Executive Committee

Date: May 6, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Chairperson: Marlon McClinton

# **Members Present:** Dr. Andrew Warrington | Mr. Marlon McClinton | Mr. Daniel Serota | Dr. Brian Durham | Ms. Jennifer Foster | Mr. Sadeep Nain

**Members Absent:** Mr. Tom Ashby | Mr. Terry Wilkerson

**Guests:** Ms. Lisa Jones | Mr. Julio Rodriguez | Ms. Mackenzie Hess | Dr. Lisa Bly-Jones |Mr. Drew Thomason | Ms. Becky Locker | Demar Harris

**Committee Support:** Dr. Aimee Julian | Ms. Coryn Barger

| Time | Item | Presenter |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10:00 AM | **Welcome and Introduction** | Marlon McClinton |
|  | Chairperson McClinton welcomed the group and called for a motion to accept the minutes from the April 1st, 2024, Executive Committee meeting as presented. Co-Chair, Dr. Andrew Warrington, moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Mr. Daniel Serota seconded the motion. The April 1st, 2024, minutes were accepted into the record as presented. |  |
| 10:10 AM | **WIOA State Plan Update** Mr. Drew Thomason presented the WIOA State Plan Update to the committee, noting that the WIOA State Plan has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor and Education. The Department of Labor and Education completed an initial review of the plan and came back with 14 requested corrections. Mr. Thomason noted that a request to gain committee approval before submitting final changes was denied by the Department of Labor and Education. Final corrections were submitted on April 16, 2024. * Four of the requested corrections required small technical changes.
* Eight of the requested corrections asked for elaboration on how to address the needs of individuals with disabilities and individuals who have significant barriers to employment. Mr. Thomason noted that they worked closely with the Title IV partners/ Department of Human Resources VOC Rehab to ensure that the required corrections were addressed in a way that aligned with their work with individuals with disabilities specifically.
* Two of the requested corrections asked for the most recent updated numbers on negotiated performance measures.

Mr. Thomason addressed another requested correction, noting that the Department of Labor and Education stated that the strategies within the plan were not actionable. * A specific section describing the dedicated activities to enact strategies was pointed out to address this concern.
* The Department of Labor and Education requested that this section be moved into the strategies section of the plan for compliance purposes.
	+ - A high-level summary of activities was also added under each strategy.

The finalized WIOA State Plan has been admitted and accepted, barring final review from the Department of Labor and Education. * Upon final approval, the official plan will be recirculated.

Ms. Lisa Jones asked if the planning workgroup would be pulled back together in July to debrief. Mr. Thomason answered that it would be possible for the planning workgroup to be pulled back together.Ms. Jennifer Foster asked that in the future when questions come forward from the Department of Labor and Education about the WIOA State Plan, the group specifically tasked with writing be brought together before everything is due. Ms. Foster also noted that the ICCB would like to see the original version of the WIOA State Plan as well as the version with the requested corrections so that they can be added as an information item on their agenda.Chairperson McClinton asked Mr. Thomason for a full presentation at a later date to compare the WIOA State Plan as it was submitted in March with the final version of the approved WIOA State Plan.  | Drew Thomason |
|  | **WIOA Summit Update**Dr. Aime’e Julian provided an update on the 2024 WIOA Summit to the committee, specifically noting the great work of Mr. Tony Fuhrmann and his work to improve local engagement. * Mr. Fuhrmann put together business tours the day before the Summit as well as a reception the night before.

Dr. Julian stated that the WIOA Summit was successful, noting that the largest number of IWIB members to date were in attendance this year. * Of the total 549 attendees, 5% were IWIB members.
* Overall, most found the format, pace, and cadence of the 2024 WIOA Summit to be engaging.
* 94% of attendees found the Summit to be accessible.
* 94% felt that the app was accessible.
* 82.2% felt that the Future of Work Panel was the best part of the conference.
* 85% agreed that the keynote was enjoyable and engaging.

Dr. Julian noted that locations are already being scouted for the 2025 WIOA Summit. Local areas have been reaching out, asking for next year’s WIOA Summit to come to their area.  | Aime’e Julian |
|  | **Placement of the Chief Workforce Officer** Dr. Andrew Warrington provided an update on the placement of the Chief Workforce Officer. Dr. Warrington noted that he met with Kristen Richards and Kate Lindgren for updates. He stated that it would be beneficial to have Ms. Kristen Richards present a full update at the IWIB meeting in June. Dr. Warrington noted budget hearings that have been taking place and that the Chief Workforce Officer will likely be part of Governor Pritzker’s budget. * Job specification and the vision for the role are similar to the expectations and the vision that were put together by the Governor’s commission.
* As a matter of expediency, the Chief Workforce Officer will be part of DCEO’s budget and will technically report to Ms. Richards.

