AGENDA



IWIB SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023

**Time:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** One Gateway Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234 Mississippian Room

**Members Present:** Elba Aranda Suh, Kara Demirjian Huss, Kaili Emmrich, Jennifer Foster, David Freidman, Kevin Irvine, Steven LeFaver, Ray Marchiori, Marlon McClinton, Sheryl Morris, Mboka Mwilambwe, Sandeep Nain, Barbara Oilschlager, Terri Paine, Kristen Richards, Daniel Serota, Chris Toppin, Jayne Vellinga, Andrew Warrington, Alexander Purcell, Marci Johnson, Natasha Allan, Brian Durham, Nina Tangman, Anthony Fuhrmann, Dan Ferrari, Mike Perry

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| **Time** | **Item** | **Owner** |
| 1:00 PM | Meeting Called to Order | Co-Chairperson Rico |
| 1:05 PM | Roll Call of Members  The roll was called, and it was determined that a quorum was present. | Aime´e Julian |
| 1:10 PM | Welcome from a Local Council person | Derek Jackson, Interim City  Manager, Collinsville |
| 1:15 PM | Approval of March Minutes  Chairperson Rico called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 16th, 2023, quarterly meeting as presented. Mr. Marlon McClinton moved that the minutes be accepted. Ms. Elba Aranda Suh seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote, the minutes from the March 16th, 2023, IWIB Quarterly meeting were approved. | Co-Chairperson Rico |
| 1:17 PM | Welcome Comments and Remarks  Chairperson Richards asked the new members to introduce themselves to the group. Each new member introduced themselves and gave a brief history of their workforce experience. | Co-Chairperson Richards  Co-Chairperson Rico |
| 1:30 PM | Welcome to New IWIB Members  The new members are Ms. Kara Demirjian, Ms. Kailie Emmrich, Mr. Kevin Irvine, Mr. Steve LeFavor, Ms. Sheryl Morris, Mr. Mboka Mwilambwe, Mr. Alex Purcell, Mr. Daniel Serota, Mr. Chris Toppin, and Ms. Jayne Vellinga. | Co-Chairperson Richards  Co-Chairperson Rico |
| 1:40 PM | Update on Unified State Plan  Mr. Drew Thomason reviewed KEB’s role in WIOA. WIOA State Plan is a compliance document done every four years. Illinois’s WIOA State Plan provides a vision of the Governor’s integration of workforce, education, and economic development policy and programs for the State of Illinois. The next plan is due in March 2024. Mr. Thomason stated that he would be returning to the IWIB to report on the progress of the state plan as well as to receive any feedback. Mr. Thomason reviewed the current state plan and defined the vision and goals of the new state plan. The current state plan vision is “Foster a statewide workforce development system that supports the needs of individuals and businesses to ensure Illinois has a skilled workforce to effectively compete in the global economy.” The draft state plan vision is that “Illinois’ workforce system will meet employers, job seekers, and community members where they are, centering the customer experience in an interoperable, equitable, and accessible manner to ensure all customers achieve their goals. We will support employers by building diverse, quality career pathways and provide effective training, education, and economic opportunities for job seekers and communities to thrive.” There are six goals. 1) The workforce development system uses a customer-centered approach to service delivery. 2) Employers are provided access to workers with skills that meet their needs. 3) The workforce development system centers on equity and access. 4) Jobseekers are provided pathways to good jobs. 5) WIOA partners and other workforce and education systems in Illinois enhance their coordination and collaboration. 6) Jobseekers and employers have a broader awareness of the Workforce Development System.  Mr. Thomason was asked to highlight the major differences between previous state plans and the one in development. He explained that the plan is not developed enough yet to highlight the differences. The spirit around the state plan- the difference between this state plan and others is that we are looking beyond WIOA. There are required compliance components, but we want to make sure that we are considering all opportunities to collaborate across programs to create a unified workforce system.  Mr. Marlon McClinton asked about any language surrounding “trying to be the best”- Mr. Thomason answered, “not yet”.  Mr. John Rico asked about adding language to include “sustainability” in the mission/vision. Mr. Thomason said it’s not included yet but is something that should be considered. Mr. Rico stated that employers like to hear about sustainability.  The next steps of the plan: the documents will be distributed to the group to allow for feedback. The content team is working on the first half of the plan, which includes several analyses. At the September IWIB meeting, Mr. Thomason will present more information on the plan.  Mr. Thomason shared his contact information: [drewt@kebcpa.com](mailto:drewt@kebcpa.com) | Drew Thomason, KEB |
