

**Executive Council Meeting – Region 8  
Local Elected Officials  
South Central Indiana Workforce Service Area  
Via Zoom Invite  
June 15, 2023  
2:00pm - 3:00pm**

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Bob Curry (Owen County)  
Commissioner Dustin Gabhart (Lawrence County)  
Commissioner Richard Dixon (Orange County)  
Alex Crowley, (City of Bloomington)  
Commissioner Jerry Pittman (Brown County)  
Commissioner Ed Michael (Greene County)

**Via Phone Call-In:**

Commissioner Paul George (Martin County)  
Commissioner Nathan Gabhart (Daviess County)

**Members Absent:**

Commissioner Julie Thomas (Monroe County)

**Staff Present:**

Rob King

**Call to Order** – On behalf of Dustin Gabhart, Rob King called the meeting to order. Members present introduced themselves and Rob King welcomed all Council members.

**Region 8 Operational Update & Structure Review** - Rob King provided a regional overview of Economic Growth Region 8 and services provided. Explained counties represented, mission of Workforce Board, most recent Board Financial Report, and current status for all WorkOne offices located throughout South Central Indiana. Additionally, Rob discussed WIOA Funding allocations for PY'22 and PY'23. Rob also explained that members present would make motions and vote at the LEO meeting, and would always be welcomed guests at the Workforce Board meetings. Rob also reviewed the Region 8 organizational structure with members and discussed Vincennes University's role as Staff to the Board, One-Stop Operator and Service Provider.

*Ed Michael motioned to approve the recommended PY'23 Region 8 budget allocations and continuance of the Governance Structure with Vincennes University authorized to provide Staff to the Board, One-Stop Operator and*

*Service Provider services. Jerry Pittman seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.*

**Appointment Process and Elected Officials Agreement** – Rob King explained the process for the local elected officials appointed to serve on the Executive Council and their roles as representatives of their respective counties. Rob then discussed the current Local Elected Officials Agreement for Region 8. Rob discussed the duties and responsibilities of Chief Elected Officials including the responsibilities of the Regional Chief Elected Official for the Region 8 Workforce Service Area. Rob stated that the Local Elected Officials mission is to advise the Workforce Board on strategy planning as related to issues affecting their local areas. Rob explained that County, and some City governments, are responsible for grant funds allocated to the region. Rob also advised that each representative was or is being appointed by their designated areas to serve as Local Elected Official for Region 8 with official notifications already received. Rob advised that he is still awaiting 2023 Appointment Letters from Brown, Daviess, Monroe and Owen counties, but reported that the letters are being processed for Brown, Daviess and Owen counties and should be completed within the week. Rob stated he will reach out to Monroe County for an update on status of the Appointment Letter but has been notified that Ms. Julie Thomas will represent Monroe County as the Local Elected Official.

Rob King then discussed a second LEO agreement requiring member signatures on behalf of their County. Rob explained that this agreement will be active from June 2023 through June 2028 and replace current agreement expiring within the week. Rob advised that per WIOA regulation, LEO's have to repay funds disallowed under audit in the event that funds are unable to be repaid by another entity. Rob mentioned that there are built-in safeguards to make sure disallowed costs do not happen. Rob explained that the Region 8 Fiscal Agent, Crowe LLC, periodically reviews and makes certain funds are spent in accordance with regulations. If Vincennes University – Region 8 misspends funds allotted to them in their role as Service Provider, One-Stop Operator or Staff to the Board, they would be required to pay it back. Rob also explained that the same holds true for the Fiscal Agent, Crowe LLC as well.

Rob explained the LEO agreement and how costs would be divided proportionally based on the population of government entities that sign the LEO agreement. Members stated that they understood this process. Rob King explained that Vincennes University has been operating Workforce Development Programs in Region 8 for more than 30 years with no questioned or disallowed costs. Rob also stated that Crowe LLC has provided fiscal services to Region 8 for more than 17 years with no questioned costs. Rob King stated that he would provide copies of Board Audits each year and explained there were no questioned or disallowed costs for PY'21 and PY'22. Rob then stated that Region 8 has always done an outstanding job of spending all allotted funds appropriately and that the University as a whole has a vested interest in insuring this continues in the future. Rob assured members that VU is properly aligned to provide support to Region 8 as

appropriate. All members agreed to sign the new LEO Agreement. Rob stated he would send official signature message out by close of business on Friday, June 16, 2023.

**Election of Chief Elected Official for Region 8** – Rob King explained the role of the Regional Chief Elected Official (RCEO) and stated that Dustin Gabhart, (Lawrence County Commissioner), has been the RCEO for Region 8 the past two (2) program years. Mr. Gabhart has done a tremendous job as the RCEO to date and has agreed to retain this role if re-elected by the Executive Council. After discussion with members, no objections were noted to Dustin remaining the elected RCEO for the region.

*Bob Curry moved to re-elect Dustin Gabhart as Regional Chief Elected Official, Richard Dixon seconded the motion, and the group voted unanimously to re-elect Dustin Gabhart as the RCEO.*

### **Region 8 Workforce Board Meeting Schedule for PY'23**

Rob provided all Council members with a Region 8 Workforce Board meeting schedule for the upcoming PY'23 Program Year and reminded members that they will always receive an official invite to the quarterly Board meetings and all Board related packets presented at each meeting.

### **Questions and Other Business –**

**Next Meeting and Adjourn** – Rob King advised that he would continue one-on-one Fall or Spring meetings as requested by Council members and will reach out to schedule meetings by October 2023. The next LEO meeting will be scheduled as needed with an annual meeting to be around June 2024.

With no further business – *Bob Curry moved to adjourn meeting and Richard Dixon seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.*

Prepared By: Rob King