



NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS BOARD

APRIL 5, 2019

9:00-10:30 AM

200 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 910

FORT WAYNE 46802

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darlene Stanley, Keith Davis, Doug Bauman, Beth Green, Jane Gresham, Tim Hartigan, Leroy Jackson, Jeff Kellam, John Niederman, John Sampson, Rick Sherck, Chris Straw and Tonya Weaver.

STAFF PRESENT: Rick Farrant, Karen Green, Anne Meadors, Edmond O'Neal, Kathleen Randolph, Lori Rice, and Kim Tempel.

ALSO ATTENDING: Kent Sellers.

I. **Call to Order**

Board Chair Darlene Stanley called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was present

II. **Consent Agenda: Board Minutes/Financial Report**

The minutes of the January 11, 2019 meeting and financial report – including the audited 2017-2018 financial statements – were provided in the packet of advance materials. Keith Davis moved to approve the minutes and financial report. LeRoy Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Davis lauded the Northeast Indiana Works staff for its work in ensuring a clean audit.

III. **New Board Member**

Stanley introduce new board member Tonya Weaver, superintendent of the Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District.

IV. **Program Updates**

Food and Agriculture Sector: Edmond O'Neal and Rick Farrant updated the board on Northeast Indiana Works' initiative to develop a regional AgBioScience pathway or pathways. While it is still the intent to have a regional pathway, Northeast Indiana Works is now collaborating with the state of Indiana and Heartland Career Center to develop a robust statewide model that would be used both regionally and throughout Indiana. Among the state planners involved: the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana State Board of Education and Indiana Department of Agriculture. There was considerable discussion after the presentation. John Sampson briefly described the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership's involvement in enhancing the region's Food and Agriculture sector. Niederman expressed the hope that more job opportunities for young people choosing an AgBioScience career will be developed regionally and statewide.

Skillful Indiana: Kim Tempel provided an update on the region's involvement in Skillful Indiana, noting that five WorkOne Northeast employment training advisers are among 35 career coaches chosen statewide to participate the first Skillful Indiana Governor's Coaching Corps. The selected career coaches will receive eight months of training focused on helping employers embrace skills-based hiring, onboarding, retention and other practices, and helping jobseekers succeed in an ever-changing economy. The five WorkOne Northeast participants will share the best practices they've learned with others in our regional workforce system.

Performance Metrics: Kathleen Randolph noted that state performance metrics, negotiated with the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, have been added to the board metrics report. Federal performance metrics are already a part of the report.

V. Other Discussion

Niederman asked if the WorkOne Northeast career centers are seeing more people who are employed or underemployed and was told they are; Doug Bauman emphasized the need to prepare incarcerated individuals for the workforce; Jeff Kellam mentioned that Heartland is starting a CDL program; Randolph reported on positive feedback received after Gov. Eric Holcomb's visit with the board; Sampson talked about efforts to extend Pell Grants to those seeking short-term certificates; Niederman shared information he gleaned from the recent National Association of Workforce Boards conference in Washington, D.C.; Chris Straw mentioned an upcoming Launch DeKalb County entrepreneurship competition for high school students that has secured more than \$1 million in college scholarships.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

(The next meeting of the board will be from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. June 7, 2019 at 200 E. Main St., Suite 910, Fort Wayne.)