| 1:50 PM | Legislature and Budget Update Highlighting the Impact on the Workforce System  Ms. Christy George introduces herself and provides a brief background of her work with the governor. The FY24 budget is 119 billion, including over 50-60B in federal funds. The projected revenue is $50.6 billion, with expenditures of $50.4 billion, leaving a $183M surplus.  Ms. George reads her slides out loud. Please see the details below:  3 Key Commitments to FY 24 Budget: 1- $200M toward pensions- brings total pension stabilization efforts to $700M  2-$450M to pay off legacy bond/debt payoff for Railsplitter bonds. This is estimated to save the state $60M in interest costs.  3- Plan to address long-term structural deficit in the Community College Insurance Program- a health insurance program for retired community college employees.  These investments ensure the state stays strong financially and continues to be competitive in attracting corporate investments.  Past Efforts Resulting in:   * + 8 credit rating upgrades   + Rainy Day fund on track to reach $2.1B, up from the original rainy-day fund that held only $60,000.   + Paid down $10.5B in debt   + Eliminated $17B bill backlog- now in a 30-day pay cycle, having paid off all of those bills.   + We are in a better state financially than we have been in decades.   Governor is prioritizing education.  FY24 Budget: Smart Start Illinois & K-12   * + Smart Start Illinois - $250M Overall     - $75M to ISBE's Early Childhood Block Grant- the goal is to eliminate preschool deserts.     - $130M for EC Workforce Compensation Contracts     - $40M for Early Intervention programs     - $5M to expand DHS' Home Visiting Program   + K-12 Investments     - $350M for Evidence-Based Funding     - 3 Year Teacher Vacancy Pilot - $45M investment in the first year   FY24 Budget: Higher Education   * + $100M increase to MAP, bringing total funding to $701M. This means that virtually everyone at or below the median income level can go to community college for free.   + $100M increase in **o**perating funds for public universities and community colleges   + Community College-specific investments     - $8.3M for dual-credit and non-credit workforce programs.     - $11M for curriculum development for EV, advanced manufacturing, and data center workforce training programs.     - $2M for technology upgrades for digital instruction in WIOA Title II Adult Ed programs.     - $750K to expand English language services to non-English speaking communities   + $3.8M increase to Minority Teacher Scholarship Program   + $25M for PATH Program   + $15M increase to AIM High and made permanent   FY24 Budget: Home Illinois  Multi-agency efforts to support homeless prevention, provide affordable housing, support crisis response, expand housing support, and provide targeted workforce services to the unhoused.   * + Overall state funding is $350M with the FY24 budget, which includes an $85M increase to support homelessness prevention funding   + Includes $5M dedicated to expanding Job Training and Economic Development (JTED) Program   FY24 Budget: Employment & Economic Development   * + Employment     - Continues $250M multi-year commitment for Reimagine Public Safety Act     - $41M for youth employment and summer jobs programs     - Continues $48M in ARPA funding for workforce programs like JTED and implementation of the Governor's Commission on Workforce Equity & Access     - Continues $34 million for the Employer Training Investment Program (ETIP)     - $5 million to supplement WIOA Title I funding     - $10 million for a Clean Energy Career and Technical Education Pilot Program     - $25M increase for Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program     - $2M increase to IDOC for welding training program   + Entrepreneurship     - $10 million to fund a “one-stop business portal” to foster entrepreneurship     - $16.5M for a multi-year initiative to modernize the state's professional licensing system at IDFPR     - $1.8M in additional funding to maintain and expand the SBDC and PTAC program   + Business & Economic Development     - $20 million for a Fast-Track Workforce Program     - $400 million Closing Fund     - $90 million Enterprise Fund     - $55 million for Prime Sites capital grants     - $20 for Rebuild Illinois Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Program for community revitalization     - $40 million for forgivable loans to launch more social equity cannabis businesses     - Expansion of the Angel Investment tax credit from 25 to 35%   FY24 Budget: State Workforce   * + SB2228 - Aligns state hiring to new electronic process   + CMS - Funding for state recruitment and marketing contract- Hyper-focused on filling positions in 24/7 facilities where the most vulnerable populations are taken care of.   + IDES - Supplemental GRF (Roughly $60M) for operations + 1 demographer   + DCEO - 1 additional state-funded headcount for workforce programming   + DCFS - Additional $75M increase to hire 192 new staff, expand training and protection, increase scholarships for youth in care, and improve facilities   + ISP - $16M to support two new cadet classes (200 new troopers)   + Drastically increased staff at DCFS and ISP   + Investments in Dept of Labor- resources were declined. Have had to consistently add staff.   Mr. David Freidman asked about technology and data infrastructure, “Was there any investment made in improving the data infrastructure?” Ms. George responded that there were investments related to IDES and that they are actively going after federal funds for this very topic. She stated that it would be more helpful to have a “bonafide plan” for data modernization that can be taken to the general assembly. | Christy George, First Assistant Deputy Governor,  Budget & Economy · Office of the Governor |
