



Illinois Workforce Investment Board

Pat Quinn, Governor

Warren Ribley, Co-Chair
John Rico, Co-Chair

Harold Washington College
30 E. Lake Street, Room 1115
Chicago, Illinois
December 15, 2011

IWIB Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Present: Warren Ribley, John Rico, Tom Ashby, John Coliton, Donald DeDobbelaere, Mark Harris, Sandy Moldovan, Barbara Oilschlager, Terri Payne, Michael Perry, Tom Prinske, Eloy Salazar, David Stoecklin, Mike Williams

Present by Proxy: Geoffrey Obrzut (Lavon Nelson), Dr. Reid George Reid (Ocheng Jany), Jay Rowell (Amit Singla), Kristine Smith (Francisco Alvaredo)

Absent: Honorable James Clayborne, Jr., Joseph Costigan, Elizabeth Dickson, John Holton, Dr. Chris Koch, Janet Payne, Honorable Sandy Pihos, Michelle Saddler, Shelly Stern, Larry Walsh, Diane Williams

Approval of September 22, 2011 Minutes - Action Item

The board members were asked to review the September 22, 2011 minutes as provided in the meeting's handouts. Co-Chair Ribley requested a motion to approve the September 22, 2011 minutes. Tom Ashby made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and David Stoecklin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Opening Remarks

Co-chair John Rico welcomed the IWIB members and guests to the meeting and extended a thank you to President Don Laackman of Harold Washington College for their generosity and support as host to the December meeting. President Laackman welcomed the IWIB members to

Harold Washington College and stated that workforce boards were of great importance to him. Prior to joining the City Colleges of Chicago nine months ago, he worked with Civic Consulting Alliance, a small non-profit that worked on the creation of the Chicago Workforce Investment Council, which now is merging with the North and South Cook County Boards. President Laackman emphasized the importance of the role the board plays in workforce development throughout the state and thanked the board members for their continued service.

Now as president of a city college, President Laackman acknowledged the critical efforts being made throughout the workforce development system to provide students with an invaluable education, necessary skill sets, and resources to enter today's workforce. Additionally, he mentioned the City Colleges of Chicago has 120,000 students enrolled and is the third largest system in the United States. President Laackman informed the board members that on Monday, December 12, 2011 Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced "College to Careers," a major initiative through the City Colleges of Chicago targeted to prepare a workforce that is ready for jobs in high growth industries, specifically jobs that are available today but remain unfilled because of a skills gap. President Laackman stated that Olive-Harvey will be the transportation, distribution, and logistics school and Malcolm X will be the allied health career school with each of the other colleges developing a center of excellence as well. Future announcements will be forthcoming once approved.

Finally, President Laackman stated that the college named Willow Lange as the new Vice Chancellor for Workforce and Economic Development, who was not able to attend the meeting. President Laackman thanked the board for their continued work and support within the workforce system and noted they were pleased to host the meeting.

Co-Chair Ribley invited the IWIB members to a holiday reception following the meeting and thanked Sandy Moldovan and CGN Business Performance Consulting for hosting the reception.

Co-Chair Ribley provided an update on the ongoing initiatives including Illinois' recent selection to be a participating state in the NGA Policy Academy on "Making our Future: Encouraging Growth Opportunities in Manufacturing through Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Investment." He stated this academy will position Illinois to continue the long-standing work the IWIB began with the Manufacturing Task Force and Innovate Now Initiative. He noted a kickoff meeting was held in early December at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce and featured leading manufacturers, state agencies, national labs, and elected officials. Illinois will focus on four key technology-based cluster areas which have the greatest potential to improve global competitiveness and drive growth: Food Products and Processing, Biomedical Products, Automation/Mechatronics, and Materials and Processes. He noted updates regarding the progress and outcomes of the initiative will be provided as progress is made.

IWIB Membership Update

Therese McMahon, Deputy Director of DCEO's Office of Employment and Training, provided an update on the IWIB membership. Therese welcomed and expressed her enthusiasm to have so many of the new members waiting for final confirmation present at the meeting. She added that her office was working closely with the Governor's Office to get the proposed new members approved. She stated that as of the time of the meeting, nineteen new members and/or renewals

were ready to be filed for indexing and submission to the Senate for confirmation. Additionally, vetting documentation for outstanding members will be processed in a second group once all documents are received. The Governor's Office anticipates all appointments will be completed soon resulting in the Board being in compliance with its bylaws.

Update on WIA Re-Authorization

Therese McMahon emphasized that by not having the Workforce Investment Act reauthorized, the State's ability to continue to take a leadership role in workforce development will be hindered. She addressed the importance of the State's ongoing efforts to inform stakeholders of the reauthorization process, including Illinois' Congressional delegation and staff as well as the continued efforts of the local workforce boards.

