

Region 1 Zoom Meeting Minutes
Regional Workforce Development Board/Chief Elected Officials Board
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)
“Workforce Partners – Helping Iowa Work”
http://www.iowawdb.gov/r1_home

April 28, 2020
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

CEO Board Present Via Zoom/Phone: John Beard, Jeff Madlom, Steve Doeppke, Jerry Stevens, Dave Baker

CEO Board Absent: Dan Byrnes, David Tilkes, Mary Stanbrough, Roy Buol

RWDB Present Via Zoom/Phone: Les Askelson, Candance Drahn, Dan White, Donna Boss, Caroline Scheidel, Jayme Kluesner, Lisa Curtin, Ron Axtell, Marla Loecke, Jamie Phipps, Gissella Aitken-Shadle, Josh Pope, Joan Funke

RWDB Absent: James Vermazen, David Gaylor, Kathy Gunderson, Jeanne Helling, Michael Myers, Jennalee Pedretti, Larry Lelifeld, Rhonda Kendrick, Craig Allen

Others Present: Rachelle Howe and Sue Larson

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome/Introductions – Les Askelson, Chair

RWDB Chair, Les Askelson, called the joint meeting of the RWDB/CEO Boards to order at 4:35 p.m. Les welcomed all members.

2. Roll Call/ Call for Quorum – Sue Larson (Keystone AEA)

A voice roll call was taken, and it was noted that a quorum was present for both boards.

RWDB/CEO BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

3. Consider Approval of Agenda – Les/John

Motion Donna Boss, RWDB member, seconded Dan White. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion Jeff Madlom, CEO member, seconded David Baker. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Approval of RWDB/CEO Minutes of January 28, 2020 – Les/John

Motion Jayme Kluesner, RWDB member, seconded Donna Boss. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion David Baker, CEO member, seconded Jerry Stevens. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Approval of CEO Conference Call Minutes of March 20, 2020 – John

Motion Jeff Madlom, CEO member, seconded Steve Doeppke. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Approval of CEO Conference Call Minutes of March 27, 2020 – John

Motion Dave Baker, CEO member, seconded Jeff Madlom. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Region 1 Workforce Development Board Bylaws – John/Les

John Beard asked board members if they had reviewed the Bylaws. He noted they looked in order and were in compliance with WIOA. He asked for a motion to approve the Bylaws.

Motion Dave Baker, CEO member, second Steve Doeppke. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion Josh Pope, RWDB member, Ron Axtell, second. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Extension of ECIA & UERPC as WIOA Title I Service Providers until December 31, 2020 – John/Les

The newly formed 20 county area will now be known as the Northeast Iowa Workforce Area. CEO board members voted unanimously to extend Service Providers contracts until December 31, 2020 at the April 16, 2020 meeting.

John asked for a motion from the RWDB/CEO board members to approve an extension of ECIA and UERPC as the WIOA Title I Service Providers in Region 1 through December 31, 2020.

Motion David Baker, CEO member, second Jeff Madlom. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion Gissella Aitken-Shadle, RWDB member, second Donna Boss. All ayes. Motion carried.

Note: Ron Axtell and Lisa Curtin abstained from voting.

BOARD REPORTS

9. Workforce Regional Realignment Update – CEO Board

Next meeting (conference call) will take place on May 7, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. The new region is now called the Northeast Iowa Workforce Area and will cover 20 counties. We are working on updating the 28E Agreement. Dave Baker is in charge of making those changes and will get a draft out prior to that meeting for the new CEO's to review. Discussion will take place on reworking the 28E Agreement and the finished draft will then be sent each County Attorney for their review. Original deadline was June 30, 2020 but John Beard was able to get an extension for that timeline due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new CLEO will be Dave Baker; Corey Eberling from Area 1 and Ken Kammeyer from Area 2 will be the Co-CLEOs. There will be some kind of a rotation once the new board is in place and the Bylaws and Rules have been established for the new Region. Also, we are working on acquiring a Fiscal Agent. Hoping some county will volunteer to do this position. One or two counties are thinking about it. The new Region is moving forward nicely. Down the road they will be hiring for the new CEO Executive Director position,

10. Open Discussion of Board Members on Regional Workforce Needs & Issues – RWDB/CEO Board

Ron Axtell informed the board that new board support will be needed as Keystone AEA will be ending their support on June 30, 2020.

Do not expect any current changes in jobs for any of our folks with this merger. If anything, may work more jointly together because we will all be in one workforce area.

There has been good discussion amongst the new 20 county region that it would be smart and fair if we had proportional representation of the newly combined counties. There are a lot of similarities and industries in the areas. Support businesses and take advantage of our present board members is a good thing. We would like to see current RWDB members serve on the new board.

11. Disability Access Committee Update – Jeanne/Jamie

Jamie Phipps did not have an update. There was no meeting last month but do plan on meeting in May.

12. Youth Standing Committee Update – Lisa/Ron

Ron Axtell said last Tuesday's meeting was canceled. With schools closed and all the layoffs, it just didn't work to meet. Next meeting scheduled for July.

13. WIOA Core Partner Reports

a. WIOA Titles 1 & 3- IowaWORKS Update – Lisa, Marla, & Ron

Iowa Works quarterly reports are not done yet. Title III is the focus with unemployment claims. Normally claims are small this time of year, but with the COVID-19 virus, they have shot through the roof. Everyone is working the 866 lines and helping people file unemployment claims.

Marla added that unemployment is the 100% focus since the COVID-19 virus started. They have trained new people and retrained others to basically help with unemployment needs. They are answering service center call lines across the state. Also, staff are tele-working calls from home. Overtime will continue. Working through claims for the CARES Act. The Pandemic Emergency Unemployment for 13 weeks is being working on. Lots of things going on and the staff are staying busy. If anyone is interested the local unemployment numbers by county are on our website.

b. WIOA Title 2 – NICC ABE Update – Gisella

NICC remains open for service for students, but only virtually. However, we are closed to the public. Every college program is being offered virtually. Students are doing well. We offer a small business phone call line so people can be helped. We have served more than 200 businesses that have called for help with paperwork. The Adult Literacy Co-partner Audit went well. Because of the COVID-19, our numbers are not where we

would like them to be. Online is going well, just not doing final testing. Looking at seeing what we can do for some soft openings in the future. The NICC President will let us know when this is possible.

c. WIOA Title 4

- **Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) Update – Jeanne**

Sent out report earlier today via email. Doing everything virtually and learning how to serve students. Doing as much as we can to help individuals with IEPs and move forward.

- **Iowa Department. for the Blind (IDB) Update – Jamie**

No report.

Additional comments:

Les Askelson thanked John Beard and David Baker for their work on the CEO joint meetings.

Ron Axtell noted that the current RWDB board will continue to operate until the new board is in place. CEO's please take a look at members who will be done on June 30.

David Baker asked the RWDB board members to start thinking about serving on the new 20 County Area board as we would like our current region to be represented going forward.

FLOOR ITEMS/CLOSURE

14. Next Meeting – July 28, 2020 (With current board)

15. Adjournment

Motion John Beard, CEO member, seconded Les Askelson, RWDB member. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjourned: 5:23 p.m.

Sue Larson
Keystone AEA