| 2:10 PM | Business Development Initiatives and Funding  Mr. Cas Peters introduced himself and explained his role at DCEO. He provided an agenda with three items plus time for questions. His information was presented in the following order:   1. 2022 Program Updates   Edge Program- Capital investment of over $1.9B. This program created nearly 7,000 jobs (6,872)  Data Center Tax credit program- capital investment of over $4.6B. This program created 330 jobs.  Advantage Illinois program- small business program where we have directly supported $37M in loans. This created/supported 1,362 jobs. The focus was on minority/women-owned businesses.  Mr. Peters states that DCEO has seen enormous success with the EDGE program in fiscal terms and number of jobs created. The same is true for the Advantage Illinois program progress. The Advantage Illinois Loans were present in all 10 economic development regions (EDRs). Mr. Peters emphasizes the importance of supporting small and diverse businesses.   1. Business Development Pipeline   Sectors that are expanding are Logistics/Distribution, EV and Green Energy Manufacturing, Food Manufacturing, and Precision Fermentation.  The current business development project pipeline represents more than 15,000 new jobs and $17B.   1. Business Development Legislative Updates   It has been a robust 8 months regarding legislation. There are three public acts passed that made significant improvements to EDGE, REV (Reimagining Energy and Vehicles), MICRO (Manufacturing Illinois Chips for a Real Opportunity), HIB (High Impact Business Programs), and Enterprise Zones and created the Invest in Illinois fund.  Mr. Peters breaks each program down with the primary changes made to each by the public acts passed in the last year.  Invest in Illinois Fund-$400M in funding available to DCEO. This primarily focuses on large business development projects. They are working with companies to remain competitive.  EDGE- EDGE increases flexibility for Economic Development for a Growing Economy. EDGE no longer requires out of state option, including having a cheaper out of state option. The “but for” requirements have been modernized. The tax credit for retention was also increased- increased retained credit to 50% for underserved and 25% statewide.  Enterprise Zone Updates-  The maximum size of Enterprise zones has been increased to allow communities to be more competitive when attracting and retaining businesses. There have been two additional Rivers Edge Redevelopment Zones created in Joliet and Kankakee.  High Impact Business Updates-  Under HIB, the “but for” requirements were modernized and there was a renewal clause enacted. The HIB eligibility has been expanded to include a business that partakes in cultured cell material food production.  Reimagining Energy and Vehicles (REV)  Make Illinois more competitive on the road to clean energy.  MICRO Updates-  Increased value of the tax credit for retained employees.  Creates a one-time renewal option to increase incentives.  Ms. Christy George asked Mr. Peters to explain what the renewal means in terms of timeline- how many years of benefits they are talking about. Mr. Peters responded that under the REV program there was initially 15 years, but with the renewal, they are able to offer benefits for 30 years.  Ms. George also asked Mr. Peters to touch on the property tax fees. Mr. Peters responded that under REV, companies can receive property tax abatement up to the 30 years.  Mr. Andrew Warrington asked, “do you have any sort of market intel information that you typically do that compares how well you’re doing compared to other states around here?” Mr. Peters responded that they are regularly benchmarking programs across other states. They also have been leveraging internal expertise to perform similar reviews to remain informed on the competitive landscape. Ms. Christy George also added that the reason they did a closing fund and allowed property tax abatement, the reason they abated electricity taxes on large projects is because they saw other states doing the same thing. Ms. George continued that there is a chart that maps the uptick in projects, but that Mr. Peters doesn’t have it today. Ms. George explained that a lot of the things discussed today were based in other states’ successes.  Mr. Peters provided his contact info: Casimir Peters- Senior Advisor. 312-909-6112. Casimir.Peters@illinois.gov | Cas Peters, Department  of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) |
| 2:30 PM | Illinois Works Update  Mr. Ruano reviewed Illinois Works/ Illinois Works Job Program Act from 2019. Three major programs came from that act. 1) The Illinois Works 10% Apprenticeship Initiative 2) The Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program 3) The Illinois Works Bid Credit Program. The Illinois Works Jobs Program Act was a result of Gov. Pritzker’s 6-Year Rebuild Illinois Capital Development Plan. This received strong support from both the Black and Latino caucuses. Mr. Ruano explained that Illinois has an aging construction labor force and that key demographic groups are seriously underrepresented in the construction and the trades. This representation has not changed significantly in the past decade. Illinois Works was specifically designed to make those numbers change positively in the next few years. Mr. Ruano discussed the innovative nature of the Illinois Works. He states that the Apprenticeship Initiative creates a demand for apprentices. The Pre-Apprenticeship program creates a diverse and ready-to-work talent pipeline. The Bid Credit program provides incentives for contractors to hire and retain Illinois Works pre-apprenticeship program graduates.  