

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

Ivy Tech Campus Room 1230
590 Ivy Tech Drive Madison, IN
February 15, 2013
10:00 a.m. Quorum Present

Board Members Present: Mike Busch, Scott Hubbard, Cathi Merriweather, Marty Hon, Chip Orben, Beth Blasdel, Jackie Hill, Patti Yount, Katie Jenner, Gary Norman

Local Elected Officials Present: Mayor Herbert, Commissioner Mark Cash

Welcome and Introductions

Bart Brown welcomed several individuals who have been nominated to the new WIB appointments who are attending today's meeting: Jim Helms and Don Heiderman of Ivy Tech, Carla Enzinger of Batesville Tool & Dye, Rhonda Frische of Martinrea, and Amy Wickens of Decatur County Memorial Hospital. Chair Hon announced he has Director Timms' proxy vote and Chip Orben has John Burnett's proxy vote.

Chair Hon stated there was an executive session the other day before the Executive Finance Committee meeting regarding personnel issues noting it was a very good meeting. Chair Hon continued, "It kind of cleared the air, I don't know how clear, but we had many conversations on many things as far as personnel matters go. We came out of that meeting and decided at the Executive Finance that we are going to have another Executive Session today pertaining personnel issues at 1:00 today. We've asked REACH, represented by Mr. Brown to come in and talk to us at 1:00 and following that we've asked RVR representative Margo Olson also to come in. Also, before we move on to the prior minutes, Mr. Brown...I'm not sure how to approach this... I want to try to clear the air a little bit between you and me if I may? I might cloud the air, I do not know. After our conversation the other day, and I've talked to many of you the last several weeks, I haven't had much sleep. I've had two nights of sleep. I've worked so much on this region, this is the third day this week I've been dealing with Region 9 stuff. This is not how it is supposed to be in my estimation. And I know you're busy, you've got a lot of things to do and we'll discuss that further. But, I wanted to say that I apologize to the board members who do not have a clue what is going on. Maybe it is best it stay that way. Right now it is between me and Mr. Brown. I feel like that the extremely poisonous atmosphere that has developed between you and I which I am greatly saddened about. You have no clue how saddened I am of it. I think moving forward when you and I have to have conversations, with your permission, I am going to have a witness with me. I would advise you to do the same. Most of our conversations I'm sure that we can do over emails or texts or maybe cell phone if we have to. You have made it abundantly clear to me Tuesday after the meeting that I am not welcome in the Region 9 office anymore. And I don't feel safe there. I don't feel comfortable there which saddens me even more

because I always...I know I haven't been there often...but I always enjoyed coming, going to your office getting hassled and doing some hassling. Having fun. I won't be doing that anymore. I won't even bring a witness with me in coming there it saddens me it's my home county. I think...I know from time to time I have paperwork to sign. I think it would be best that you let me know and bring it to the Executive Finance or bring it here and let me take care of it. I don't feel safe talking to you anymore Bart." Director Orben asked the Chair if we could continue with the meeting and the Chair concurred.

Chair Hon then discussed the transition and Staffing Scenario 1 stating he has studied this a great deal and looked at it and wished he had studied it a little better beforehand. Chair Hon then states he does not feel comfortable with this scenario anymore and states he would like to rescind this scenario. Chair Hon continues, "In fact, I want to get to a point here, and I've talked to the Deputy Commissioner Wimer about this, I want to stop the process. Completely. I want to stop. I want all of us to take a real deep breath. I want to look and study this further. The Deputy Commissioner has informed me that if we need to take a little bit of extra time past July the 1st and I don't know if we'll need to do that, but if we need to they will work with us moving forward. Anyway I've come down to Madison a couple of times and I've talked to Commissioner Cash on some of my feelings... and about what I wanted him....Commissioner Cash is not the only elected officials I've talked with. Director Timms has volunteered to help out with some of the...working on the by-laws. He wants to move forward and help this board with the process. Patti has also volunteered to help with the process on some paperwork moving forward. So, I would like to stop this process, on the 15th of March as we've discussed at the Executive Finance, I've called for an Executive Session between the Region 9 Board and all the elected officials. County Commissioners and the Mayors so, there's lots of things to talk about. What's pertinent to that there are several new County Commissioners and Elected Officials. I've got two new ones in my county who don't have a clue what's going on. I know there's a couple of new ones in Jennings, a new one in Jefferson and so forth. So I would like to stop this process and basically not do anything moving forward until after we've had these conversations with the elected officials. So, I'd be interested if somebody would make a motion pertaining to rescinding scenario 1" Director Yount made a motion. Chair Hon asked if there is a second. Director Orben seconded. Chair Hon stated "Before we vote is there any further discussion by any of the board members? Mayor Herbert stated, "Yes, sir if I may Mr. Chairman. Mayor Herbert continues, "This was voted on by the board. The majority of the board was at those meetings. I understand there are some newly elected officials that may have concerns and I appreciate that, however, we are on a time line and until I find out and am assured by the Governor's office that they will not take over this region, and we lose control of our future, I wouldn't recommend that. We do have a time line we have to maintain. Unless it's been excused in hand writing by the Governor's office I would not advise that. Director Blasdel commented the WIB board will make the final decision on staffing structure. Dennis Wimer stated, "It is the local elected officials who make the recommendation, but the WIB board will make the final decision. There is a deadline to meet

