

**Workforce Investment Board of Will County  
April 8, 2024, Minutes**

BOARD MEMBERS								
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Dana Bradley	X		Kraig Kistingner	X		Doug Pryor	X	
Jayne Cain		X	Paul Lauridsen	X		Juan Rico		X
David Conterio	X		Cornell Lurry	X		Jim Rink	X	
Beth Gonzalez	X		Judy Mitchell	X		Diana Sharpe		X
Doc Gregory		X	Kimberly Mokris	X		Michele Stiff	X	
Linda Guerrero	X		Pat Mudron	X		Ben Stortz	X	
Maribeth Hearn	X		Clyne Namuo		X	James Tromp	X	
Rita Herrick	X		Mike Paone	X		Maggie Wolf		X
Carlos Interrial		X	Josh Potter	X				
STAFF								
Caroline Portlock	Pat Wendholt	Lisa Borrelli	John Hall					
GUESTS								
Dain Meza-Gotto	Keri Peter	Kelli Manigrasso						

**Welcome and Introductions** –Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM.

**Minutes** - Minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion by Conterio; seconded by Stiff. Motion carried.

**Presentation:** Chair Gonzalez thanked Rita Herrick for her 16 years on the Workforce Board and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation. Herrick is retiring from Lewis University at the end of May.

**Reports:**

Communications Committee – Mitchell and Mudron reported on the events and activities of the Business Services team as well as efforts by the Outreach Specialist as presented in the packet.

Program Operations Committee – Stiff reported on the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Program enrollments and reports as presented in the packet.

Systems & Trends Committee –Herrick presented Training Programs for certification and recertification as received in the packet including a new training program from Joliet Junior College and a list of programs for recertification from Commercial Driving Academy, LLC and Governor State University. Motion to approve new and recertification programs as presented was made by Herrick, Seconded by Kistingner. Motion carried.

One Stop Operator / Workforce Center Report- Stiff reviewed the Workforce Center Report as presented in the packet noting the events, activities, and partner referrals.

- Pathways to Professions Career Expo: Stiff presented recap of the P2P event.
- Outreach Kiosks: Stiff presented information on the kiosk locations and asked for the board’s help in identifying locations on the eastern side of the County.

### Director's Report- Portlock

Discussed the following funding opportunities and events:

- Portlock provided a recap of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board's Career Pathways Targeted Populations Quarter meeting that was held at the center. The focus was youth and youth services, and we were able to highlight the programs and services available to the youth in our county. Portlock thanked Dain Meza-Gotto, Keri Peter and the team from JJC Workforce Development for presenting at the meeting and bringing local employers and former program students to provide testimonials to the committee.
- Portlock asked for two or three volunteers to review the One-Stop Operator Certification that is due to the state at the end of June.
- Portlock provided information on an upcoming meeting with the Healthcare Resource Services Association to discuss partnerships in supporting career pathways in the healthcare sector. Portlock is presenting information on local workforce boards and will be showing a video of a former student.
- Portlock provided an update on the Chicago Women in Trades program. Fifteen women finished the program, and several have interviews with local unions. She thanked Dain Meza-Gotto for all of the work he and JJC did for this program/grant and thanked County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant for being the key-note speaker at the graduation ceremony.

### **WIB Member Updates/Announcements:**

- Pryor provided an update on the CED's Summer Internship program – information is on their website (<https://willcountyced.com/will-county-summer-internship-program/>).
- Lurry provided an update on the Midland Institute's CEO program that is being rolled out at Joliet Township High School (West and Central campuses) – information about the program is available at (<https://www.joliettownshiphighschoolceo.com/>)

No public comment. None

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Hearn, seconded by Lauridsen at 8:41 AM. Motion carried.

Next meeting June 10, 2024, at 7:30am