



## NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS BOARD

JUNE 3, 2016

9:00 – 10:30 A.M.

NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS OFFICE

200 E. MAIN STREET

FORT WAYNE, IN 46802

### MINUTES

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Keith Davis, Darlene Stanley, Dennis Banks, Doug Bauman, Jane Gresham, Tim Hartigan, Leroy Jackson, Jeff Kellam, Mark Michael, John Niederman, John Sampson, Corey Schoon, Chris Straw, Sandy Widener and Dennis Wimer.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kathleen Randolph, Rick Farrant, Gary Gatman, Anne Meadors, Edmond O’Neal, Lori Rice, Beth Suman and Andrea Bolinger.

**I. Call to Order**

Board Chair Keith Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

**II. Consent Agenda**

The minutes of the February 5, 2016 meeting were provided to the board in the packet of advance materials. Jeff Kellam moved to approve the minutes and Leroy Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**III. Financials**

■ **Financial Report**

Dennis Banks presented the report for the period July 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016. There was brief discussion about the professional services line item (which reflected financial services provided to Region 6) and TANF funds. John Niederman moved to approve the financial report and Tim Hartigan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

■ **Audit Report**

Keith Davis said there were no negative findings in the audit for the year ending June 30, 2015. Davis commended Northeast Indiana Works’ financial team for the fine work that led to the positive audit. The audit was available to board members after the meeting and it was reported that the audit would soon be available for inspection on the Northeast Indiana Works website. In an amended motion, Darlene Stanley moved that the executive board’s approval of the audit be approved and Jane Gresham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

■ **Proposed Budget Program Year 2016**

Davis began the discussion about the \$11,337,525 proposed budget and it was emphasized by both Davis and Beth Suman that the budget could change. Dennis Wimer noted that the role of re-employment services is being moved from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to the Workforce Development Board (WDB) in Region 3, meaning the region will employ re-employment services workers. The plan, Wimer said, is for current DWD re-employment services workers to either become Region 3 employees or be transitioned to other positions with the state. Significant discussion followed, including concerns about the sustainability of the grant that supports re-employment services. Hartigan moved to approve the proposed budget, with the condition that when it comes time to approve the final budget, there will be a side-by-side, year-by-year comparison. Niederman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Northeast Indiana Works Board of Directors**

Davis offered a proposed slate of officers for the next program year: Stanley, chair; Davis, vice chair; and Banks, secretary-treasurer. Gresham moved to approve the slate of officers and Kellam seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**V. Eric Doden, President and CEO, Greater Fort Wayne Inc.**

Doden detailed the scope of Greater Fort Wayne Inc.'s mission and activities as an economic development/chamber organization, underscoring the commitment to an environment of regional collaboration. He also shared the organization's key principles and the five projects it aims to see completion of in the next decade: a downtown arena; further development of The Landing; riverfront development; redevelopment of the General Electric campus; and a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) park. Significant discussion followed on topics ranging from workforce needs to the link between Fort Wayne development and regional prosperity. John Sampson also gave a short presentation on the Road to One Million campaign to increase the region's population through quality-of-life initiatives.

**VI. Northeast Indiana Works Updates**

■ **Project Blaze**

Kathleen Randolph reported that Project Blaze, which is an ongoing geographical-, infrastructure- and demand-driven analysis of regional service delivery models, is moving slowly. She said DWD Commissioner Steve Braun has asked that Northeast Indiana Works wait a little longer before pursuing any changes being considered under Project Blaze.

■ **Metrics Report**

Randolph reported that there will be a new format for the metrics report that will be aligned with the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). She said the WDB executive committee will help in the development of the new metrics report.

■ **Skill UP Indiana!**

Gary Gatman gave a brief overview of how the recent \$1.35-million Skill UP grant will be used to support programming and equipment upgrades at the region's five Career and Technical Education (CTE) districts. He reported that the region will be seeking a second Skill UP grant for initiatives involving the skilled trades and insurance industries.

■ **UTEC Dislocation**

Rick Farrant provided an update on activities related to the dislocation of workers at United Technologies Electronic Controls in Huntington, including meetings and conversations with key stakeholders, the near-completion of a survey of workers, key survey results thus far, and the beginning of work on a UTEC landing page on the Northeast Indiana Works website for service providers, educators, employers and UTEC employees.

**VII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

(The next meeting of the board will be from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. October 7, 2016 at the same location – 200 E. Main St., Suite 910, Fort Wayne)