Tom Ashby, Coordinated Transportation Development, Inc., who represents the business sector, stated WIA was enacted over ten years ago. He believes it is imperative to educate Congress on the state-led sector innovations that have occurred in collaboration with the local areas and community partners such as employers, business associations, community colleges, and community based-organizations. He believes a task force is needed to ensure the reauthorization system is flexible, maintains state innovation, and provides the necessary training to create the skilled workers that Illinois' businesses need. Mr. Ashby followed up with a motion to create a Legislative Task Force through the IWIB to address WIA reauthorization and other related legislative issues.

Following a brief discussion in support of developing the Legislative Task Force, David Stoecklin seconded and the motion passed. Co-Chair Ribley encouraged any member wishing to serve on the task force to contact him or Co-Chair Rico. He noted for the task force to be effective it is imperative to have representation from all sectors of the board. Several members showed great interest and indicated they would be in contact.

Task Force Updates

Veterans Task Force

Co-Chair Ribley introduced Director Erica Borggren of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs who was appointed by Governor Quinn in August. An Illinois native and Army veteran, she previously served as a senior staff member for Army General David Petraeus during his time as Commanding General of multi-national forces in Iraq and as head of United States Central Command throughout the Middle East. For her service in these missions, she was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, a Bronze Star, and the Joint Service Achievement and Iraq Campaign Medals. Director Borggren was valedictorian in her class at the United States Military Academy in West Point, was a Rhodes Scholar recipient, and earned a masters degree from Oxford University.

Director Borggren thanked everyone for focusing on the issues affecting Illinois' veterans and for the opportunity to provide an update on initiatives and priorities on how the state may better assist Illinois veterans and their families. She noted the unemployment rate of 18-24 year old veterans is in the upper 30 percent as compared to 12 percent for their non-veteran peers. She mentioned that the IWIB Veterans Task Force produces a robust set of concrete

recommendations to better serve Illinois' veterans and that these recommendations broadly fell into two categories: structural and programmatic.

In the near future, the structural recommendations of the Task Force will be fulfilled through the newly restructured Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC) led by the Illinois Department of Military Affairs and Department of Veterans Affairs. The programmatic recommendations of the task force will be addressed through the ongoing work of ISFAC Working Groups this summer. In the interim and to keep momentum, interested Task Force members will meet quarterly to address two specific recommendations: 1) Translation of military training and skills for employers (non-licensed fields such as manufacturing and labor trades), and 2) Translation of military training and certification for professional licensed fields (such as healthcare, electricians, and engineers). In addition, the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs will meet with other education, workforce, and human services state agency partners to explore how to maintain a shared data infrastructure for using data to improve services for veterans.

Director Borggren also stated the IWIB Veterans' Task Force recommendations included several programmatic proposals which could be categorized as employment/training and mental health/holistic veterans support. Together, these recommendations highlight the need for further and more coordinated work on everything from education and skills transitions to family support and mental health treatment. In general, the focus of the ISFAC will be on increasing awareness and collaboration among military and veteran advocates. The ISFAC will also leverage broad-based participation of organizations to create several issue-focused working groups, which will capitalize on the cross-sector expertise and perspective of participating organizations. It is anticipated working groups of the ISFAC will include at a minimum: healthcare, mental health, homelessness, disability benefits, legal, deployment support, education, and employment & training. Director Borggren invited the Task Force members to participate in the working groups.

Jason Tyszko, DCEO staff, reviewed the Task Force recommendations and the next steps as well as recapped a recent meeting between the Governor's Office and the state workforce and veterans service agencies. Jason emphasized that the worst possible scenario would be to expand the number of bodies that manage the various veterans' issues. Therefore, it is encouraged to look at the restructuring of ISFAC as an opportunity to coordinate the vast amount of resources, organizations and partners and to embed the current recommendations into an established body to further the mission of serving Illinois veterans and their families. Secondly, Jason referenced that although the skills crosswalk between the military and civilian sectors will be a daunting task to obtain all the necessary information, it is vital to start that process immediately in order to best assist veterans.

Several members provided comments, concerns and questions including the ongoing commitment and funding of ISFAC, the level of participation required by the partnerships, organizations, and individuals; the current and future role of the IWIB; and the translation process and completion timeframe. Sandy Moldovan questioned the type of private and governmental funding and foundation partnerships the ISFAC was seeking in order to bring stability to the financial aspect. John Colitan, the Illinois District's Director of Human Resources of UPS, noted that on several occasions during an applicant's interview process, the applicant

does not reference their training, which results in his company being unaware of their background and skill set; other board members agreed and have experienced similar situations. Director Borggren thanked everyone for their input and stated she is looking forward to working with the board to meet the workforce needs of Illinois' veterans.

