

Minutes
Grow Southwest Indiana Workforce Board
8:30 a.m. CDT, October 22, 2021
Zoom Meeting

WDB Members Present:

Makenzie Coulter	Bob Birge	Jason Nord	Angela Kirlin
Heather Watts	Jon Keck	Drew Gerth	Ryan McRoberts
Lawrence Taylor	Sara Worstell	David St. Clair	Marcia Forston
Chris Pfaff			

Others Present:

Carla Crowe	Nancy Schroering	Jody Robinson	Michael Thomas
Peg Boardman	Tara Barney	Ken Knodle	

Staff Present

Kay Johnson	Valerie Schmidt	Mary Hamilton	Angie Sheppard
Linda Jones			

Call to Order:

Makenzie Coulter called the Zoom meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. CT.

Roll Call: Quorum of 13 WDB members present.

Additional Agenda Items: None

Consent Agenda:

WDB Minutes: Makenzie Coulter asked for comments or questions on the WDB August 27, 2021, meeting minutes.

Executive Committee: Makenzie Coulter reported the committee received and reviewed committees' reports, discussed the United Way grant and upcoming opportunities.

Finance Committee: Lawrence Taylor reported the budget increased \$545,453, \$398,00 for RESEA and \$159,200 for WIOA Performance. The total budget is \$5,546,227 with planned carry out to PY22 of \$356,005. The total unobligated is \$1,115,174 made up of RESEA funds in contracting process, WIOA Performance and Next Level Jobs. Also unobligated are unrestricted funds and administration funds for grants going beyond June 30, 2021. The total expenditures through September 30, 2021 are \$792,348. Expenditures compared to budget is 19% with 25% benchmark.

Operations Committee: Kay Johnson reported the committee reviewed reports with no concerns. The committee discussed pending changes regarding electronic devices to the supportive services and youth program elements SOPs. The placement goal will remain at 725.

Business Services Committee: Jon Keck reported the committee welcomed new Business Services Manager, Valerie Schmidt, who shared her past work experience. Jon Keck reported a drive through Job

Fair in Dubois will be October 27 and the November 18 Business Seminar will be “How to Build Successful Youth Strategies”. Valerie Schmidt added the Warrick Job Fair will be November 9, 2021 with 42 employers planning to attend. The Job Fair with Vocational Rehabilitation will be November 2, 2021. Interest is high in the new Talent Retention position. Bob Birge offered DWD’s assistance with Job Fairs.

Youth Committee: Makenzie Coulter reported the committee did not meet due to scheduling conflict with United Way’s grant presentation.

HR Committee: Heather Watts reported the committee reviewed several health insurance options and selected the plan with the least amount of change from the current plan.

Fund Development Committee: Sara Worstell reported the committee’s current focus is the survey, prepared by Locality Studio, to gather information for WDB rebranding. Everyone is encouraged to complete the short survey and forward to others.

Staff Report: Sara Worstell reported working with 2 Gen community partners regarding access to early childhood education. The Perry Central Commodore Manufacturing Apprenticeship is in process. Work continues with SOINFAME’s Advanced Manufacturing Technology work and learn. Goodwill is interested in a warehousing apprenticeship.

WDB Consent Agenda: The Board reviewed the consent agenda items with no concerns.

Jason Nord motioned to approve all items in the consent agenda including:

- *WDB Minutes August 27, 2021*
- *Executive Committee Minutes – September 17, 2021*
- *Finance Committee Minutes – September 17, 2021, and PY21 Financial Reports*
- *Operations Committee Minutes – September 17, 2021, and PY 21 Reports*
- *Business Services Committee Minutes – September 17, 2021*
- *Youth Committee – No meeting*
- *HR Committee Minutes – May 13, 2021*
- *Fund Development Committee*
- *WDB Staff Report*

Ryan McReynolds seconded. Motion passed.

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Makenzie Coulter welcomed Angela Kirlin, Nix Companies, to the Board.

New Business:

Veteran State Award – Ken Knodle: Makenzie Coulter congratulated Ken Knodle, Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, for receiving a State Award for outstanding service to disabled veterans serving 286 with a caseload of 32. Ken Knodle expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work with veterans. Sara Worstell added that we are very proud of the work Ken Knodle does.

DWD Update: Bob Birge reported that only 400 of the 7,000 refugees will remain in Indiana. Employers are encouraged to sign up for the 180 skills license at no cost. Due to growing number of UI appeals, 219 additional lawyers have trained. Unemployment fraud is declining. The current unemployment rate is 4 percent.

Makenzie Coulter asked Bob Birge to inquire about a request made to Mike Burnes for grant writing funds.

Old Business:

United Way Empowering Employment grant: Makenzie Coulter reported the presentation she and Sara Worstell made to the United Way Empowering Employment Grant review team went very well. The grant request is for \$140,000 and will allow service to individuals currently ineligible.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment:

Drew Gerth motioned to adjourn at 9:10 am Central Time. David St. Clair seconded. Motion passed.
WDB 2021-09



Jason Nord, Workforce Development Board Secretary

12/3/21
Date