



Illinois Workforce Investment Board

Pat Quinn, Governor

Adam Pollet, Chair
John Rico, Co-Chair

**Chicago Botanic Garden
Regenstein Center - Burnstein Hall
10000 lake Cook Road
Glencoe, IL 60062
June 13, 2013**

IWIB Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Present: Adam Pollet, John Rico, Tom Ashby, Elizabeth Dickson, Michael Massie, Francisco Menchaca, Sandeep Nain, Barbara Oilschlager, Janet Payne, Michael Perry, Tom Prinske, Jeff Pritts, Jay Rowell, Juan Salgado, Sophia Siskel, Shelley Stern Grach, David Stoecklin, Grover Webb, Terry Wilkerson, Mike Williams

Present by Proxy: Dr. Harry Berman (Ocheng Jany), Joseph Costigan (Doris Moy), Scott Frick (Greg Sutton), David Hanson (Francisco Alvarado), Dr. Chris Koch (Dora Welker), Geoffrey Obrzut (Lavon Nelson), Eloy Salazar (Donna Fantozzi), Gary Swango (Aubrey Frietag), Diane Williams (Jack Hazan)

Absent: Honorable James Clayborne, Jr., Donald DeDobbelaere, John Holton, Steve LaRocca, Terri Payne, Honorable Sandy Pihos, Michelle Saddler, Larry Walsh

Approval of March 14, 2013 Minutes

Board members were asked to review the March 14, 2013 minutes as provided in the meeting handouts. Co-Chair Rico requested a motion to approve the minutes. Grover Webb noted that the March 13, 2013 minutes' public comments should have included that the oil and gas industry will also be thriving in Southern Illinois due to the passing of the fracking legislation. Barbara

Oilschlager made a motion to approve the minutes with Grover Webb's statement of correction. David Stoecklin seconded. The motion passed.

Opening Remarks

Co-Chair John Rico welcomed the board members and guests and thanked Ms. Sophia Siskel and The Chicago Botanic Garden's staff for hosting the meeting in such a lovely environment. He recognized the Illinois Department of Employment Security's Director Jay Rowell and congratulated Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's newly confirmed Director, Adam Pollet, who is Chair of the IWIB. Co-Chair Rico recognized the members of the Liberian Delegation, who will have a presentation during the meeting. Co-Chair Rico turned the meeting over to Director Pollet who thanked everyone for attending and extended a special thanks to The Chicago Botanic Garden's staff for hosting the meeting. He provided an update on pending Senate Bill 2 which would have transformed DCEO into a public/private partnership with an emphasis on private partnerships. He noted since the last update an agreement was reached between the administration and the General Assembly. The agreed upon bill will create an important Business Council that will focus on marketing the state's key attributes and assets by bringing in new companies and maintaining companies already in Illinois. Another function of this new bill will be submission of a 5-year economic development plan to the General Assembly.

Botanical Gardens Presentation

Ms. Sophia Siskel, President and Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Botanic Garden welcomed members and the guests. She provided an informative overview of the grounds emphasizing that Chicago Botanic Garden opened a little more than forty years ago as a beautiful place to visit and has matured into one of the world's great living museums and conservation science centers. She stated nearly one million people visit the Garden's twenty-six gardens and four natural areas every year which is uniquely situated on 385 acres of land on and around nine islands, in addition to the six miles of shoreline extending along eighty-one acres of water (including the Great Basin, North Lake, and Skokie River Corridor). She briefly reviewed the various educational avenues the Chicago Botanic Garden has to offer which includes degree programs for adults in the fields of horticulture, garden design, plant science, botanical arts, nature and ecology studies, and ethnobotany, as well as certificate programs which include photography, horticultural therapy, Midwest gardening, professional gardener, garden design, botanical arts, healthcare garden design, and ornamental plant materials. Additionally, Ms. Siskel stated that with the collaboration of grant funds provided by DCEO programs such as Green Youth Farms, Windy City Harvest, veteran, and summer youth camps help teach, grow, and provide valuable life and job skills. She invited everyone to take a tour of the gardens following the meeting.

