



## **NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS BOARD**

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2014**

**9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.**

**NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS OFFICES**

**200 E. MAIN STREET**

**FORT WAYNE, IN 46802**

### **MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Dennis Banks, Doug Bauman, Keith Davis, Elaine Doherty, Larry Gerardot, Jane Gresham, Tim Hartigan, Leroy Jackson, Mark Michael, John Niederman, Joe Peters, Jac Price, John Sampson, Darlene Stanley, Chris Straw, and Sandy Widener

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tracy Davis, Rick Farrant, Gary Gatman, Karen Green, Anne Meadors, Kathleen Randolph, Lori Rice and Beth Suman

#### **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 June 6, 2014 meeting were provided to the board in the packet of advance materials. Jac Price moved to approve the consent agenda; Darlene Stanley seconded the motion; the motion carried.

#### **III. Financial Report**

Dennis Banks discussed the yearend financial report. He highlighted line items 15 and 22 that show the total administrative and program expenses for the 2013-2014 program year. Keith Davis noted that we do know what the carry over balances as well as the total program allocations are for the 2014-2015 program year.

Beth Suman informed the board that our region will receive additional National Emergency Grant dollars to serve Dislocated Workers in the region. Jane Gresham moved to approve the financial report; Leroy Jackson seconded the motion; the motion carried.

#### **IV. Presentations**

Our Story Project. Courtney Tritch, Vice President Communications, Regional Partnership presented background information about the Our Story Project. The Our Story Project's intent is to get the residents of Northeast Indiana to have a consistent message about working and living in the region. This project will involve 20 workshops that will be held across 10 counties. This will allow for region wide input and will promote a consistent message. The timeline for completion of the entire project is December 2014.

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. Mark Becker, President and CEO shared that the mission of the organization is to improve the economic prosperity and vitality of Greater Fort Wayne. Mark presented information regarding 7 key indicators of economic vitality and how our region scores within those indicators. The goal of the organization is to improve Northeast Indiana's position within those 7 indicators. GFW facilitated 14 economic development projects in the past year totally approximately 2000 new jobs and has focused on downtown development specific to revitalizing the Landing area, Ash Brokerage, residential development, business recruitment, and coordination of effort and resources to maximize efforts. The organization has restructured several programs in an effort to rebrand so that the merged Alliance and Fort Wayne Chamber align with the mission of the new organization. The 2015 focus will be to assess the assets of the community to allow for improved marketing efforts.

## V. Discussions

Gary Gatman presented several Workforce Investment Act Reauthorization highlights. The Workforce Plan is written annually and the WIOA is to be implemented July 1, 2015. This reauthorization amends federal programs: Titles I, II, III, & IV. Some of the changes highlighted include:

- Local board structure and functions are asked to take on a more aggressive role in developing and sharing LMI, increase employer engagement, support skill pathways.
- Youth Councils are no longer required.
- Workforce Plans should focus on expanded access to workforce services and employer engagements.
- Performance metrics for placement, retention, median earnings have changed. New metrics will be implemented, credential attainment, measurable gains toward attainment and employer engagement. Specifics as to how these new metrics are calculated will be forthcoming.
- Local One Stop partners now have additional requirements. There must be one location in the region where all services are available.
- The division of youth funding allocation split changes from the minimum of 30%, current, to a minimum of 75% funding for OSY. The age of youth has been expanded to age 24.

Indiana Career Council Alignment Taskforce established by Center for Education and Career Innovation (CECI) are tasked to implement the states Strategic plan which re-establishes a single statewide workforce investment board.

Media Engagement Opportunity Knocks with 21 Alive has featured 17 guests that have addressed employment issues that are specific the NEIN. Topic on the Aging Workforce has generated a lot of interests. Rick Farrant is working with other regional community partners to promote projects. Late Oct. will be the unveiling of the CTE campaign to promote advanced manufacturing in the high schools. This campaign will utilize social media. Rick Farrant referenced several articles that have appeared in the Business Weekly and other media outlets to promote the Big Goal campaign.

IPFW Governance Study's purpose is to get the regional business perspective of how the changes in governance would affect the alignment in the business community in Northeast Indiana. The study makes 5 recommendations that will better serve students and businesses in the region. John Sampson explained the 5 recommendation and gave the reasoning behind each. Jac Price moved to endorse the recommendation presented in the study; Jane Gresham seconded the motion; the motion carried.

## VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.