and we will stick with that. The State will work with you on this if you are not quite ready. We do not want to be taken over by the governor and will avoid that at all costs.”

Chair Hon stated he wants to take the WIB process off the table and do nothing further until we meet with our local elected officials. Chair Hon wants Bart and RVR to concentrate on Direct Client Services and for the board to take ownership of this process. Chair Hon would like to take Bart Brown out of this process to concentrate on Mr. Brown’s job of running the WorkOnes. Chair Hon reiterates he would like for the process to stop until we meet with the Local Elected Officials on the March 15 at 10:00 a.m. in Columbus. Director Jenner commented she will not qualify to serve on the WIB, but as an RWB member she would like to give a good faith recommendation to the future board members stating at the last meeting, she voted nay on the staffing scenario. For various reasons, all board members had various thoughts and reasons for this vote, but at this point, if we have a motion on the table, as a board, we want to give a good faith recommendation to our future members. Director Jenner states since the motion is on the table we either rescind or we don’t. It’s not that the recommendation isn’t important, but I do think there is a lot of business ahead of us that is important. Director Merriweather commented it seems like we continue to talk about the WIB process, but we haven’t actually put a plan in place to make it happen. Chair Hon commented that is what is frustrating for him and that is why I would like to stop the process and wait until the 15th of March until we can talk to the Local Elected Officials and then we will move forward from that point. Director Hubbard asked if the motion was on the table to rescind and not make a recommendation. Most of this conversation is relatively good, but it’s not relevant. Chair Hon entertained a motion to rescind Staffing Scenario 1. Director Jenner made a motion to call for the question. Director Orben seconded. Director Blasdel opposed the motion by voting nay with the remainder of the board voting yay. The Chair recognizes there was one nay, motion passes.

Discussion/Approval of Prior Minutes

Director Hubbard stated that in the prior minutes it states Mayor Herbert assumes all financial responsibility of the WIB Board. Director Hubbard asked for that comment to be stricken from the minutes. Mr. Brown stated it cannot be omitted from the minutes if it was said at the meeting. Mayor Herbert stated the minutes are correct and that he made the statement to start an amendment that will have all Local Elected Officials assuming responsibility. Director Yount will be looking at examples of what the other elected officials on other WIBs have done and will try to have this information on Monday. Chair Hon entertained a motion to approve the prior minutes. Director Jenner motioned. Director Orben seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.

Financials

Carla Crowe reported additional funding has been given by DWD for sequestration. This has added additional money to Adult and Dislocated Worker and Administration. These funds will be

expended since they expire on June 30th. The Duke Energy grant was received and has been added under Private Funding Sources.

The State Energy Sector Grant has been extended through this program year.

In the Executive Finance Committee meeting it was approved to recommend to the board that \$15,000 be added to WIA Adult Direct Client Services funding. There will need to be a vote today to amend the budget. Director Yount motioned to approve. Director Merriweather seconded the motion. Motion passed to move \$15,000 to WIA Adult Direct Client Services fund. Doug Jones of Comer Nowling will not be in attendance today to discuss Fiscal Agent. Chair Hon stated Mr. Jones showed up at the Executive Finance Committee meeting the other day noting he wasn't sure why he was there. I would like in the future when one of my fellow board members invites somebody to a meeting, I would like the courtesy as I would do for other board members to have a phone call, email or a message to know this is happening. Director Blasdel stated she is the board member who invited Mr. Jones to the Executive/Finance committee meeting to discuss the Fiscal Agent. Chair Hon stated he has been getting far too much of that lately. Chair Hon appreciates Director Blasdel inviting Mr. Jones but wants notice in the future. Director Hubbard made a motion to approve financials. Director Blasdel seconded. Financials approved.

WIB Transition

Chair Hon stated Director Timms says the transition should not be so complicated and is working on by-laws. The DWD legal team reviewed the by-laws and has made some recommendations. Chair Hon wants to put in the by-laws a recommendation to not allow proxy votes when we become a WIB. The Executive/Finance Committee has a form for the new business name of Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board and would like the board to approve submitting this form to the Secretary of State. Director Jenner made a motion to approve. Director Merriweather seconded. Request to send Certificate of Assumed Business Name to Secretary of State approved.

