

**Minutes of Meeting
Of the Indiana Region 9
Workforce Board**

**The Reservation
1001 Warpath Drive
Milan, IN
April 15, 2011**

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Beth Blasdel.

Board Members Present: Beth Blasdel, Rick Bryant, Gary Norman, Gary Gombita, Marty Hon, Jackie Hill, Ron Timms, John Burnett, Katie Jenner, Chip Orben, Phil Harsh, Patti Yount

Quorum Present

II. Discussion / Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes

The minutes from the March 18, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Chairwoman Blasdel requested a motion to approve the prior minutes. Director Burnett motioned to accept the minutes. Director Hon seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Board Chair Remarks

Chair Blasdel made a suggestion of changing board meetings to every other month to help cut expenses. She requested a consensus to do the meetings every other month with the Executive/Finance and Sub committees meeting monthly. The Regional Operator and Service Provider will take care of communication via email. A board packet will be sent via email on the months the board does not meet. Chair Blasdel and Mr. Brown met with Commissioner Everson and he said to expect a 10% cut and then look at 10% more. Chair Blasdel stated our cuts will be anywhere from 10% to 20% at this point. Director Burnett agreed and suggested using conference call or video conferences. We will continue meeting in the different counties. If we find we aren't involved enough, we can change our meetings back to monthly. When to start is to be determined. Chair Blasdel requested a motion that board meetings be changed to every other month. Director Orben made a motion. Director Burnett seconded. Board approved the change.

Chair Blasdel discussed meeting with Commissioner Everson, Greg Vollmer and Randy Gillespie to discuss Employers First. The Commissioner is going to speak with DOL to see if this gives us an advantage over everyone else in the nation. Chair Blasdel noted there was no downside to the discussion and the commissioner will find out if this is acceptable and then take it to the Governor.

Another item discussed with the Commissioner was a concern in the Customer Flow Policy. Bart Brown discussed this issue with Greg Vollmer who suggested when the new BOS WIB gets set up we can ask them how they would like implementation to occur.

Chair Blasdel gave an update on the Secret Shopper. Amy Lay has been working on some of the issues on the report. The biggest problem is parking at our Columbus building. Director Timms questioned how we got in there in the first place. Chair Blasdel stated we were lucky enough to be given the opportunity to be in that building. Other issues were the closeness of the cubicles and signage. Amy Lay stated that Commissioner Everson liked the way we had the Columbus office set up and gave high praises. One of the biggest things across the state had to do with the Veterans Information roster and asking if clients are Vets as soon as they walk in the door. Ms. Lay has assured these issues have already been taken care of. Chair Blasdel commended Amy Lay on the great job she is doing.

IV. DWD Remarks

Cheryl Musgrave introduced herself as Executive Director of the new BOS WIB that will serve four regions starting July 1, 2011. Ms. Musgrave asked the board members to consider serving on the new BOS WIB. Chair Blasdel explained what the qualifications are to be eligible. Director Gombita, Director Hubbard and Chair Blasdel are the only board members who meet the qualifications. Ms. Musgrave also needs people from Region 9 to serve and if anyone is interested, to please let her know.

V. Financial Report/Carla Crowe

Carla Crowe presented the March financials which are at a 75% benchmark. Ms. Crowe gave an update on the JAG grant. Director Jenner asked if the JAG grant will also fund the program in Jackson County. Ms. Crowe explained that we will have to use some of our WIA Youth funding to get the Jackson County program up and running. Chair Blasdel commented that when we look at budgeting, discretionary funding is what we will not be able to fund like the Jennings County Council on Domestic Violence and DIDI Champions. Chair Blasdel also commented on getting the Sustainability Committee up and going. Chair Blasdel requested a motion to accept the financials. Director Hill made a motion to accept. Director Bryant seconded the motion. Financials were accepted.

