

Quarterly Meeting Minutes
South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc.
Stonegate Arts & Education Center, Bedford, IN
April 26, 2023 – Noon to 1:30pm

Board Members Present: Brenda Reetz, Scott Baker, Linda Henderson, Elizabeth Green, Dustin Gabhart, Jennifer Pearl, Teresa Hudson, Brian Shockney, Michelle Ellis, Scott Adams, Adam Gross, Scott Wilcoxon, Jim Parsch, Lisa Hein

Board Members Present via Zoom: Terry Pittman, Michael Stieglitz

Others Present: Rob King, Shannon Laurent, David Tucker, Randy Wells, Susan Neal, Erin Brewer, Carla Crowe, Robin Branch, Sandy Friedman, Don Kent, Brian Rawlins, Apryl Kidd, Michi McClain, Blayze Damron, De Delarosa

Board Members Absent: Trent Todd, Kevin Bush, Jeff Pipkin, Pam Metz

Call to Order

Brenda Reetz called the meeting to order at 12:10pm and a quorum of the Board was confirmed as present. Each person present introduced themselves with Board Members invited to share relevant news or information about their organizations.

Approval of Minutes

Scott Baker moved to accept the minutes of the 01/25/2023 meeting of the South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc. Scott Adams seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

Financial Reports & Workforce Board Audit Results

Carla Crowe with Crowe LLP, the Board's Fiscal Agent, distributed and presented the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2023. Carla noted that 55% of the Total Annual Budget was expended through March 31, 2023. Carla reviewed adjustments to the Budget and Expenditures. Funds added/adjusted to the budget included the following:

- JAG Expansion (\$51,200)
- WRG Funds (\$40,000)
- Grant Watch Funds (\$2,461.46) – Rob advised Board of funds received to cover subscription costs for DWD

Rob Kind advised Board that Region 8 is partnering with the Office of Work based Learning and Apprenticeships (OWBLA) to provide Registered Apprenticeship activities in South Central Indiana. Region 8 will receive \$539,500 to perform these operations. Rob noted that Ms. Gail Mitchell, Registered Apprenticeship Coordinator in Region 8, will be working with Employers and regional staff to deliver program functions. Carla Crowe stated that the following funds would be contracted to Service Provider, Vincennes University:

- ABA Anticipated Contract (\$539,500)
- JAG Contract (\$51,200)
- WRG Funds (up to \$4,000)

Carla Crowe provided the Board with the most recent Region 8 Workforce Board Audit results. There were no financial statement or federal award issues or findings for the Program Periods ending June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

Brian Shockney moved to approve the financial report and budget, ABA Registered Apprenticeships Contract for \$539,500, JAG Contract for \$51,200, and WRG Contract Amount for up to \$4,000 to Vincennes University. Grant Watch Funds for \$2,461.46 to Board, and the Workforce Board Audit Results for the periods ending June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Dustin Gabhart seconded the motion. Elizabeth Green abstained from the financial/budget items only vote, all other Board members voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Guest Presentation

Michelle Ellis, Director of Adult Education at Wagler Education & Training Center, made a presentation on the various programs and services provided by Wagler Education & Training Center within Region 8. Wagler currently provides Adult Education and Occupational Skills trainings in Greene, Daviess and Lawrence counties. Wagler assists students and adult learners with gaining the skills and knowledge necessary to enter and retain employment in the workforce. Wagler provides adult education services for those needing a High School Equivalency or GED. Wagler provides certification trainings to gain or enhance skills required for gainful employment. Courses include: Welding, CNC Machining, CCMA, CNA, CDL Class A and B, and ParaPro Training for teacher assistants. Michelle discussed CNC and Welding requirements as related to activities with Board members to include partnerships with the North Lawrence Career Center and other Adult Education providers within the region. Shannon Laurent stated that the Board has a great partnership with Wagler in terms of program services implementation and delivery. Brenda Reetz stated that Wagler was a wonderful community partner as well.

LEO Agreements & Workforce Board Re-Certification

Rob King advised the Board that it is once again time to complete new Local Elected Official agreements with all counties and the process has already began. The Board works with an Executive Council made up of an elected County Commissioner from each county to include a representative from the City of Bloomington. Appointments should be completed on or before June 30, 2023. Additionally, a new regional Local Elected Officials Agreement will be negotiated and signed by all Executive Council members as well. This regional agreement includes financial liability among the counties in Region 8. Liability is shared proportionately by each of the region 8 County Governments and the City of Bloomington based on share of population.

Rob also advised that the Region 8 Workforce Board Re-Certification of members is due on or before June 30, 2023. Rob stated that there is now a training requirement for all new members

appointed to the Board after June 24, 2022. Region 8 has had no new members since this date but anticipate at least two member replacements on or after July 1, 2023. Rob stated that he believes the training module is useful and will request all members to complete the online training by October 31, 2023 for the upcoming PY'23.

DWD PY'22 Monitoring Results

Shannon Laurent provided the Board with the Department of Workforce Development's (DWD) annual monitoring results for PY'22. Shannon stated that Region 8 received a comprehensive monitoring by DWD in December of 2022. DWD evaluated the following as part of the monitoring: Programs; Policies, Procedures, Client Files, Case Notes, Financial Data, Equal Opportunity, ASE and Outcomes. Region 8 had no Compliance Findings for PY'22. Shannon stated this is a great reflection on the work staff do day-in and day-out in Region 8. Shannon stated that there was a noteworthy area identified as follows: 1) Region 8 promotes transparency by posting all quarterly reports and relevant employment data that are provided at Board Meetings on the regional website as well.

Workforce Board Focus Group Discussion Update

Rob King provided an update on the Focus Group discussion that was generated at the last Board meeting in January of 2023. In February of 2023, the following Board Members met to discuss the Workforce Board role and how we can best position ourselves to be more relevant and supportive of regional workforce issues moving forward: Brenda Reetz, Scott Baker, Adam Gross, Brian Shockney, Beth Green and Jennifer Pearl.

Rob stated the group agreed that the Workforce Board has a specific role that is task based with a fairly narrow scope heavily governed by State and Federal legislature. The group also agreed that at the State, Regional and Local levels there are many initiatives being drafted and/or implemented to improve the Workforce pipeline across the employment and training realm. The Board's role is to provide expert advice and have a seat at the table for many of these areas such as Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, and Information Technology, and to provide assistance and services as appropriate. It was determined that for now we should allow these initiatives to play out operationally and be ready to provide assistance when and as needed within our defined scope of activities. Region 8 provides Rapid Response activities for companies that experience a layoff or closing. We did agree that a Rapid Response checklist for members to have available would be useful.

WorkOne Board Report (Susan Neal)

The WorkOne Board report for April 26, 2023 was distributed to the Board for review and Susan Neal provided updates on regional WorkOne office operations, RESEA, National Dislocated Worker Employment Recovery Grant (DW-ERG), UI Data, Performance Highlights, TAA, JAG Program, Rapid Response and Business Services activities, and Next Level Jobs Data. A copy of the complete WorkOne Region 8 Report is available on the South Central Region 8 Workforce Board's website at www.southcentral8.org.

Board Member Scott Wilkerson, Martin County Business Representative, asked about skill-sets needed as related to the GM layoff in Bedford. Susan Neal stated that information is not known yet, but the Business Services team is working with GM and should have more information to share in the near future. Michelle Ellis stated that Wagler Education & Training Center has received a request for information about the Welder and CNC Training Courses from GM, so it is anticipated those two areas are of particular interest to employees.

Other Business – Public Comments

With no further business, Brenda Reetz made a motion to adjourn, Scott Adams seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30PM

Prepared By: Rob King