

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



ILLINOIS  
WORKFORCE  
INNOVATION  
BOARD

**Date:** October 4, 2021

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**Chairman:** Mr. Tom Hacker

## Members in attendance:

Mr. Thomas Hacker | Dr. Brian Durham | Mr. Sandeep Nain | Mr. John Rico | Ms. Margi Schiemann |

Also in attendance: Julio Rodriguez, Elba Aranda-Suh, Drew Thomason, Andy Losasso, Rahnee Patrick, Lisa Jones, Lisa Bly-Jones, Mike Conley

Staff: Aime'e Julian, Mitch Parrish, Emily Rusca, David Gallagher, Martha Smith

Time	Item	Presenter
10:00 AM	Welcome and Introduction	Tom Hacker
	Approval of the September 7, 2021 meeting minutes  As a quorum was not yet present, this item was delayed until later in the meeting.	
10:10 AM	<p>Commission Update</p> <p>After attending the first meeting, Mr. Rico provided an update on the Governor's Commission on Workforce Equity &amp; Access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimates about 35 members of the Commission. The membership includes a diverse group of workforce ecosystem stakeholders, including state agencies, workforce providers, employers, organized labor and workers' rights advocates, local workforce innovation areas, and education leaders. Mr. Rico is the only Commission member from IWIB.</li> <li>The goal of the Commission is to create a vision for an equitable, accessible, and effective state workforce system grounded in understanding the user experience, including how racial, social, and geographic inequities inform experience and outcomes across Illinois' federal and state funded workforce programs.</li> <li>The first meeting consisted of breakout sessions where good information was shared mostly on data and broadband. Overall, the breakout groups seemed to be well underway with their work on a feasibility study.</li> </ul>	John Rico

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Rico reported that it seems this work will happen quickly and anticipated significant developments in late May or June of next year.</li> <li>The next meeting of the Commission will be Oct. 24 or 25.</li> <li>Mr. Rico offered to give another update at the next Executive Committee meeting. Chairman Hacker asked that he give an update at every Executive Committee meeting.</li> <li>Mr. Rico shared information he received from the national workforce conference. A large grant will be coming available to each state to help fund broadband in the most restricted areas. He shared this information with P20 and the Commission and will forward the information to Committee members.</li> <li>Chairman Hacker asked for perspectives on the Commission's work from Commission members, Brian Durham and Elba Aranda-Suh (representing ICCB and the National Latino Education Institute respectively) who were present at this meeting. Dr. Durham agreed that this effort is moving quickly, and this committee should continue monitor its progress. Ms. Aranda-Suh concurred.</li> </ul>	
10:09 AM	<p>Approval of the September 7, 2021 meeting minutes</p> <p>A quorum having been established Chairman Hacker called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting.</p> <p>Sandeep Nain moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Margi Schiemann seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the minutes were accepted by unanimous voice vote.</p>	
10:20 AM	<p>DOTL Wage Floor Request to Approve</p> <p>Ms. Rusca began by reviewing the WIOA In-Demand Occupation Definition. She identified the goal of today's request "to include a 'wage floor' as a policy to ensure our ITA dollars are being spent on training that leads to economic self-sufficiency."</p> <p>In providing context, Ms. Rusca reminded the group that the focus today is on the training list which applies only to ITAs and spending and does not directly impact customized training, apprenticeships, OJT, or incumbent worker training.</p> <p>Mr. Gallagher walked attendees through the Illinois DOTL Framework that was adopted in March 2021. He explained the petition process to address local priorities—addressing a previously voiced concern regarding local involvement. He shared an example of a 'first step' occupation (CNA), outlined</p>	<p>Emily Rusca</p> <p>David Gallagher</p>

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	<p>core issue/proposed solution and then opened for discussion. Chairman Hacker invited members of the public in attendance to join in the conversation at this time, rather than holding remarks and questions until Public Comments.</p> <p>Summary of comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a small portion of the overall training picture.</li> <li>• We rely on local boards to determine the best use of funds related to in demand jobs. Funds might best be spent on creating 'informed consumers' by educating people on job markets when they ask to be trained in occupations not on the list.</li> <li>• Completion of entry level jobs for those who have barriers is perceived as a success.</li> <li>• While the petition process is simple, it can come across as another bureaucratic process removing the local from the mix.</li> <li>• The minimum wage increase coming in 2025 should resolve the wage floor issue.</li> <li>• Appreciates the intent, but the outcome will be viewed as the state driving something that should be driven locally.</li> <li>• This should go to the entire IWIB for a vote.</li> <li>• Reminder that how we use our funds is being closely monitored.</li> <li>• It is a requirement that Illinois determines demand occupations in the state.</li> </ul> <p>Chairman Hacker offered that the requirement to identify in-demand occupations has already been met and asked if setting a wage floor is also a requirement, or if the establishment of the training list sufficient. Ms. Rusca responded that setting a wage floor would fulfill the spirit of the in-demand occupational training list requirement.</p> <p>Chairman Hacker called for a motion to approve the DOTL Wage Floor request. A motion was not made.</p> <p>Chairman Hacker recommended presenting this to the full IWIB at the next quarterly meeting in December. IWIB Board Co-Chair John Rico suggested calling an emergency meeting (inviting all IWIB members) to discuss this specific topic, allowing ample to time concentrate on how to move forward in satisfying the requirement, or developing a formal response.</p> <p>In response to a question, Ms. Rusca said there is no official due date, but the policy is currently being implemented and making</p>	