Health Care Task Force Report Activities Update

For clarification to new members, Co-Chair Ribley stated the first task force launched was for the health care industry and two of its major recommendations were to address the root causes of the nursing shortage and develop a comprehensive approach to career pathways for individuals within the health care industry. Jillian Rowland from the Chicago Healthcare Coalition followed with a Healthcare Task Force update. Her presentation included an update on the progress, successes and level of participation within the various initiatives outlined by the Task Force. She briefly outlined the Illinois Clinical Scheduler, Standard Clinical Affiliation Agreement, Clinical Faculty Academy, and the Leadership Academy initiatives. She stated that each of those initiatives has seen many successes and continues to improve. The success of the Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy was highlighted as well as the work-based learning toolkit and resources.

A brief discussion with regard to the current successes and the ongoing need to continue and expand programs within the nursing industry followed. Co-chair Ribley thanked her for the presentation and noted that the recommendations made by the Task Force are being implemented and have shown progress in addressing nursing shortages; however, room for improvement still exist in supporting nursing career pathways.

Entrepreneurship Task Force Proposal - Action Item

Co-Chair Ribley reminded the board members that at the September meeting a discussion arose with regard to the need to assess the role of entrepreneurship as it relates to workforce development. Entrepreneurship will need to be featured as a critical component that cuts across all sectors and is necessary to maintain a competitive workforce for the future.

Mark Harris of the Office of the Governor followed with the Entrepreneurship Task Force proposal. He emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship with regard to the future economic growth of Illinois. The state will increasingly depend on a growing number of entrepreneurs to create and rapidly grow new businesses. The state will also need a workforce that possesses an entrepreneurial skill set that can develop and advance breakthrough business models and technological innovations in existing business across sectors.

He noted Governor Quinn has called for renewed public and private initiatives to promote entrepreneurship at the state and local levels including the recently launched Advantage Illinois program, which provides an enhanced portfolio of lending and venture capital programs to help small businesses gain much-needed access to capital. Additionally, Mark mentioned Governor Quinn established the Innovation Council to advise on the advancement of innovation and to cultivate a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem across the state.

Mark also emphasized that while efforts have focused on entrepreneurship through the lens of launching and growing new enterprises, it is important to address entrepreneurship more broadly

through its fundamental definition of creating value. Entrepreneurship is interdisciplinary in nature and driven by a process of identifying problems, thinking creatively about solutions, and executing on new ideas that ultimately make things better and more efficient whether in the marketplace, as part of a social venture, within a start-up firm, existing corporation, or non-profit organization.

The objectives outlined for the Task Force included the following: 1) Review leading national, state and local approaches for promoting entrepreneurship in education and workforce development; 2) Develop recommendations and an action plan to integrate and scale promising learning modules which build entrepreneurial skills across P-20 education and workforce systems; and 3) Provide an assessment of the entrepreneurial skills needed for high-growth, tech-driven companies and other new economy jobs. The Task Force members will include leading entrepreneurs, business innovators, and investors; state education, workforce development, and economic development agencies; secondary and postsecondary education partners; entrepreneurially-focused foundations, non-profits, and for-profit entities; and the local workforce investment boards. A brief discussion followed, including how entrepreneurship supports invention, the need for clear definition of the Task Force's objectives, and how to promote entrepreneurial learning across the P-20 pipeline.

Sandy Moldovan made a motion to approve the proposal and create the Entrepreneurship Task Force. Tom Ashby seconded and the motion passed. Co-Chair Ribley invited any board member interested in serving on the Task Force to contact him or Co-Chair Rico as soon as possible in order to be included in the organizational meetings.

STEM Initiatives Update

Co-chair Ribley requested Jason Tyszko to provide an update on the STEM Initiatives. Jason briefly discussed the two components of the Illinois Pathways Initiative which has focused on the P-20 STEM Programs of Study and the STEM Learning Exchanges. Additionally, he reported Illinois' grant award for the Race to the Top Round 3 was increased from \$28 million to just under \$43 million. Finally, he mentioned the Governor will formally launch the Illinois Pathways initiative on February 9, 2012 in Bloomington.

Illinois workNet Update

Julio Rodriguez provided a brief update on Illinois workNet. He referenced a handout and encouraged everyone to review the information and statistics provided. He highlighted three updates: 1) The successful launch of the webinars which provides information on how to start a small business, 2) Illinois workNet has enhanced the veterans' services webpage with more helpful tools and videos created especially for veterans, per the recommendations found in the Veterans Task Force report, and 3) The U.S. Department of Labor had Illinois workNet host a webinar on utilizing social media to support workforce programs, as Illinois was identified as one of the leading states using social media.

Public Comment, Closing Comments and Adjournment

The next IWIB meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in Springfield, Illinois. There being no public comment, David Stoecklin motioned to adjourn. Tom Ashby seconded and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.