



REVISED

Illinois Workforce Investment Board

Pat Quinn, Governor

**Adam Pollet, Chair
John Rico, Co-Chair**

**Old State Capitol Building
1 North Old State Capitol Plaza
Foundation Hall
Springfield, IL 62701
March 14, 2013**

IWIB Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Present: Adam Pollet, John Rico, Tom Ashby, Donald DeDobbelaere, Elizabeth Dickson, Scott Frick, Steve LaRocca, Michael Massie, Sandy Moldovan, Barbara Oilschlager, Terry Payne, Michael Perry, David Stoecklin, Larry Walsh, Grover Webb, Mike Williams

Present by Proxy: John Coliton (Jessica Kelly), David Hanson (Louis Hamer), John Holton (Jennifer Morrell), Dr. Chris Koch (Dora Welker), Geoffrey Obrzut (Lavon Nelson), Michelle Saddler (Susan Schwab), Eloy Salazar (Donna Fantozzi), Sophia Siskel (Patsy Benveniste), Shelley Stern (Greg Sutton), Gary Swango (Aubrey Frietag), Terry Wilkerson (Bob Carlock)

Absent: Dr. Harry Berman, Honorable James Clayborne, Jr., Joseph Costigan, Francisco Menchaca, Sandeep Nain, Janet Payne, Honorable Sandy Pihos, Tom Prinske, Jeff Pritts, Jay Rowell, Juan Salgado, Diane Williams

Approval of December 13, 2012 Minutes

Board members were asked to review the December 13, 2012 minutes as provided in the meeting handouts. Co-Chair Rico requested a motion to approve the minutes. David Stoecklin motioned and Barbara Oilschlager seconded. The motion passed.

Opening Remarks

Co-Chair John Rico welcomed members and guests. He thanked everyone for their patience as we work through the ongoing appointment process with the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions. He stated renewals and new appointments are currently under review and moving forward. He asked any member in receipt of vetting documents to complete and return them as quickly as possible as this is an imperative step in the appointment/renewal process. He announced Terry Wilkerson, President of Rend Lake College, recently received temporary appointment and was awaiting Senate confirmation.

Co-Chair Rico introduced Adam Pollet as the Illinois Workforce Investment Board's (IWIB) new co-chair and also noted he was named Acting Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Director in November 2012. Co-Chair Pollet provided a brief overview of his educational background and the work experience he brings to DCEO and the Board. He stated that he previously served as the Deputy Director for the Office of Trade and Investment with a responsibility for coordinating export promotion and foreign direct investment for the state while managing Illinois' network of nine overseas trade offices. He also worked for the management consulting firm, McKinsey & Company, for two years serving client companies in strategy and operations projects, and three years at the United Nations working on trade facilitation, poverty reduction and environmental protection projects.

He emphasized that a framework for effective economic development includes a focus on workforce development, access to capital, investment in key physical infrastructure, technical assistance to small to medium enterprises and marketing the state to attract new companies to Illinois. He concluded by stating he is looking forward to the opportunity to work collaboratively with the IWIB board members to advance workforce development initiatives.

Co-Chair Rico also welcomed Stephen Konya, Chief of Staff of the Illinois Department of Public Health (DPH). He noted that Stephen will deliver a presentation regarding reconstituting the Healthcare Task Force. Additionally, he announced Darcy Bucholz, Executive Director of Boone/Winnebago Counties Workforce Investment Board, will provide a proposal for LWIA 3's consolidation.

In conclusion, Co-Chair Rico welcomed Mike Massie and noted that he was accompanied by two special guests, Michael Weah and Ottorlee Diggs from Liberia. Mike introduced his guests and briefly explained that they were traveling throughout Illinois to observe how our public-private Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Learning Exchange partnerships are working together through the Illinois Pathways initiative to create a world-class workforce. Their mission is to research and observe best practices and they indicated an interest in hosting a delegation from Illinois in the near future.

