

**Workforce Investment Board of Will County  
June 10, 2024, Minutes**

BOARD MEMBERS								
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Dana Bradley	X		Kraig Kistingner	X		Josh Potter	X	
Jayne Cain	X		Paul Lauridsen	X		Doug Pryor		X
David Conterio		X	Cornell Lurry	X		Juan Rico		X
Beth Gonzalez	X		Judy Mitchell	X		Jim Rink		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	
Carlos Interrial		X	Mike Paone		X	Maggie Wolf	X	
STAFF								
Caroline Portlock	Pat Wendholt	Lisa Borrelli	John Hall	Dakota Mashak				
GUESTS								
Dain Meza-Gotto	Keri Peter	Kelli Manigrasso	Jennifer Vega	Anne Rapp				

**Welcome and Introductions** –Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM. The Workforce Services team presented Namuo with a gift in appreciation for being the key note speaker for the Pathways to Professions Career Expo

**Minutes** - Minutes of the April 8, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion by Kistingner; seconded by Mitchell. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- Portlock presented the PY24 Funding Allocations as presented in the packet. Motion to approve the Funding Allocations as presented was made by Tromp, seconded by Lurry. Motion carried.
- Portlock presented the PY24 One-Stop Operator agreement with WSD. Motion to approve the agreement as presented was made by Mitchell, seconded by Mudron. Motion carried. Stiff abstained.
- Portlock presented the PY24 Work Readiness subcontract with JJC. Motion to approve the subcontract as presented was made by Kistingner, seconded by Stortz. Motion carried. Namuo and Wolf abstained.
- Portlock presented the PY24 Youth Program subcontract with JJC. Motion to approve the subcontract as presented was made by Kistingner, seconded by Mudron. Motion carried. Namuo and Wolf abstained.

**Presentation:** IDES Presentation by Jennifer Vega, Employment Security Specialist III – Jennifer presented information on Fidelity Bonding, Work Opportunity Tax Credit, and the WorkShare program. Information on the presentation and these programs will be sent to the board.

**Reports:**

Communications Committee – Mitchell asked Stiff provide an update on the Outreach Kiosks as presented in the packet.

Program Operations Committee – Portlock presented two videos to the Board: 1) Sean, a recent customer who completed CDL training and was part of the supplemental grant assisting people who are justice impacted; 2) Gabby, a former youth customer who provides an update on what's been happening in her life since completing the CNA program and how the youth program assisted her.

Systems & Trends Committee –

- Portlock presented an update of the projects funded through the Will UpSkill Grant (ARPA Funds) as presented in the packet.
- Training Programs for recertification as received in the packet from George E. Booth Co., Governor State University, and Joliet Junior College. Motion to approve as presented was made by Hearn, seconded by Tromp. Motion carried. Namuo and Wolf abstained

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

- Outreach Kiosks: Stiff presented information on the kiosk locations.
- Stiff presented the Justice Impact Grants Report as presented in the packet.
- Representative Lauren Underwood visited the Workforce Center on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Director's Report- Portlock discussed the following funding opportunities and events:

- Portlock informed the board of two upcoming events: Romeoville Manufacturers Alliance that will be held on Tuesday, June 18 at the Village of Romeoville Board Room; and the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Adult Education Graduation Ceremony that will be held on June 20 at JJC, flyers about both are in the packet and will be sent in a follow up email.
- Portlock presented the current unemployment rates as presented in the packet.

**WIB Member Updates/Announcements:**

- Lurry presented information provided by Joliet Junior College for its upcoming Housing Counselor Career Training Program course.
- Mudron asked about ongoing negotiations with building trade contracts. Gregory noted that all but one was finalized but anticipated that all would be completed.
- Gregory informed the board that Minooka Community HS is moving forward on a project with a new vocational building and will withdrawal from GAVC in Morris. Gregory expressed concerns that GAVC would have a hard time operating without Minooka participating due to the financial hit GAVC will take.
- Cain announced their website relaunch and digital transformation projects at Times Weekly.
- Guerrero discussed how IDES is assisting with new arrivals.
- Rapp noted that Lewis University with their acquisition of St. Augustine, hosted their first general construction completion under the Illinois Works grant.
- Meza-Gotto looks forward to sharing more information about CEJA and being a HUB for the greater Joliet area.

**Public Comment:** None

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Mudron, seconded by Kistingner at 9:00 AM. Motion carried.  
Next meeting August 12, 2024, at 7:30am