VI. Resolutions

2011-10 Youth Service Provider Selection

Director Hill stated that the Youth Board has met and scored proposals and recommends to the board, River Valley Resources, Inc. for Youth Service Provider in Region 9. Resolution 2011-10 states that the Region 9 board desires to select River Valley Resources, Inc. as Youth Service Provider. Director Harsh asked if there were any changes they would need to look at from last time. Michele Bowman stated there would be no major changes as far as staff and we are expecting to gain more support as far as oversight over files and training support for data entry. Director Hon inquired how the decision was made. Director Jenner replied that they felt a sense of teamwork with RVR and also felt RVR could improve our youth data. RVR by far seemed more passionate in the interview. Director Hill noted there was a disconnect felt with JobWork's home office as well as a distance felt with them wanting to work with our region. Chair Blasdel requested a motion to recommend River Valley Resources to the SWIC as Region 9 Youth Service Provider. Director Burnett motioned to accept. Director Yount seconded. Chair Blasdel opened for a discussion. Bart Brown noted that RVR bid \$30,000 less than JobWorks. Director

Hon thanked Margo Olsen and RVR for stepping up to the plate. Resolution 2011-10 passed unanimously.

Approval of Draft Regional Plan and 2011-11 Training Services Policy

Alison Cole went over highlights of the Training Services Policy. Chair Blasdel requested a sub-committee to work on the data with eligible training providers. Bart Brown noted the importance of the board being able to deny funding for a program if it isn't effective. Chair Blasdel questioned what happens if a person we are funding is attending school and they are offered a job during that semester, yet want to stay in school. Lissa Griffin replied that generally the job they obtain is still below self-sufficiency. Bart Brown noted this is a draft at this point and the final draft will be sent via email for the board's approval. Director Harsh asked what the minimum load of credit hours is that a student can carry and still get funding. Ms. Griffin replied 6 credit hours. Director Yount stated there was no problem with the board voting today to support the draft plan. Director Yount requested a motion to accept the draft plan. Director Harsh seconded. Director Burnett motioned to adopt the 2011-11 Training Services Policy. Director Harsh seconded. Training Services Policy 2011-11 was adopted unanimously.

VII. RO/Service Provider Report

MSSC Study Update

Alison Cole gave a brief description of the study. Kirk Kuhn noted Business Services is looking at the process of doing WorkKeys and finding companies to go along with the process. Angie Black has started OJT advertising and marketing. Director Jenner asked if it was fair to say that MSSC will be beneficial, thus we can push that to our businesses further. Director Burnett asked if we were working with EcO15. Ms. Cole replied yes. Director Burnett noted that 9 of our manufacturers have said they would give preferential for interviews. Director Norman commented that MSSC spends some of their working dollars on the smaller businesses.

VII. EcO15/DIDI

Director Burnett stated we are looking for alternative funding for DIDI Champions at a county level. Adult Education stats are right on target. There will be a roundtable discussion on April 29th at the ETC in North Vernon to attempt to understand what the current picture looks like. Bart Brown noted that next year Region 9 will lose \$190,000 of ABE money from budget cuts alone. Chair Blasdel asked if there was still a disconnect with DIDI in the schools. Director Jenner answered there is definitely a stigma in Madison about the Southeastern Career Center which affects cuts at her school. Director Jenner suggested offering an incentive for attending the Career Center. Michele Bowman replied that we currently have an incentive package.

Mark Neff, Dearborn County Eco15 Coordinator gave an update on the ENABLE program. Sandra Bowlus gave an update on the START program in Ohio County and noted an open house on April 28th from 4:30-7:00. Vincennes University will be on hand. They will be introducing a new culinary program. Chair Blasdel congratulated everyone for leveraging EcO15 money.

IX. Committee Reports

Youth

Michele Bowman gave an update on a few grants she applied for. She noted the Major Opportunities program is employing twenty-six minorities and females at \$11.50 an hour pay rate. Applications are being taken at all WorkOnes. Ms. Bowman also gave a JAG update. Seymour High School visited the Madison JAG class. Pending approval on Tuesday from the school board, we will have JAG in Seymour starting this fall.

Performance Measures Committee

Chair Blasdel noted we will start benchmarking this coming year how many people who went into training got a job that is related to the training they received, how many received credential, and how are the dollars being spent by each county.

X. Other Business

The next meeting will take place on May 20th at 10:00 a.m. at Madison Ivy Tech.

Chairwoman Blasdel requested a motion to accept and ratify all actions of the Board and its members that have occurred since the last meeting. Director Timms motioned to accept these actions. Director Bryant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

XI. Adjournment

Chairwoman Blasdel requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Orben motioned for adjournment. Director Hon seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.