Introduction of Liberian Delegation

Mike Massie and Jason Tyszko provided a brief presentation regarding the partnership between the State of Illinois and the Government of Liberia to strengthen education and training in key sectors for both economies, beginning with the Agricultural, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) sector, which is included in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) clusters of the Illinois Pathways. He noted a team from Illinois visited Liberia in April to meet with key public and private stakeholders, visit sites for promising practices, and better understand opportunities and challenges. As a result of that visit, a coalition of Liberian high-

level government officials and private stakeholders agreed to launch the Liberian Career Pathways. Mr. Massie stated the Liberia delegation has furthered to define the partnership and the strategies and objectives for the Liberian Career Pathways the week of June 10-14, 2013 and the goal has been set to commence implementation of the partnership and related strategies during the 2013-2014 school year. Members of the Liberia Delegation thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide an update and are excited for the partnership.

Legislative Task Force Update

Mayor Tom Ashby provided an update on the activities of the Legislative Task Force. He stated Task Force members continue to meet with freshmen Representatives elected to the 113th Congress. In addition to meetings held last calendar year, Task Force members met with Representatives Tammy Duckworth, Bill Foster, Cheri Bustos, Brad Schneider, and Rodney Davis. Beyond emphasizing the need for WIA reauthorization and the desired policy changes, the Task Force members discussed the needs of Illinois' workforce and the partnership models that provide positive outcomes from both employers and those seeking meaningful employment. As a recent initiative, Task Force members have been collecting and examining business models from public-private partnerships to find the most effective strategies for our workforce providers. These employer-driven models leverage multiple resources and serve a variety of populations. He noted over forty templates have been collected and once the most conducive model(s) have been identified, the Task Force will begin to work with Congressional members in drafting and/or supporting legislation that scaffolds the various types of workforce approaches. He noted Task Force members hope to meet with the remaining Congressional members Enyart and Lipinski in the coming months and that staff is working diligently to establish meeting dates.

With regard to the Legislative Task Force, Mayor Ashby stated members would like to change direction to have a consistent follow-up and how it will be implemented. He stated it is the belief of the Task Force members that it must be an employer-driven message. He emphasized the importance of continuing to build a strong bond with members of the various business sectors who are committed to making Illinois' workforce stronger and taking the lead in the employer-driven campaign to the Congressional members. He offered to meet with Co-Chairs Pollet and Rico and any other interested board members to compile a list of potential Workforce Investment Board members within the various industry sectors which could be presented at the next meeting. He emphasized the need to mentor those board members as they learn the aspects and responsibilities of the IWIB. Barb Oilschlager agreed with Mayor Ashby and volunteered to be part of the group. Following a brief discussion among members, IDES Director Jay Rowell agreed with Mayor Ashby and supported the idea of focusing on employer-driven efforts through active business members to allow continued education of Congressional staff. Mike Williams made a motion for a proposal/action plan at the next meeting. Lavon Nelson seconded and the motion passed.

Mayor Ashby thanked everyone for the opportunity to share the Task Force's new direction for achieving the employer-driven component needed for Illinois' workforce development environment to be successful. He announced the next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2013 at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield. Ms. Oilschlager asked if the committee would consider candidates from established committees, forums, and commissions throughout the state. Bob Sheets responded by stating it would be the intention of the group to identify business

leaders who currently serve on multiple boards in education, healthcare, and other sectors in order to allow the IWIB to draw on knowledge gained from these other groups so research and resources can be shared.

