



## NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS BOARD

JANUARY 9, 2015

9:00 – 10:30 A.M.

NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS OFFICES

200 E. MAIN STREET

FORT WAYNE, IN 46802

### MINUTES

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Keith Davis, John Sampson, Doug Bauman, Larry Gerardot, Jane Gresham, Tim Hartigan, Leroy Jackson, Jeff Kellam, Mark Michael, John Niederman, Darlene Stanley, Chris Straw, Nathan Stubler and Sandy Widener.

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Kathleen Randolph, Gary Gatman, Beth Suman, Lori Rice and Rick Farrant.

#### I. Call to Order

Board Chair Keith Davis called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m. A quorum was present.

#### II. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the November 7, 2014 meeting were provided to the board in the packet of advance materials. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### III. Financial Report

Beth Suman gave an overview of the report spanning July 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014. She noted that mileage (travel) was over budget and was likely to remain that way because many Northeast Indiana Works staff members will be traveling to meetings associated with work groups planning implementation of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). There was significant discussion about the \$1 million in “hold-back” money for 2015 and whether some of it should be spent before September; the concern was that it may be subject to rescission when WIOA takes effect. Although no vote was taken on the matter, there was general board consensus that a portion of the money be spent. The financial report was approved unanimously.

#### IV. Metrics Report

Gary Gatman gave an overview of the Region 3 metrics report. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding worker shortages in the region, particularly in manufacturing. Among the topics raised: The complexity of the causes for the shortage, including employability skills, and the need to track certifications.

#### V. Transition to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Randolph noted that final federal regulations for WIOA were expected to be issued in January but have been delayed until sometime this spring. Despite that, regions still have a July deadline for implementation. Randolph also reported that the composition and structure of the region’s workforce investment board is in line with WIOA guidelines and that the region has already made significant strides in addressing a key WIOA emphasis: developing sector partnerships. There was significant discussion about the region’s working poor – reflected in an ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained,

Employed) United Way report – and the continued need to emphasize skills and educational attainment in northeast Indiana. Keith Davis recommended a presentation of the ALICE report at a future board meeting.

**VI. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting of the board will be from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. March 6 at the same location – 200 E. Main St., Suite 910, Fort Wayne