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	<p>this adjustment as early as possible would minimize adjustment for the locals.</p> <p>Chairman Hacker asked Dr. Julian and Ms. Jones to set up the virtual emergency meeting, inviting all IWIB members.</p>	
10:30 AM	<p>Disability Summit Update</p> <p>In response to the discussion concerning the minimum wage floor, Ms. Patrick opened by thanking everyone for their commitment to this work.</p> <p>As part of the national celebration of the importance of people with disabilities in the workforce, Ms. Patrick highlighted two upcoming events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Thursday, October 7 – there will be an event at the state library with the Department of Human Rights, and IDHS to celebrate and recognize employers that have included people with disabilities as part of their workforce.</li> <li>• On Wednesday, October 20 – there will be a day-long virtual event: Identity and Innovation Summit – Connecting Employment to People Living with HIV/AIDS and Disabled Trans Communities. Governor Pritzker will kick off the free event at 9:30 am. Ms. Patrick shared the draft agenda, new logo, and shared some information about the presenters.</li> </ul>	Rahnee Patrick and Andy Losasso
10:40 AM	<p>By-Laws Process</p> <p>Dr. Julian walked the group through the major edits and changes on the By-Laws document. She pointed out the nomination process and groups on pages 2 &amp; 3, meeting attendance, committee participation, and workgroups on pages 4 &amp; 5, and the number of members on the executive committee and equity on page 6.</p> <p>Dr. Julian asked that any comments or edits be sent to her or be submitted on the google document. Once the edits are received she will send it out to the group again to ensure the Executive Committee has a chance to review the document before the November meeting (where it will be approved), so it can be shared at the full IWIB in December.</p> <p>Chairman Hacker reinforced the need for committee members to review and provide feedback.</p>	Aime'e Julian
10:50 AM	<p>Old Business</p> <p>Annual Report Update – Approval in November</p>	<p>Mitch Parrish</p> <p>Drew Thomason</p>

Time	Item	Presenter
	<p>Mr. Thomason thanked those who contributed to the content of the Annual Report. The Annual Report Committee would like all the narratives finalized by October 8. This will allow time for the report draft to be finalized prior to it being presented for approval November 1 for the Executive Committee meeting. There have been changes to the document, so Mr. Thomason encouraged members to review this recent version. He invited members with questions to send them to him or Mr. Parrish.</p> <p>Mr. Thomason will send out the latest draft on Monday, after the agency review deadline.</p> <p>December IWIB Meeting Location Discussion</p> <p>Dr. Julian, who is working with Dr. Bly-Jones on the December 9 quarterly hybrid meeting, informed the group that it won't be possible to hold the meeting at Moraine Valley, due to their obligation to serve as a COVID vaccine/testing site. She is contact with Harold Washington College in downtown Chicago and waiting to hear back on availability. Dr. Bly-Jones shared that IWP is having conversations about hosting a reception.</p>	Aime'e Julian
	<p>New Business</p> <p>IWIB 2022 Calendar – the EC will need to vote on at the November meeting on the meeting calendar schedule for 2022 so it can be released at the December 9 quarterly meeting. She opened discussion on whether the 2022 meetings should be hybrid, in person, or all virtual – or remain open to all these formats, depending on the meeting and the COVID situation at the time.</p> <p>Equity Task Force Leadership – Ms. Jones advised that this has been tabled until IWIB regulations are released since if the language changes, it's a non-issue.</p>	<p>Aime'e Julian</p> <p>Lisa Jones</p>
10:55 AM	<p>Announcements: None</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
11:00 AM	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>Chairman Hacker called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rico moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Nain seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote in the affirmative, the meeting adjourned.</p>	Tom Hacker

**Next Meetings:** November 1, 2021, December 6, 2021.