Dr. Lisa Bly-Jones noted that, ideally, the Chief Workforce Officer would have eyes on all federal investments and workforce components that come into the state of Illinois.  | Andrew Warrington |
|  | **WIOA Reauthorization**  Ms. Lisa Jones presented an update on WIOA Reauthorization. * A webinar took place last week concerning WIOA Reauthorization. Ms. Jones noted that only Title I was addressed.
* The recording and PowerPoint from last week’s webinar concerning WIOA Reauthorization are available.

Ms. Jones provided a legislative timeline for WIOA Reauthorization.* **December 7, 2023: HR6655 Introduced**
* **December 13, 2023: Passed Committee/Bipartisan Vote 44-1**
* **April 9, 2024: Passed House/Bipartisan Vote 378-26**
* **April 10, 2024: Referred to Senate Help Committee**

Ms. Jones noted that Senate HELP staff are actively discussing a Senate version of the bill. They anticipate that a Senate WIOA Reauthorization bill will be introduced as soon as June or, at the latest, early August.**House Key Changes:** Employer-led and Skill Upgrades* Real-time labor market information emphasized by continuous assessment and elimination of two-year modification.
* Training expenditure rate for Adults and Dislocated workers established, including ITAs, on-the-job learning, and employer-led initiatives.
* WIOA fund cap raised for incumbent worker training, transitional jobs, and pay-for-performance contracts.
* The Critical Industry Skills Fund was created using Governor reserve, local funds, and state funds.

Accountability and Program Quality* Performance indicators will be updated to evaluate better program success, including a measure for labor marker retention and employer-connected learning.
* Services for job seekers will be modernized by encouraging virtual services and community hubs to reach more job seekers at a lower cost.
* States will be able to streamline the eligible training provider list, by aligning the application process across providers, establishing conditional criteria for new programs, and creating employer-sponsored programs.

Pathways and Innovation* Emphasizes work-based learning for youth.
* Helps individuals released from incarceration transition back to employment.
* Creates a demonstration authority for targeted state and local boards to reimagine their workforce systems.
* Provides technical assistance to employers in implementing skills-based hiring practices.

**Senate Priorities:**Majority HELP staff* Prepare Youth for a better future.
* Increase job equality.
* Increase economic mobility through better access to supportive services/childcare.
* Expand opportunities for life-long learning.
* Address shares worker/employer needs through access to transparent data.

Minority HELP staff* Balanced package that includes NAA, Workforce Pell, and CTW
* Holistic approach to leverage funding including TANF and childcare.
* Flexibility for the system/data to adjust for demand occupations.
* Focus on returning to work and providing human services.
* Offset mandatory funding-balanced approach.

Dr. Brian Durham asked about skills-based hiring/de-emphasizing bachelor’s degrees and asked if Ms. Jones has heard any further conversation about associate degrees, certificates, or technical training regarding higher education. Ms. Jones replied that she had heard conversations about skills-based hiring related to certificates. Ms. Jones also noted that the definition of a customized training program is being changed under reauthorization to employer skills-led development. Chairperson McClinton asked if there was a push by legislators to de-emphasize the bachelor’s degree. Dr. Brian Durham stated that there has been some discussion about the issue because of workforce shortages around the bachelor’s degree.  | Lisa Jones |
|  | **CIC New Member Update**Dr. Aime’e Julian noted that Ms. Kimberly Pinkney, Assistant to the Chief of Staff for the Division of Rehabilitation Services, was asked by Rahnee Patrick to choose a committee to learn more about. Ms. Pinkney has chosen the Continuous Improvement Committee. Dr. Julian noted that the board members who would like to join the CIC have completed the survey. | Marlon McClinton |
| 10:50 AM | **Old Business/New Business**Chairperson McClinton noted he had spoken with Mr. David Friedman about maintaining his leadership role through the upcoming June Retreat. Mr. Friedman agreed to participate and support as needed during the leadership transition.Dr. Warrington noted a point of interest: Statement of Economic Interest. * If you serve on a local board, your submission for IWIB does not count, and you must send in a second statement of economic interest.
 | Marlon McClinton  |
|  10:55 AM | **Public Comment**Chairperson McClinton called for public comment. There was none.  | Marlon McClinton |
| 11:00 AM | **Adjournment** Chairperson Marlon McClinton called for a motion to adjourn the May 5, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. Co-Chairperson, Dr. Andrew Warrington made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sandeep Nain seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM. | Marlon McClinton |

**Next Meeting:** June 3, 2024; July 1, 2024; August 5, 2024; September 3, 2024; October 7, 2024; November 4, 2024; December 2, 2024