

Minutes
Grow Southwest Indiana Workforce Board
Local Elected Officials
Annual Meeting

April 26, 2024
8:00 a.m. CT / 9:00 a.m. ET

Members Present:

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| Makenzie Coulter | Amy O'Dell | Drew Gerth | Ashley Willis |
| Brittney Kirwer | Sara Worstell | Jason Nord | Marcia Forston |
| Michelle Schaefer | Peg Boardman | Jon Keck | Shelia Naab |
| Darin Lander | Stephanie Norrick | | |

Local Elected Officials Present:

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| Mayor Joe Yochum | Justin Elpers | Rebecca Thorn |
| Mayor Neil Elkins | Nick Burns | |

WDB Staff:

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| Kay Johnson | Valerie Schmidt | Angie Sheppard | Mary Hamilton |
| Linda Jones | Jody Robinson | Jessica Simpson | |

Others Present:

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| Brenda Goff | Rebecca Griffiths | Michael Thomas | Carla Crowe |
| Nancy Schroering | Judy Bueckert | Larry Fuesler | Wendy McNamara |
| Jamie Ruxer | Diana Igel | Amanda Thewes | Sherri Montgomery |
| Justin Leeds | Lindsay Locasto | Kyela Jones | Cecilia Carmon |
| Jillian Lindauer | Brad Rhorer | Xander Hunt | Jace Kinnett |
| Isabella Taylor | Tomas Gilmore | Blayne Powers | Mark Keffer |
| Stephanie Wells | Kelsey Barekman | Allie St. Germain | Hannah Polley |
| Eva Polley | Savannah Vanderveer | Kaylee Schmitt | Tapanga Cowan |
| Kaylea Harlen | Maddox Verron | Addison Willis | Diana Corez-Sanchez |

Welcome:

Mayor Joe Yochum thanked everyone for attending the Workforce Development and Local Elected Officials meeting. Mayor Joe Yochum thanked the officials for their efforts in shaping policies and initiatives that drive economic growth, foster workforce development, and create opportunities for all members of community. Mayor Joe Yochum let those present know that they will hear from Ascend Indiana and our JAG students today.

Call to Order:

Makenzie Coulter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. CT.

Call for Additional Agenda Items: None

Guest Speakers: Brad Rhorer, President and CEO of Ascend Indiana, presented on Ascend’s vision which included their network, services, and insight. He also discussed apprenticeships, work-based, and education for the future of Indiana.

Jobs for America’s Graduates: JAG Regional Career Development Conference First Place Winners. Jillian Lindauer shared State Second place Chapter Commercial winner, Jasper High School’s commercial. Addison Willis, Blayne Powers, and Kaylee Schmitt spoke about their experiences making the commercial.

Tapanga Cowan, Jasper High School spoke about the Chapter Brochure. Also sharing their experiences were Jace Kinnett and Xander Hunt, Lincoln High School – Entrepreneurship Plan; Eva Polley, Hannah Polley, Maddox Vernon, and Kaylea Harlin, Southridge - Project Based Learning; Justin Leeds, Pike Central – Employability Skills; Isabella Taylor, Southridge – Digital Invitation/Cover Design and Career Presentation; Tomas Gilmore, Pike Central – Creative Solutions (also placing second in the State) ; Savanna Vanderveer, Pike Central – Public Speaking; Rya Graves, Pike Central – Critical Thinking; Kelsey Barekman, Lincoln – Writing Skills.

Diana Cortez-Sanchez, Jasper – Outstanding Senior placed third at State CDC and received a National Ken Smith Scholarship.

LEO Meeting Minutes, April 28, 2023: Mayor Joe Yochum asked for questions or corrections to the April 28, 2023 minutes.

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| Mayor Neil Elkins made a motion to approve the April 28, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Justin Elpers seconded. Motion passed: WDB-2023-32 |
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Election of Regional Chief Elected Official: Makenzie Coulter notified officials that Mayor Joe Yochum has offered to service as the Regional Chief Elected Official for the term of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

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| Rebecca Thorn made a motion to elect Mayor Joe Yochum as the Regional Chief Elected Official for the term of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026. Commissioner Nick Burns seconded. Motion passed. |
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WDB-2023-33

Fiscal Agent Contract Renewal: Mayor Joe Yochum reported that Crowe LLP’s contract is up for renewal. He reported that there has been no issues with the organization and would recommend renewing the contract.

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| Commissioner Rebecca Thorn made a motion to renew the fiscal agent contact with Crowe, LLP. Mayor Neil Elkins seconded. Motion passed. WDB-2023-34 |
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WDB Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2024: Makenzie Coulter asked if there were any corrections or additions to the meeting minutes for the WDB on March 22, 2024. None provided. Makenzie Coulter for a motion for approval.

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| Jason Nord made a motion to approve the minutes from the WDB meeting on March 22, 2024. Stephanie Norrick seconded. Motion passed. <i>WDB-2023-35</i> |
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Election of Officers: Makenzie Coulter presented the WDB Slate of Officers again to the board members. The current slate of WDB Officers for the term of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026 are Chair – Sue Habig, Vice Chair – Brittney Kirwer, Treasurer/Finance Chair – Heather Watts, and Secretary Jason Nord. Makenzie Coulter asked for any additional nominations. None received.

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| Terry Marsh made a motion to elect the slate of officers presented. Amy O’Dell seconded. Motion Passed. <i>WDB-2023-36</i> |
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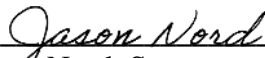
Audit Report: Makenzie Coulter reported that the annual audit was completed, and no findings were reported. Makenzie asked for a motion to accept the audit.

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| Brittney Kirwer made a motion to accept the audit. Stephanie Norrick seconded. Motion passed. <i>WDB-2023-37</i> |
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Public Comment: Responding to public comment, Brittney Kirwer presented an award of appreciation to Makenzie Coulter for her leadership through pivotal changes as Chair of the Workforce Board.

Adjournment:

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| Stephanie Norrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. Central time. Drew Gerth seconded. Motion passed. <i>WDB-2023-38</i> |
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Jason Nord, Secretary

May 17, 2024

Date