

**Chief Elected Officials  
And The  
Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board, Inc.  
MINUTES OF March 3, 2009**

Site: The Workforce Connection, 303 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL 61109

- I. **WIB Call to Order.** WIB Chairman Dick Mowris called the Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

**CEO Call to Order:** Mayor Morrissey called the CEO meeting to order at 7:37 a.m.

**WIB Present (21):** Allan Barsema, Diana Barthelman, Karen Brown, Shirley Burks, Paul Callighan, Janet Ellis, James Fehlhaber, Steve Gibson, Lynn Godina, Harvey Lightbody, Tim McGuire, Kate McMahon, Richard Mowris, Dan Parod, Mark Podemski, Maureen Rosenberg, Mary Beth Scholten, Mark Stefanic, Nord Swanstrom, Shirley Walker, Mike Williams **Absent (17):** Jon Bates, Dr. Jack Becherer, Michele Caldwell, Linda Campos, Pedro Enriquez, Dr. Richard Fairgrievies, Luanna Grimes, Matthew Jones, Todd Kindred, Stephanie Lueder, Larry McKay, Dave Morgan, John Phelps, Jim Pirages, Jim Ryan, Elton Turner, C. Mark Williams,

**CEOs Present (3):** Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey, Chairman Scott Christiansen, Chairman Bob Walberg

**WIB Staff Present:** Darcy Bucholz, Pamela Fettes, John Strandin, Robert Jones, Trudy Wellman

**Partner Staff Present:** Dan White – Rock River Training Corporation; Gary Lawson – Rock Valley College; Ted Duckett – IDES; Amy Massoth – Rock Valley College; Tom Austin – IDES; Amanda Barczuk – Rock Valley College; Carla James – Rock Valley College

**Guests Present:** Sue Mroz (designee for Chairman Christiansen) – Winnebago County; Sean Driscoll – Rockford Register Star; Rueben deLeon – AFL-CIO

- II. **WIB Minutes of February 3, 2009:** Paul Callighan made a motion to approve the February 3, 2009 minutes. Nord Swanstrom provided the second to the motion. The minutes were approved.

**CEO Minutes of December 2, 2008:** Bob Walberg made a motion to approve the December 2, 2008 CEO meeting minutes. Sue Mroz provided the second to the motion. The minutes were approved. Chairman Scott Christiansen arrived at the meeting at 7:42 a.m.

- III. **The Workforce Connection's Initiative for YOI 09 – Emerging Manufacturing Careers - Informational Item:** John Strandin, Carla James, Tom Austin, and Amanda Barczuk provided information of the Emerging Manufacturing Careers Activity being planned and implemented by The Workforce Connections as part of the Year of Innovation (YOI) 09 Initiative. This activity will provide information on careers in manufacturing to 7<sup>th</sup> grade level children from Eisenhower Middle School. The students will be participate in a tour of the EIGERlab and learn about high tech manufacturing career opportunities. The fall group will receive a similar presentation, but in the health care area. Tom Austin asked that WIB members provide assistance by showing the students items that are made in Rockford. Funds to cover the costs of transportation to and from the EIGERlab will be provided by the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and Community Collaboration, Inc.

- IV. **WIB Proposed Strategies and Structural Modifications – Acceptance of Recommendations – WIB Action Item – CEO Action Item:** Mark Podemski provided an overview of the modifications and final update to the *Proposed Strategies and Structural Modifications Report* and changes in the CEO Agreement recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee. The proposed changes are intended enhance accountability of the WIB and programs and position the WIB to be the “owners” of workforce development in the region. Under the CEO Agreement, Rock River Training Corporation continues as the fiscal agent for the WIA and TAA funds. They also retain responsibility for fiscal oversight (monitoring) of service providers. The responsibilities for planning, oversight, and program monitoring will reside with the WIB.

Mayor Morrissey suggested that a ½ day strategy session be planned with WIB members and the CEOs in mid to late April.

Paul Callighan made a motion to approve the *WIB Proposed Strategies and Structural Modifications Report*. Karen Brown provided a second to approve the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Barsema – Yes; Barthelman – Yes; Brown – Yes; Burks – Yes; Callighan – Yes; Ellis – Yes; Fehlhaber – Yes; Gibson – Yes; Godina – No; Lightbody – Yes; McGuire – Yes; McMahon – Yes; Mowris – Yes; Parod – Yes; Podemski – Yes; Rosenberg – Yes; Scholten – Yes; Stefanic – Yes; Swanstrom – Yes; Walker – Yes; Mike Williams – Abstain. The motion carried.

Scott Christiansen made a motion to approve the *WIB Proposed Strategies and Structural Modifications Report*. Bob Walberg provided a second to the motion. A roll call vote was requested. Christiansen – Yes; Walberg – Yes; Morrissey - Yes

- V. **Chief Elected Official Agreement Approval of Amendments:** Mayor Morrissey asked for a motion to approve the Amendments to the CEO Agreement. Bob Walberg made a motion to approve the amendments to the agreement. Scott Christiansen provided a second to the motion. There was no additional discussion.

Christiansen – Yes; Walberg – Yes; Morrissey – Yes The motion carried.

- VI. **WIA Stimulus Planning Update:** Darcy Bucholz gave an update on the stimulus money that is expected for our area. Projections are somewhere between \$3.5 to \$3.8 million dollars. It has been made very clear that training and jobs are the focus of the stimulus package money. On-the-job training is an excellent way to spend the money, but there is also the option of customized and short-term training. Dan White reviewed the “Summer Youth Program” proposed timeline.

- VII. **Financial Report:** Dan White reviewed the financial report as of January 31, 2009. Dick Mowris requested that as the guidelines for the stimulus package come in, they be shared with the WIB and CEO’s.

- VIII. **Executive Director Report:** Darcy Bucholz noted that the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act has started. Testimony on Capitol Hill has been going on for approximately 3 weeks. She will keep everyone updated as to whether it will be a quick reauthorization as originally anticipated, or if it will slow, as it is now being heard.

- IX. **Other/New Business:** Nord Swanstrom congratulated Dan Parod of Rockford Health Systems on his recent promotion. Mike Williams mentioned that IDES is taking tours of several one-stops across the state, and they are using Rockford as a model.

- VIII. **WIB Adjournment:** The WIB meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.  
**CEO Adjournment:** The CEO meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

**Items included with the WIB and CEO meeting packets:**

- 1) 3/3/09 WIB/CEO Agenda
- 2) WIB Minutes of February 3, 2009
- 3) CEO Minutes of December 2, 2008
- 4) WIB Proposed Strategies and Structural Modifications
- 5) CEO Agreement Approval of Amendments
- 6) Committee Reports
- 7) Financial Reports as of 1/31/09

Trudy Wellman

Boone and Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board

Date

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(Signature affixed upon WIB approval)

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(Date affixed upon WIB approval)