day after a holiday. We will send out a poll to each member to check availability to see if the date needs to be changed. In the last 4 months, EIW has received: 250K Commission for Higher Education Intermediary Grant, 100K Rapid Response Grant for Dislocated Worker Outreach and Services, 269K Quest Grant from DWD, 25K WRG Grant, 130K JAG Tanf Grant, and 25K Ascend Grant for Modern Youth Apprenticeship Planning Grant. This totals about 800K to our region. EIW has released an RFP for the One Stop Operator. A contract with Shafer Leadership Academy was signed to provide workshops for clients and staff. Linde discussed strategy. Currently, we are focused on a regional and local engagement with employer needs and youth development. For 2024, we see continued focus on 3 areas. Those areas include youth connections and opportunities, work-based learning and apprenticeships, and business engagement and employer training grants. YouthBuild just finished the 3rd cohort and held a graduation ceremony last week. JAG expansion continues and we have added 3 more schools including Wapahani High School, Rushville Consolidated High School, and Shenandoah High School. DWD would like us to add 7 more schools. We are targeting Fayette, Jay, Randolph, and Wayne County for interest. In January, EIW was awarded with the Partner in Education Award by the Wayne County Chamber for our coordination of youth programs including Exploration into Work events and the use of our virtual reality headsets with the local students.

BOARD CHAIR REMARKS: Best commended EIW on being focused and being able to be fluid with running the organization. The board's goal has always been to be financially independent, and we are seeing that happening. Nominations for board officers will be needed for the May meeting.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Joe Schumacher shared that Ardagh Group has a multi-year grant Project Lead the Way (PLTW) to deliver science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education to students from pre-kindergarten through high school. It is a project-based learning program that will help students develop transportable skills. Joe thanked EIW for working with him to help pilot these programs in our region. Ardagh Group is also looking into using virtual reality as a safe environment for glass training. They are looking into the possibility of opening a new plant in Winchester in the near future.

ADJOURN: There being no further business Ron Best adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:40 am

Respectfully Submitted
Bryan Brackemyre