Healthcare Task Force Update

Mr. Francisco Menchaca provided an update on the Healthcare Task Force. He stated more than fifty Task Force members met June 11, 2013 via a webinar for an orientation which discussed the membership and objectives for the reconstituted Task Force. He provided a history of the original Healthcare Task Force established in 2004 which focused on nursing shortages. He noted the reconstituted Task Force prepared background research on key trends in the following areas: changing characteristics and needs of the patient population (aging, complex needs, need for chronic care); healthcare reform impacts (focus on quality and lower costs, use of technology, shift to preventive community-based care, long-term care shift to home and community-based settings, and coordinated care models); healthcare delivery (interdisciplinary team-based care, new roles for professionals such as Advanced Practice Nurses, community outreach, new roles for front-line community and direct-care workers, and harnessing information technology to improve outcomes and reduce costs); and introduction to Illinois system of industry and occupational employment projections which will be the focus of the September 10, 2013 meeting. Ms. Shelley Stern Grach commented that she attended the webinar and emphasized the need for employer-driven initiatives needs to be a common focus as the Task Force moves forward. Mr. Menchaca invited any interested IWIB members to join the task force at its next meeting in September.

TDL Task Force Update

Julio Rodriguez and Jason Tyszko provided an update on the Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics (TDL) Task Force. Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the history of the Task Force's role to the Board and outlined the current needs of the TDL industry. He emphasized Illinois Pathways supports the innovative public-private partnerships known as STEM Learning Exchanges. He noted the TDL STEM Learning Exchange will provide planning funds for one year to build the network and further develop capacity for implementation. He emphasized the importance of creating awareness among young people and dislocated workers where the TDL industry is a viable career path. He indicated studies have shown Illinois's TDL industry will generate approximately 27,200 new jobs through 2018. Following the presentation, Board members discussed concerns regarding the TDL industry. Mike Williams asked if any recommendations or resolutions are being discussed regarding the strict insurance issues trainees face in the TDL industry among some companies. Bob Sheets stated there is not a resolution to the insurance issue; however, the Task Force could revisit the issue to determine if there are any possibilities.

Mr. Tyszko noted there was an Illinois Pathways TDL fact sheet included in the meeting materials outlining the information presented during the update. He also thanked the leadership of the Illinois State Board of Education as it was through their process that initial seed investments have been made in new public-private partnerships whose function is to coordinate P-20 workforce initiatives on behalf of the sector to better support local programs to grow the economy within that sector. With regard to Mr. Williams' concern, Mr. Tyszko stated the TDL STEM Learning Exchange planning organization will be a new infrastructure and asset IWIB did not have available in 2005 when the TDL Task Force was studying and making

recommendations regarding the industry. He concluded by inviting anyone wishing to play a leadership role on the TLD STEM Learning Exchange Planning Committee or who has valuable resources, to contact the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Foundation as outlined on the meeting's handout.

DOL/ETA Workforce Information Grant

Director Jay Rowell provided an update on the Workforce Information Grant. He also thanked the Chicago Botanic Garden for hosting the meeting and suggested future meetings are held at the local workforce areas, businesses, and other locations which can provide a perspective on how various services and resources have been implemented. With regard to the Workforce Innovation Grant, he provided updates on Illinois Employment and Security's initiatives as follows: The Department has hired twenty business service coordinators whose sole focus is on identifying the employer's skill set needs; IDES is currently working with Illinois Department of Natural Resources in order to provide one location for all fracking jobs listed; and IDES is currently working with Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (LWIA 7) to train all 315 providers in how to use Illinois JobLink to help match the 225,000 resumes to the 120,000 jobs currently posted to the system.

Director Rowell explained the Workforce Information Grant is an annual grant issued by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration which allows DCEO and IDES to collaborate and provide economic information so it is available by the boundaries of the local workforce area. The economic information includes short and long term industry and occupational projections, career occupational labor market information, and an estimation of monthly counts of employment for areas not included in the ten metropolitan statistical areas within the state. He stated IDES and DCEO have expanded to produce annual wage data for state and local workforce area boundaries and aggregated several data sources to build reports for economic development on a regional level. Director Rowell concluded by stating the grant application will be submitted in the near future.