Request for Qualifications for Legal Services

This is in regards to obtaining legal counsel to help with the by-laws. Chair Hon stated this is not someone we will have on retainer, but hopefully have pro-bono and work as needed. Dennis Wimer stated as far as procurement it doesn't have to be a long withdrawn process, but there does need to be a review of alternatives by having a couple of bids. Director Norman noted John Bond in Vevay and Lane Siekman in Ohio County could possibly provide services pro bono. The board decided to obtain three bids unless they can find legal counsel to work pro bono. Chair Hon entertained a motion to request legal services. Director Jenner motioned and also motioned to submit this request to the Executive/Finance Committee to get this moving forward. Director Yount Seconded the motion. Motions to request legal services and submit this request to Executive/Finance Committee passed unanimously.

RO / Service Provider Report

Bart Brown discussed the latest Common Measures from DWD and did a comparison to see the progress. There is a goal to meet of 80% to be in good standing. The Youth has hit 100% on all three goals and congratulates Michele Thompson and her team. Adult and Dislocated worker has made many strides and while the average yearly earnings fluctuate, but we are meeting the goals of 80%. Mr. Brown also congratulates Kirk Kuhn and Margo Olson's team for the great performance measures this last quarter.

Kirk Kuhn discussed the awards DWD will be hosting in Indianapolis on April 16th at the State House from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. There have been two people nominated from each region. Region 9's Individual Reward will go to Miss Smith who is a client of Michelle Houze. Miss Smith started WAG in 2010 and is now at the UC Medical Center as a critical care nurse making over \$23.00 per hour. Mr. Kuhn added Exegistics was the employer who was nominated noting 45 jobs in Region 9 have been placed at Exegistics.

Margo Olson gave an update on the Service Provider. RVR has been contacted by DWD through the Regional Operator. DWD asked RVR to complete information regarding Educational institutes and programs. RVR was asked to select the top five institutions with which they work. RVR picked Ivy Tech as the top institution, Harrison College Sector as second; Galen School of nursing as third; C1 as fourth; and the Truck Driver Institute as fifth. The top 5 training/certification programs RVR chose: MSSC, Medical Assistance, LPN, CDL, and Accounting. Ms. Olson also shared a letter of appreciation from a Jefferson County client who is in the ex-offender program. The client thanked both Chancey Shiner and Vicky Germano for the help they gave to her in obtaining a job and for not giving up on her.

Youth Committee Report

Mr. Brown reported the Youth team and Youth Case Manager Whitney Hollitt submitted a success story on a Region 9 youth to DWD. DWD selected the story and published it in their newsletter.

Mr. Brown announced information is still being received and it is still in the budget process, but DWD believes there might be \$6,000,000 statewide to infuse into the JAG program. There is much work to be done, but there may be some money coming to this region to increase the number of JAG programs. The Youth Committee will talk about the requirements at the next YCM.

Director Jenner stated the Madison graduation rate this year is to be 93%. JAG was instrumental in obtaining that number. Last year, 100% of the JAG students at Madison graduated. Director Hill added the graduation rate is very successful at Seymour as well.

Other Business

Dennis Wimer briefly discussed Expense Comparisons stating averages from last program year across the state are broken down to Administration, Intensive and Core Services and Training Dollars. The averages for administration are 18% which includes Regional Operator and Service Provider Administration expenses. Region 9's number was 32% for administration. The average

for Training Dollars spent is 26%. Region 9's number was 20%. Some of that is structural with changes that occurred this year.

Mr. Wimer discussed a question that had been asked at a previous board meeting regarding how many other regions have a CFO instead of a Fiscal Agent. Two regions of the WIB have contracted agents while five regions of the WIB have a CFO.

Director Jenner has been asked by Chair Hon to sit on the Executive/Finance Committee.

Director Jenner stated she will think about it and let Chair Hon know.

Chair Hon asked the Deputy Commissioner Dennis Wimer to sit in on the Executive Session taking place at 1:00. Mr. Wimer answered yes.

Next Board Meeting

The Executive/Finance Committee meeting will be held on March 14, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in Jefferson County. Director Hubbard agreed to find a meeting place.

The next RWB meeting will be held at the Columbus Learning Center. Mr. Brown reminded the board that the JAG Career Development Conference will be occurring at the same time and encouraged board members to interact with the students.

End of Meeting Resolution Chair Hon entertained a motion for End of Meeting Resolution. Director Yount motioned. Director Merriweather seconded. End of Meeting Resolution approved.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

Chair Hon entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Orben made a motion. Director Merriweather seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.