Program Implementation Updates-  The Apprenticeship Initiative is fully operational. The Pre-Apprenticeship program is also fully operational. Finally, the Bid Credit program is in the process of implementation.  Legislative Updates-  DCEO and the Illinois Works Review Panel proposed a series of legislative changes. Those that were passed are: (1) Half of the 10% goal of the Apprenticeship Initiative must now be met with Illinois Works, IDOT, or CEJA pre-apprenticeship program graduates. (2) State agencies may now apply a series of accountability measures including fines for contractors that fail to comply with the Apprenticeship Initiative 10% goal. (3) Contractors will now earn bid credits by employing Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program graduates in any project (public or private). They can only use bid credits with public projects  Mr. Ruano opened the floor for questions. Ms. Jayne Vellinga stated that she noticed that the legislation included all of the pre-apprenticeship programs that the state funds, and that makes sense. She asked if folks graduating from other pre-apprenticeship programs could receive a subsidy. Mr. Ruano responded that it wasn’t considered in the current legislation. Ms. Elba Aranda Suh stated that she has two questions. Ms. Suh asked, with regards to the bid credit, is there was anything that Mr. Ruano might have for public education for those in the hiring industry. Mr. Ruano explained that the first stage of implementation is an outreach strategy. His comms team is finalizing a one-pager as well as a website that will be available in the next month or two. Ms. Suh asked about the demographic data Mr. Ruano shared. She asked if the data includes seasonal work. Mr. Ruano explained that seasonal work does not usually include DOL-registered apprenticeship programs. | Norman Ruano, DCEO |
| 2:40 PM | Home Illinois Plan  Ms. Haley explained that annually there are about 120,000 folks facing homelessness in the state. Ms. Haley dispels several myths about homelessness. She also explains that homelessness is not just in urban areas but in all communities across the state. Ms. Haley explained that while the total homeless population is falling, those that are considered chronically homeless are on the rise. The governor signed an executive order that created new homelessness infrastructure within the State of Illinois government. Ms. Haley explained the goals of the executive order. The goals are to address homelessness and achieve functional zero of homelessness, address unnecessary institutionalization, improve health and human services outcomes for people experiencing homelessness, strengthen the safety nets that contribute to housing stability, and coordinate homeless prevention resources. This order created an Interagency Task Force on Homelessness, a Community Advisory Council on Homelessness, a State Homelessness Chief, and Illinois Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. Ms. Haley listed some of the agencies included in the task force and advisory council. Ms. Haley introduced the plan to prevent and end homelessness called *Home Illinois.* It has an inventory of 100+ policy, program, or process activities across 17 state agencies. Its foundational goal is to end the racial disparity that exists in homelessness. Ms. Haley presented some key initiatives for FY24. Ms. Haley cited a program in Los Angeles, *Home for Good*, that they used as an example for steps to take.  Ms. Haley left contact information: [homeless.office@illinois.gov|](mailto:homeless.office@illinois.gov|) [Christine.haley@illinois.gov](mailto:Christine.haley@illinois.gov) | 312-814-2705 | Christine Haley, State Homelessness Chief at Illinois Department of  Human Services |
| 2:52 PM | Update on OMA  This section of the agenda was postponed for now. Dr. Aime’e Julian to send out information on this topic to the board. | Lisa Jones, DCEO |
| 2:55 PM | Public Comment  Mr. Daniel Serota stated, “Just wanted to bring up as the new incoming chair of the apprenticeship committee, I want to really start digging in further as a key component where the state agencies can start looking at their funding to help with apprenticeship programs. As funding comes in, how can we wrap around the Apprenticeship Illinois to start posting as well as making it available for employers to take advantage of some of the grant funding that is out there with some of the different agencies? I am hoping we can look at that as an opportunity for state agencies to work together.”  Mr. Rico recognizes Barbara Oilschlager for her 25 years of service. And acknowledged that he to has served as the Chair of the IWIB for 25 years. |  |
| 3:00 PM | Adjournment  Ms. Barbara Oilschlager was the first to move for adjournment.  Mr. Tony Fuhrmann seconded. | Co-Chairperson Rico |

**Upcoming Meeting:**

IWIB Fall Quarterly Meeting, September, College of Lake County, Grays Lake IWIB Winter Quarterly Meeting, December, Chicago, in coordination with IWP

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