

**Minutes**  
**Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board**  
**Youth Council Meeting**  
**WorkOne – North Vernon**  
**October 22, 2014**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**

**Attendees:** Carla Enzinger, Chuck Kime, Debbie Thomason, Jeff Hartz, Kristal Biehle, Kurt Kegerreis, Richard Sewell

**I. Minutes**

Chuck Kime made a motion to approve meeting minutes, seconded by Debbie Thomason.

**II. Member Updates**

Everyone gave a brief update on programs they have been working on.

Carla Enzinger presented information about an Illinois program for SEI Girls for Jr. High / Middle school. Mentioned that all Gambling Casinos are hiring and are in need of maintenance people with Mechanical or Electrical skills. These jobs are open to returning veterans. Anyone with eligible applicants can email Carla Enzinger.

Chuck Kime informed of Youth Camp program that try to keep kids in school by using peer based student to student Camp Mentoring. They team at risk students up with selected upper classmen in Middle School and at end of year all kids come to camp. They have seen success and several Mentees are becoming Mentors and succeeding in school.

Debbie Thomason mentioned that Ohio County students can do 80 hours of community service to graduate and qualify for \$2000.00 a year for college.

Chuck Kime and Debbie Thomason discussed Lumina's ability to do credit discovery and identify freshmen at risk. They are trying to capture students even if they are from a different county.

Jeff Hartz mentioned the JAG "Values in Action" and "Character Strength" will feed into Soft Skills and Interviewing.

Kristal Biehle has recruiting planned for meetings in October and November. She commented that guidance Counselor's concentrate on college bound students and do not normally serve those students who are not college bound. Some kids weren't going to be motivated last year and barely stayed in. JAG students are working on a Food Pantry. The new kids are interested in what JAG is about and are doing better and are more hopeful. The National Student Leadership judges were Jeff Hartz and Debbie Thomason. Madison won with the best Interview skills. She will represent JAG, go to Washington DC, and won \$16,000. She will take pictures and share her experience by going to Jr. Classes and talk about her opportunities to encourage applicants for next year's JAG program.

**III. Overview of Current Youth Activities**

**WIA Youth**

Debbie Thomason talked about the 3<sup>rd</sup> STEM camp for students from Rising Sun and Dearborn County that has a waiting list of ten kids wanting to come back. OMI, the local Park Board, and Purdue Extension chipped in so students could work with a microscope and built rockets for on the Moon. Students hear about camp on Facebook and email. The Lego camp kids came back for this camp. This is a way to start early to motivate kids and it is working. She is working with the new Superintendent from Rising Sun to get those students more involved, identify at risk students, and get them into Tutoring/Mentoring program.

**JAG**

Anyone interested in being a Judge on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at IUPUC should contact Kristal Biehle. Judges should be there by 9AM, will get lunch, and can leave before 2:30 PM. Please come even if there is a 2 hour delay that day. In case schools are cancelled the backup date is January 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be Leadership Development, Financial Literacy, and Tech Savvy programs. The backup weather delay date is January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Kristal Biehle reported they have booked flights and are ready to go to Washington DC. Seymour was chosen for KUDER. Parents have to sign release so ICE coaches can meet with the students them on the phone three times. Madison and Seymour JAG will participate October 28<sup>th</sup> at a State of Indiana event where seniors apply for post-secondary education, job, or military. JAG staff will help students' complete applications. Vincennes is paying for four JAG high schools to go on November 29<sup>th</sup> and have invited 21<sup>st</sup> century scholars, but need more guidance counselors to attend. WIA Youth files passed the audit.

**IV. JAG Expansion Strategy**

We need to be thinking of a defined direction and what we can do to go forward with JAG Expansion and our dream to put JAG to be in every school. South Dearborn approached us in the past and Lawrenceburg High School is going to purchase for job readiness program and wants us to come in. We need to start engaging key people in those areas and work with their additional funding possibilities. Duke Energy gave a grant, Debbie Thomason mentioned regional foundational grant money, and we can apply for grant for additional funding. East Central Southern Dearborn has 300 in each class and has 6 counties feed into it but no major manufacturers.

**V. Work Ethic/Soft Skills Update**

Mr. Kegerreis mentioned that Jim Battin CDD will meet with Dr. Mellon to discuss Soft Skills.

Indiana's Governor's focus is on job training education and possible consolidations. Mr. Kegerreis and the members of the Executive Committee have contacted and are finding ways to cooperate and work with the Governor's Works Council. Ivy Tech's new Chancellor is on our board and Kurt and Rich are joining the Works Council and will be attending those meetings on Fridays. John Burnett and Steve Mackey are on the board and referred by WIB and this extra energy is a good thing. There will be a joint meeting in November with Eco15, Works Council,

and the Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board for a planning and goal setting. Our WIB has a dream and vision and can be fed by the energy of the Works Council. Eco15 has infrastructure and does good work. All this puts Region 9 is well above other regions. Soft Skills and Youth Training to create a bigger pool for employers are potential topics and we have an opportunity to support and expand those initiatives.

**VI. Other Business**

Krystal announced that Heather Cooper is the new JAG Outreach Coordinator and has good planning capabilities.