WIA Reauthorization/Legislation Update

Deputy Director Therese McMahon provided an update on WIA Reauthorization. She stated the House passed the Skills Act in March which while restoring the 15% funding, consolidates workforce programs and deletes the Wagner Peyser Act. Director Rowell added the legislation would eliminate the Wagner Peyser Program which essentially is the job matching component for individuals who do not require training. The legislation would decrease IDES' funding annually by \$27 million which will affect local staff's ability to match employer needs with employees and running the Illinois JobLink web site. Director Rowell emphasized several challenges with the legislation. He identified the major challenge is allowing each county to create a jobs board which would not serve the citizens of Illinois well as they would be required to search multiple job boards to locate employment opportunities.

Ms. McMahon stated the Trade Act sunsets on December 31, 2013 and will revert back to the 2002 Act. She noted talking points to educate the Congressional Delegation on the importance of reauthorization of the Trade Act is forthcoming.

Additionally, as part of the President's Budget, the proposed Universal Displaced Worker Program, will limit funding on training services and ultimately limit our ability to enroll workers most need of employment services.

She noted meetings are scheduled with Senator Durbin's staff and others in late June to continue to educate on how Illinois will be affected by legislation. She emphasized the importance of having employers engaged and in attendance at meetings as Congressional staff is interested in what the local businesses are saying about the success stories of workforce development and employment opportunities in their own districts. She concluded by noting it is imperative that the state staff, members of the LWIBs, and other key stakeholders remain engaged in this long and on-going reauthorization process.

Ms. Becky Harmon, Assistant Deputy Director, reported Illinois is applying for \$2-3 million in National Emergency Grant funds as twenty-four counties have been declared disaster areas in need of public assistance due to recent flooding. Additionally, Illinois also applied for almost \$4 million in National Emergency Grant funds for the Dislocated Worker Training program which will provide training and work-based learning to dislocated workers; particularly long-term unemployed and individuals likely to exhaust their unemployment insurance benefits, resulting in permanent employment in high demand occupations.

Discussion followed with regard to the on-going need for educating Congressional members and their staff with regard to the effect potential challenges and impact the proposed legislation will have on Illinois. Director Rowell answered several questions regarding Illinois' current unemployment rate, how the IDES office has and continues to be affected by the sequestration, questions regarding various reports employers submit to IDES and other recording agencies, and how the Bureau of Labor Statistics interprets and uses the data gathered.

IWIB Membership

Co-Chair Rico and Mayor Ashby recognized Sandy Moldovan, a long-standing board member representing the business sector as the Managing Director of CGN - Business Performance Consulting, as he resigns his position on the Board with a Proclamation. It was noted Sandy's leadership and commitment have been a great asset to the State of Illinois, including his numerous task force roles throughout his years of service to the Board. Mayor Ashby asked Board members and guests to join him in recognizing Mr. Moldovan's service as he presented the Proclamation on behalf of the IWIB. Mr. Moldovan expressed his gratitude for this honorary moment and stated it had been a privilege to serve on the Illinois Workforce Investment Board for many, many years. His final thoughts applauded the board members currently serving and encouraged them to continue to build upon the great efforts and accomplishments as other states look to Illinois as a leader in improving workforce development.

Co-Chair Rico recognized the four members who have been active since the inception of the Board and stated it had been a privilege to work beside him on many of the task forces and committees.

Membership Update

Mr. Jason Tyszko, Deputy Chief of Staff of DCEO, announced Board member, John Coliton, recently submitted his resignation due to a work-related job transfer to Northern California and Donald De DeDobbelaere also announced his resignation due to retirement from John Deere. He emphasized the importance in recruiting new board members through efforts mentioned previously in the meeting.

Public Comment

Co-Chair Rico opened the meeting for public comment. Lavon Nelson, Illinois Community College Board stated ICCB's current President and CEO, Geoffrey Obrzut, has announced his retirement effective July 1, 2013 and ICCB's June meeting, Karen Hunter-Anderson, Ph.D. was named the new Executive Director. She also noted ICCB is working on an economic development impact study and will provide an update when completed.

Co-Chair Rico announced the next IWIB meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2013 at Rend Lake College in Ina, Illinois at 1:00 p.m. Additional details will follow at a later date.

Adjournment

There being no further public comment, Francisco Menchaca made a motion to adjourn. Mike Williams seconded and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.