

Quarterly Meeting Minutes
South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc.
Zoom Meeting
January 24, 2024 – Noon to 1:30pm

Board Members Present: Brenda Reetz, Scott Baker, Linda Henderson, Blayze Damron, Dustin Gabhart, Derek Cronin, Terry Pittman, Michael Stieglitz, Jennifer Pearl, Dan Peterson, Michelle Ellis, Pam Metz, Scott Adams, Jeff Pipkin, Scott Wilcoxon, Jim Parsch, Lisa Hein

Others Present: Rob King, Shannon Laurent, Carla Crowe, Randy Wells, David Tucker, Sandy Friedman, Robin Branch, Jill Van Oostenburg (NexTech)

Board Members Absent: Adam Gross, Kevin Bush, Teresa Hudson

Call to Order

Brenda Reetz called the meeting to order at Noon and a quorum of the Board was confirmed as present. Rob King welcomed all Board members and attending guests. Rob King welcomed new Board members to include: Mr. Dan Peterson – Monroe County Business Representative and Vice President of Industry and Government Affairs (Cook Group Incorporated).

Approval of Minutes

Jeff Pipkin moved to accept the minutes of the 09/27/2023 meeting of the South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc. Scott Adams seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

Guest Presentation

Jill Van Oostenburg, Talent Director at Nextech, provided the Board with follow-up recruitment information for the Nextech Catapult Summer 2024 Paid Internship Program to be held in Bloomington, Evansville and Indianapolis. The Nextech Catapult Internship is a fully-immersive computer science program for High School students who aspire a career in Technology. For Bloomington interns, 24 selected students will attend a 5-week course to be held at Ivy Tech Bloomington Campus and includes a combination of classroom instruction, employer visits, team lead project based learning and a final peer and community reviewed project. Jill stated that recruitment for the Summer 2024 Paid Internship Program began this month (January) and she encouraged all Board members and guests to refer potential 10th, 11th and 12th Grade High School students to apply for the 2024 Nextech Program.

Financial Reports

Carla Crowe with Crowe LLP, the Board's Fiscal Agent, distributed and presented the financial report for the period July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Carla noted that 36% of the Total Annual Budget was expended through December 31, 2023. Carla reviewed adjustments to the Budget and Expenditures. Funds added/adjusted to the budget included the following:

- JAG-TANF (\$374,800)
- QUEST (\$269,500)
- Vincennes University – Service Provider (\$672,600)

Pam Metz, Orange County Business Board Member, asked about NLJ-ETG credentials/certificates in regard to certain employer training programs and if there was a way to ensure all trainings counted per guidelines. Rob stated that he would refer this question to Susan Neal, Executive Director of Workforce Operations, and have her get back with Ms. Metz to address any and all credential issues within the next week. Rob then mentioned that beginning PY'24, the Board would receive a "Summary of Grant Funding" document designed to provide detail about each Grant purpose as related to the funding attached to the specific program.

Michelle Ellis moved to approve the financial report and budget, NLJ (ETG) Contract Amount for \$50,000, QUEST Contract Amount for up to \$249,500, WRG Contract Amount up to \$75,000, and CHE Capacity Building Contract Amount up to \$240,000 to Vincennes University. Dan Peterson seconded the motion. Blayze Damron abstained from the vote, all other Board members voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Regional Four-Year Plan Update

Rob King informed the Board that the 2024-2028 State of Indiana Workforce Four-Year Plan will be submitted to DOL by early March for review and approval. Rob stated he will send the link to view the State Plan within the week. Once approved, DWD will move forward with Regional Four-Year Plan development with initial guidance anticipated by April or May 2024. The Region 8 plan will most likely be due to DWD around September 2024. Rob stated that he will keep Board members posted on upcoming timelines for drafting of the plan.

Board Training for New Members

Rob King reminded the Board that DWD (training video) and one-on-one regional training is required for all new Board members. Topics covered include: 1) - WIOA Overview, 2) - Board Member Responsibilities, 3) - Code of By-Laws, and 4) - DWD Workforce Board Training Video. Rob also stated that refresher training is also conducted annually between July and October.

WIOA One-Stop Job Center Certifications (Region 8)

Rob King provided information about the upcoming Job Center certifications. Title I of WIOA requires each Region to officially certify its regional Comprehensive and Affiliate WorkOne Centers every three (3) years. The Workforce Board is responsible for conducting these certifications. However, since Region 8 has the same organization, Vincennes University WDS-Region8, performing the Staff to the Board, One-Stop Operator and Service Provider functions, DWD will be required to perform the certifications. Each One-Stop Center must be certified to be designated as a One-Stop Center to receive funding. The certification of One-Stop Centers is essential in setting a minimum level of quality and consistency of services in the Workforce System across the region and State. DWD Certification team have been established and the

schedule for these certifications will be coordinated with Region 8 leadership team. Surveys will be due for completion by DWD on or before March 30, 2024.

WorkOne Board Report (Rob King)

The WorkOne Board report was distributed to the Board for review and Rob King 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.

Other Business – Public Comments

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:10PM

Prepared By: Rob King