

Region 14 Regional Workforce Development Board Meeting
IowaWORKS Center, 215 N Elm, Creston
Official Minutes, January 21, 2019

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Jane Briley at 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call – Regional Workforce Development Board members present: Jane Briley, Jason Cook, Katrina Fleharty, Wayne Pantini, Darla Helm, Don Keast, Sara Bath, Billie Jo Greenwalt, Lana McMann. Absent were Jolene Griffith (excused), Karin Freml (excused), Ann Schlapia (excused), Steve Gilbert, Dorene Rusk. Ex-Officio members present: Dave Homan. Ex-Officio members absent were Rod Shields, Paul Griffen (excused), Tom Kedley. **RWDB Quorum – Yes.**

County Elected Officials present: Dennis Brown (Union Co.), Merlin Dixon (Adams Co.), Dan Christensen (Decatur Co.), Dean Robins (Clarke Co.), Charles Ambrose (Taylor Co.), Dave Homan (Adair Co.), and Rudy Kinard (Montgomery Co.). Absent was Ron Landphair (Ringgold Co.). **CEO Quorum – Yes.**

WIOA/MATURA staff present: Ron Ludwig and Sue McElwain.

Minutes – Jason made a motion to approve the minutes of the 11/19/18 meeting. Don seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda – Added “Approve Chemical Engineering Degree from ISU” to the agenda. Dennis made a motion to accept the amended agenda. Charles seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Iowa’s Regional Workforce Structure Update –Ron – The State is still waiting to hear feedback from DOL on the 3 waivers submitted. They hope to hear back this week or next. No more meetings are scheduled until they hear back.

Approve Chemical Engineering Degree from Iowa State University – An individual from our area wants to take this. Ron read the specifics on this program. The cost to complete is \$53,858. Sara asked if WIOA guarantees to pay for all 4 years? Ron said we take one semester at a time. Jason suggested the person take 2 years here, then transfer to ISU. It would be cheaper. Don asked if they are required to come back to our area when they are done? Ron said no. Jason feels we should be a bridge and should encourage students to study here. Jane explained we are just looking at this individual program and whether to approve it as an option for students to take. Jason feels this is a reach. Dan asked if we have the money to fund this?

Region 14 WIOA can pay \$2000/semester for tuition up to a maximum of \$6000/year. These are our local limits. Our goal is for people to make a self-sufficient living. Dan asked if IWD pays for retraining or the business? In Leon Crestline paid for it. Wayne said it goes case by case. Ron said there is emergency funding from the State for plant closures. **Don made a motion to approve the Chemical Engineering Degree from Iowa State University. Charles seconded the motion. Voted on. Jason voted nay. Motion carried.**

SWCC Programs for Review/Approval – Ron handed out two handouts of several SWCC programs for review. One handout listed the program, job titles, starting wages, experienced wages, and annual openings. The other handout gave the tuition costs. The State requested the approved training provider list be updated, so that's what we are doing here. **Don made a motion to review all SWCC programs as a group. Rudy seconded the motion. Voted on and carried.** The Boards reviewed and discussed the handouts. **Dan made a motion to approve all the SWCC programs listed on the handouts for the meeting which are attached to these minutes. Don seconded the motion. Voted on and carried.**

Partner Report Updates – Title I – Ron Ludwig – Ron used the smart board to review handouts. He went over a summary of WIOA, state and local boards, regions, grants, one stop operators, administrative costs, program costs, direct cost breakdown, etc. He also went over on the smart board the comparison of the new WIOA program vs. the previous WIA program.

Title I – WIOA grant recipient (A, DW, Youth) (Ron)

Title II – Adult Education and Literacy (Darla)

Title III – Wagner Peyser (Sara)

Title IV – Voc Rehabilitation (Dorene)

Iowa Workforce Development – Sara Bath – Sara said the 4 titles are trying to work together. They are working on an Integration Continuum. Some areas they are looking at are business engagement, outreach, assessment, etc. They will devise a plan on how they can improve and identify their goals moving forward. Designed to bring agencies together.

IWD is working on a Library Day. They hope to host an appreciation event or do something special for our local libraries. It may be held in April or May.

Adult Education Literacy – Darla Helm – SWCC received an integrated education and literacy grant. They are working with Altec in Osceola, working with 4-6 individuals who have not received their high school diploma yet. They are launching a web based program for them. Secondly, they are working with Iowa Select providing ESL classes for them. Third, they are

going to start ESL classes in February at Osceola Foods. There are 15-18 people interested. They also want a Spanish class for supervisors.

Darla said they participated in a campus safe presentation today, which included active shooter training. She feels it was very valuable. Training gives people a better chance at survival. Their presenter was out of Sioux City. Anyone interested can contact Darla or Jolene.

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation – Dorene Rusk – Dorene was not present tonight.

Economic Development – Wayne Pantini – Future Ready Iowa is preparing for the next generation of workers and exposing them to different job opportunities. Passed out an information sheet. Projects in your employment can be presented to students who can look at it and see things from a different and fresh perspective. Local business partners who have been involved in this include Hy-Vee, county engineer, a communications company, City of Afton. A project can be presented to the students, the students then put a presentation together for the business to review. This initiative has been well received.

Externship opportunities are available. Educators can work with businesses over the summer to get a better perspective on what they do. Then they can take this information back to their students.

Requests for Agenda Items for Next Meeting on 3/18/19

Adjourn – Dean made a motion to adjourn. Charles seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.