

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

Highpoint Orchard  
3321 N Old US Highway 421  
Greensburg, IN  
November 18, 2011

**Board Members Present:** Beth Blasdel, Marty Hon, Gary Gombita, Ron Timms, Katie Jenner, Jackie Hill, Chip Orben, Rick Bryant, Patti Yount

**Local Elected Officials Present:** Commissioner Rick Nobbe, Commissioner Paul Franke, Mayor Gary Herbert, Commissioner Mark Cash, Commissioner Jeff Hughes

**Special Guests:** State Representative Randy Frye, Deputy Commissioner of Field Operations Dennis Wimer, and DWD Program Director Steve Gault.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. by Chair Blasdel. A Quorum was present. Chair Blasdel welcomed the Local Elected Officials and special guests. Chair Blasdel noted that an Executive Session was held prior to the board meeting with no votes taken.

**II. Discussion/Approval Prior Minutes**

The minutes from the September 23, 2011 meeting were reviewed. There were no requests for changes. Chair Blasdel requested a motion to approve the September 23rd minutes. Director Timms made the motion. Director Orben seconded. Minutes approved.

**III. Financial Report**

Carla Crowe presented the financials through October 31<sup>st</sup> and gave highlights of the funding sources. Business Consultant went over expenditure, but an allocation of \$60,000 has been issued which will bring the percentage back up. Shanell Clayton received a \$5,000 WalMart grant. Bart Brown noted that DWD has requested the NEG funds be spent before Rapid Response funds. There was a brief discussion to use the \$20,000 in private funds towards the Maverick Challenge. The RO is at a higher expenditure rate, but a resolution will be presented today to modify that. Chair Blasdel requested a motion to approve the financials. Director Bryant made the motion. Director Yount seconded. Financials approved.

**IV. Board Chair Remarks**

Chair Blasdel attended the BOS WIB meeting which is now officially the JWIB. The Governor's office and JWIB approved our local plan and By-Laws for the JWIB were created.

## V. DWD Remarks

### *Discretionary Funds*

Dennis Wimer discussed Discretionary Funds and noted the State is keeping a close eye on the Federal Budget process. All of the State's Discretionary Funds were eliminated and sent to the Regions to prevent significant state-wide cuts in each region.

### *REA*

Mr. Wimer explained what the Reemployment and Eligibility Assistance grant is. Chair Blasdel expressed the board's concern of not knowing there was a quota that had to be met. Had we known, it would have been included in the Performance Measures in our Local Plan. Mr. Wimer replied that the grant had been out for over a year. Bart Brown stated that even though the grant has been out there, it was not communicated to the board or the Regional Operator about the quotas. Mr. Wimer stated one thing to consider is since the Local Plan was created without having this knowledge; there can be modifications to the plan. The discussion then turned to technical Unemployment Insurance. Mr. Wimer suggested bringing some of his staff to the next board meeting to address UI concerns.

### *Common Measures*

DWD is taking a look at the Common Measures. The SWIC will be looking at them at their December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Indiana has not met their Common Measures for over 2 years with the Federal Government. One of the changes that will positively affect these measures is there is no longer a requirement of full enrollment.

## VI. Resolution 2011-20

This resolution amends the Regional Operator budget by \$106,000. \$61,000 is for the Youth Work Experience wages. \$30,000 is for staff salaries, and \$15,000 is for staff benefits. Chair Blasdel requested a motion to approve Resolution 2011-20. Director Hon made the motion. Director Hill seconded. Resolution 2011-20 approved.

## VII. State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) Education and Training Grant

Alison Cole gave an explanation of the grant. The Region 9 Workforce Board was recently awarded from DWD \$495,178 to administer an On-The-Job-Training program that will assist up to 57 Hoosiers in transitioning to occupations in the energy efficient and renewable energy industries. Chair Blasdel commented that Honda announced that their 2012 car was Green Car of the Year and asked if this would fit into the grant. Ms. Cole stated this is something she could find out for the Board.

## VIII. Common Measures Presentation by RO

Bart Brown gave the Common Measures PowerPoint presentation which was an analysis to present the data compared to what we were given to work with. Mr. Brown stated we did our best to follow state policies and we are enrolling people to the detriment of the Common Measures. Chair Blasdel thinks we've been effective. Mr. Brown noted he will try to produce reports on common measures.

**IX. ECO 15**

Cheryll Obendorf reported that The South Ripley Showcase went very well. There were over approximately 300 people and it was a great way for the kids to showcase what they have done. Principals attended and were very proud.

**X. Committee Reports:**

*Youth* Michele Bowman reported that Emily McDarment was hired as the new JAG Specialist for Madison. The Seymour JAG held their first annual I and I (Initiation and Installment) Ceremony with Mayor Craig Luedeman as guest speaker.

*Performance Measures* Chair Blasdel and Director Hon made an executive decision to turn the Performance Measures over to the Executive/Finance Committee.

**XI. Other Business:**

Cassandra Wilson of Ivy Tech discussed the \$500 Emerging Technology Grant that Ivy Tech received. Ivy Tech is setting up programs at the Columbus campus that specifically targets unemployed folks working on their work skills. Chair Blasdel's expectations are to make the handout flyers available in the WorkOne offices.

Director John Burnett received Man of the Year award from The March of Dimes. Director Burnett had done a lot for the Region 9 Board and Director Yount was pleased to recognize him for all of his hard work.

The next board meeting will be on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Belterra. The Board Retreat will immediately follow. Director Yount stressed the importance of all LEOs attending. Bart Brown asked for consent of using private funds for part of the retreat cost. Director Yount would like to see the budget at the next Executive/Finance Committee meeting.

**XII. End of meeting resolution**

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

**XIII. Adjournment** Chair Blasdel requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Bryant motioned for adjournment. Director Yount seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12.11 a.m.