Grant Initiatives Update

Jason Tyszko, Deputy Chief of Staff of DCEO, provided an update on on-going grant initiatives. He stated applications for the Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF) regional partnerships were due March 29, 2013. He noted the grant was designed to support regional consortia that coordinate manufacturing training programs for adults that also evaluate program effectiveness. Support grants to Southern Illinois University (SIU), the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Manufacturing STEM Learning

Exchange are in place and an evaluation contract is being finalized. Jason stated additional information regarding the WIF grants may be accessed on DCEO's and Illinois workNet's websites. An update will be provided with regard to the WIF regional partnerships grants at the June meeting.

Jason stated the Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) is moving forward and partner grants to IDES and the University of Illinois Information Trust Institute (ITI) are near completion. The WDQI working group is scheduled to convene the following day to review a proposed interagency agreement that would establish governance over the Illinois Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). The WDQI is tasked with developing workforce longitudinal data systems that can be integrated with education data supported by agencies and other partners.

Continuing, Jason noted DCEO released an RFP for Rapid Response funding for local areas earlier in the year to avoid layoffs and help unemployed workers re-enter the workforce. The applications were due March 15, 2013. He noted that up to \$6 million will be available to support grants of up to \$500,000 for demonstration projects. Services covered include incumbent worker training for existing workers as well as on-the-job training, class size training and customized training for unemployed workers. An update will be provided at the June meeting.

Jason also stated that it is DCEO's intention to provide future updates regarding the STEM Learning Exchange strategic planning process as well Phase 2 implementation of the Illinois Shared Learning Environment (ISLE).

Jason concluded by announcing that the "Pathways to Prosperity Conference" is scheduled for the following week at Harvard Graduate School of Education. He stated Harvard is partnering with Illinois in launching Illinois Pathways and participated in Governor Quinn's launch event last February. The Conference intends to bring together multiple states engaged in implementing pathways-related programs as well as fostering dialogue with national stakeholder groups, including national employer organizations. Illinois will send a delegation primarily consisting of the public and private partners that make up the state's STEM Learning Exchanges. Co-Chair John Rico will be in attendance representing Illinois and is scheduled to be featured in one of the plenary sessions. Co-Chair Rico stated that he is honored to represent the P-20 and the IWIB as it is an important opportunity to share Illinois' message and mission to the Conference participants.

LWIA 3 Reconfiguration Proposal

Ms. Darcy Bucholz, Executive Director of the Boone/Winnebago Workforce Investment Board, presented a proposed reconfiguration of Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) 3 to include the following counties: Boone, Winnebago and Stephenson (currently LWIA 4). Darcy stated in September 2012 the IWIB was presented with a proposal for consolidation of LWIAs 4 and 12. At that time Stephenson County chose to explore other options and in so doing initiated contact with the Chief Elected Officials of LWIA 3 (Boone and Winnebago Counties; inclusive of the City of Rockford). The Chief Elected Officials of LWIA 3 (Mayor Morrissey, City of Rockford; Chairman Christiansen, Winnebago County; and Chairman Walberg, Boone County) and Chairman Hadley of the Stephenson County Board have requested approval from the Governor to reconfigure LWIA 3 to include Stephenson County.

Darcy outlined the benefits of reconfiguration. She stated Boone, Winnebago, and Stephenson Counties have similar local labor markets. The reconfiguration will strengthen workforce and economic development in the three-county region, building on current synergies between the economic development organizations and the public workforce development systems. Similar industry representation in Boone, Winnebago and Stephenson Counties results in similar skill gaps and workforce needs that would be more effectively addressed through aligned economic development and workforce investment.

Darcy addressed various general transition issues. The City of Rockford would continue to serve as the grant recipient for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds and the Rock River Training Corporation would continue as the fiscal agent for WIA and Trade funds. The Local Workforce Investment Board (LWIB) would be renamed and membership representation will be added from Stephenson County businesses and partners. Darcy stated by using the current LWIA 3 administrative structure, efficiencies in administrative overhead and fiscal services could free up funding for additional direct client services.

