



NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS BOARD

JANUARY 12, 2024

9:00-10:30 AM

IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING

FINAL MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Buuck, Holly Christianson, Jordi Disler, Phil Brown, Angie Dane, Lance Halsey, Leroy Jackson, Kim Barnett-Johnson, Richelle Orn, James Phillips, Corey Schoon, Shelly Stearns, Michael Venturini, Jim Walmsley and Tonya Weaver.

STAFF PRESENT:

Liz Burkhead, Rick Farrant, Erica Lillie, Cindy Neal, Edmond O'Neal, Lori Rice, Kim Tempel, and Megan Voirol

OTHER: Rachel Bryant, Braylon Judy

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Jordi Disler called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present. Disler introduced new board member Holly Christianson, who attended the meeting, and new board member Alayne Johnson, who could not attend the meeting. She also introduced Megan Voirol, the new communications and operations associate for Northeast Indiana Works.

II. Consent Agenda: Board Minutes, Financial Report

The minutes of the October 6, 2023 meeting and financials were provided in the packet of advance materials. LeRoy Jackson moved to approve the minutes and financial report. Corey Schoon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Audit Report

Northeast Indiana Works President and CEO Edmond O'Neal announced that Northeast Indiana Works has received a clean audit for Program Year 2022-2023 and discussed some of the particulars of the audit. Kim Barnett-Johnson moved to accept the audit, Tonya Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Youth Update

Rachel Bryant, youth involvement manager for Brightpoint, detailed the successes of the region's Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) programs. O'Neal mentioned the state wants to double the number of JAG programs statewide, including 10 more in northeast Indiana. So far, three additional JAG program commitments have been made in northeast Indiana. Manchester High School student Braylon Judy, appearing virtually, talked about his election as statewide president of the JAG Indiana Career Association, the plans for the association under his leadership, and how JAG has given him the confidence and skills to be a leader.

V. Apprenticeship Update

Northeast Indiana Works Registered Apprenticeship Coordinator Liz Burkhead talked about a healthcare apprenticeship accelerator November 16 at Ivy Tech in Fort Wayne and provided an update on work to secure more registered apprenticeships in Northeast Indiana.

VI. Career Awareness Initiatives

Northeast Indiana Works Communications Director Rick Farrant gave a presentation on the progress of three career awareness campaigns led by Northeast Indiana Works. They are Your Future: Make It Your Own, Manufacturing Begins with Me, and Healthcare Begins with Me.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

(The next meeting of the board will be from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. April 12, 2024. There will be a virtual option, but all are encouraged to attend in person.)