Following a brief discussion, Rebecca Harmon, Assistant Deputy Director of the Office of Employment and Training at DCEO, stated that DCEO supports the proposed reconfiguration. Scott Frick made a motion to support and accept the proposal. Tom Ashby seconded. There being no further discussion, Co-Chair Rico called for a vote. The motion passed with Mike Williams abstaining.

UPS Employer Support Statement

Ms. Jessica Kelly, Human Resources Director at the Illinois District of the United Parcel Service (UPS), announced the UPS Chairman and CEO Scott Davis signed a Statement of Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve in February 2013. The program is a forty year U.S. Armed Forces initiative that promotes cooperation and understanding between members of the military and civilian employees. Currently more than 23,500 UPS employees have served or are serving in the military. In the past year UPS has hired over 10,000 veterans which was a 36 percent increase from 2011. She stated the Chairman and CEO Davis emphasized UPS relies on military members to bring valuable skills and experience to the company.

A brief discussion followed with regard to on-going efforts to incorporate veterans' skill sets with workplace skill sets. Donald DeDobbelaere stated he would like to see the Veterans Task Force address this on-going issue at a future meeting. Co-Chair Rico accepted the request.

Proposal to Reconstitute the Healthcare Task Force – Action Item

Mr. Stephen Konya, Chief of Staff at DPH, presented on the proposed reconstitution of the Healthcare Task Force. He provided background information on team members, the role of the Mid-America Regional Public Health Leadership Institute, mission, and proposed approach for Illinois' efforts. He stated other states and major U.S. cities have policies in place for community health workers (CHW) and Illinois should build on current efforts as well as incorporate other states' models to best serve Illinois' healthcare industry. He reviewed several models from other states and organizations with regard to career pathways, reimbursement, and portability, in addition to how Illinois would adapt these models for its own purposes.

Stephen emphasized the importance of establishing a statewide board that would have the power to convene an internal state task force to conduct an assessment of potential impacts of incorporating CHW into the state's public healthcare system and establish an advisory board that would assist in the development of training, curriculum and certification of CHWs. An emphasis was placed on the importance of being sensitive to rural community differences and to create a fair playing ground for grants, contracts, reimbursement rates, and training across the state.

Stephen briefly reviewed the meeting handout outlining the Healthcare Reform Implementation Council (HCRIC) Workforce Core Group's and IWIB Healthcare Taskforce's working components and how each group would interact and support policies and recommendations related to workforce development in the healthcare industry.

Jason Tyszko explained the need for the reinstatement of the IWIB Healthcare Task Force. He stated in 2014 more than a million currently uninsured Illinois residents will have access to some form of health coverage through implementation of national and state healthcare reforms. These reforms and other key trends, such as population growth and aging, will intensify statewide and regional healthcare workforce shortages. He noted Illinois already has experienced healthcare workforce shortages, which includes many safety net and rural healthcare providers being challenged to deliver adequate care for those in their communities.

In order to immediately address the state's healthcare workforce capacity, Jason noted Governor Quinn's HCRIC has established a Healthcare Workforce Workgroup to assess and plan for jobs needed to achieve the goals of healthcare reform and meet the healthcare needs of its growing, increasingly diverse and aging population. This small workgroup is led by the DPH and includes DCEO, Healthcare & Family Services (HFS), Aging, Financial & Professional Regulation, IDES, the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Illinois Department of Child & Family Services (DCFS) with support from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Medicine and the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group (HMPRG). The working group led by DPH proposes to work with the IWIB through a Healthcare Task Force to coordinate broader statewide engagement on a long-term plan for healthcare workforce shortages.

Jason stated the previous IWIB Healthcare Task Force focused on nursing shortages and establishing a broad career pathways approach for high school students into healthcare careers. The Task Force provided regular updates to the IWIB regarding progress for addressing these issues. The new IWIB Healthcare Task Force would build on these efforts and address the more current and projected workforce shortages with a stronger focus on adult career pathway strategies especially for community-based healthcare delivery.

The objectives of the reinstated Healthcare Task Force are: 1) work with the Governor's Healthcare Council and Work Group to analyze the impact of national and state healthcare reforms, particularly Medicaid expansion and Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation, on current and projected healthcare workforce shortage; 2) develop estimates of the most critical current and projected healthcare workforce shortages building on the work of the previous healthcare taskforce; 3) identify current challenges and barriers to healthcare employment; 4) explore national, state and local models for addressing these shortages including career pathway

models that create advancement opportunities for existing front-line healthcare workers (e.g., community healthcare workers); 5) make recommendations on how to best address healthcare workforce shortages through these models; and 6) develop a final report to be approved by the IWIB at the March 2014 meeting which will be submitted to the Governor's Council and Work Group. Recommended task force members are: healthcare employers, industry/professional associations and advocate organizations; state education, workforce, and healthcare-related agencies; secondary and postsecondary education; community-based organizations; labor unions; and LWIBs. Proposed Co-Chairs are Stephen Konya and Francisco Menchaca, Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) and IWIB board member.

Discussion followed concerning what states have already implemented similar approaches and what success has been achieved thus far. In addition, clarification was requested regarding the scope and responsibility of the proposed IWB Task Force. Mr. Bob Sheets stated the previous Task Force focused on nursing with the scope of delivery of care. With the healthcare industry changing, the reconstituted Task Force will have the opportunity to examine how community healthcare workers fit into the industry as well as the education and workforce training systems.

Tom Ashby made a motion to reconstitute the Healthcare Task Force. Sandy Moldovan seconded and the motioned passed.

Legislative Task Force Update

Tom Ashby provided an update on the Legislative Task Force. Task force members continued to meet regularly. Informational visits continue to be made with U.S. Congressional Delegates. Follow-up letters have been distributed focusing on WIA success stories, the value of public-private partnerships and the importance of having funding flexibility. Task Force members continue to aggregate success stories and plan to continue to provide updates at future meetings. In conclusion, Mayor Ashby thanked Co-Chair Pollet for accepting the IWIB leadership role and noted the direct correlation between workforce development and economic development.

Washington, D.C./NASWA Update

Therese McMahon, Deputy Director of the Office of Employment and Training at DCEO, provided an update on the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) conference and her visit to Washington, D.C., which included visits to Congressional offices to discuss the effects of the sequestration on Illinois. The Conference focused on unemployment insurance benefits and the challenges that will be faced to provide the necessary services within Illinois and nationwide. She concluded by noting that WIA funding would be cut 5 percent from the top which will diminish some of the effects of the sequestration.

WIA Reauthorization & NGA Update

Therese McMahon also provided a WIA Reauthorization update. She stated that the state and its partners are diligently working to continue to educate the Congressional members and their staff regarding the importance of WIA funding to maintain effective workforce development within the state. She stated staff members of Senator Durbin and Senator Murray have been very supportive in the legislation that is currently being reviewed. She concluded by noting it is imperative that the state staff, members of LWIBs, and other key stakeholders stay engaged in this long and on-going reauthorization process.

Public Comment

Co-Chair Rico recognized IWIB member Grover Webb, a farmer and owner of Tanglefoot Ranch in Simpson, Illinois. Grover commented that Southern Illinois continues to have major coal mining potential. Efforts are underway to promote the use of clean coal and to innovate energy retrieval, which can prove to be a significant boost to the coal industry for the state. He noted the timber industry received a boost in the past week when a 1996 injunction preventing timber in Shawnee National Forest from being harvested was overturned. Also he stated that the oil and gas industry will also be thriving in Southern Illinois due to the passing of the fracking legislation. Lastly, Grover stated that these developments will help support workforce development in Southern Illinois.

Adjournment

Co-Chair Rico announced the next IWIB meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2013 at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois at 1:00 p.m. Co-Chair Rico then asked if there was any public comment. There being none, David Stoecklin made a motion to adjourn. Tom Ashby seconded and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.