

CEO Meeting Minutes
Wednesday – June 17th, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.
Illinois workNet Center, 1300 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62703

Attendance

CEOs: Linda Curtin, Troy Cummings, Tom Madonia Jr.

CEOs Not in Attendance: James Glenn, Ramona Douglass

Staff & Guests: Mark Sprehe (WIB Chair), Michelle Griebler, Michelle Brookens, Diane Jones, Christina Sugars, Michele Louis, Geoffrey Case, Stephanie Danielson

Meeting Called to Order: 2:30 p.m.

Welcome/Attendance/Roll Call: Roll Call was taken by Michelle Griebler.

Approval of Minutes: (pgs.

Motion to Approve November 2025 CEO Minutes: Motion made by Tom Madonia, seconded by Linda Curtin. **Motion Carried.**

Program Information:

1. County Liaison Reports

Cass County

There have been 58 Career and Training Services provided to 36 job seekers and participants. There are currently 6 enrolled in occupational training and 5 in follow-up services.

Christian County

There have been 73 Career and Training Services provided to 58 job seekers and participants. There are currently 12 enrolled in occupational training and 2 in follow-up services.

Logan County

There have been 102 Career and Training Services provided to 60 job seekers and participants. There are currently 13 enrolled in occupational training and 8 in follow-up services.

Menard County

There have been 51 Career and Training Services provided to 34 job seekers and participants. There is currently 2 enrolled in occupational training and 1 in follow up-services.

Sangamon County

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There have been 12,255 Career and Training Services provided to 7,254 job seekers and participants. There are currently 158 enrolled in occupational training and 147 in follow-up services.

Michelle asked if there were any questions regarding the County Reports and there were none. Full County Liaison reports were provided in the meeting packet.

2. Business Services

Stephanie Danielson reported on Business Services. She reported on layoffs and closures affecting LWIA 20. Since the last meeting there have been 13 business closures in the Hospitality sector. Finley's Tap House plans to reopen as The Spot on June 17th.

We held a successful onsite Manufacturing Hiring Event here at the IL workNet center on March 19, 2026 and had eight area manufacturers attend. They offered twenty-one different individual jobs over the course of the day, both part time and fulltime position offers were extended.

Ali Group from Chicago acquired BUNN in March.

A Rapid Response workshop was also held at the Center led by DCEO for Smokey Bones on 05/04/2026.

Vistra Corp filed a WARN Notice with the state to permanently close all facilities in Illinois resulting in 304 layoffs (99- Kincaid- Christian Co.) slated for January 2028

We now have five apprentices enrolled along with three participants enrolled in On-the Job-Training. Across these eight businesses they have the opportunity to realize a total of \$104, 154 in wage reimbursements.

The full Business Services report was included in the packet.

3. Contractors and Special Projects

Michelle Brookens reported that the PY' 25 State Supplemental Grant has 3 focus areas: Manufacturing Incumbent Worker Projects, Workforce Exploration for High School Students, and Individualized CDL Training for Justice-Touched Individuals. There are 6 companies involved in Incumbent Worker Training: Solomon Colors, Drake-Scruggs, Richardson Manufacturing, Simplex, Mel-O-Cream, and Eaton Corporation. There have been 10 individuals enrolled in CDL training with 7 having completed the training to date. Michelle reported on the results of the Springfield Chamber Youth Job Fair. Approximately 275 students attended from 11 area high schools.

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Michelle then discussed the 1E Manufacturing Grant activities and goals to-date.

Michelle Brookens also provided updates on the current Youth provider programs. The total planned Contractual Enrollments across all providers is 49, and there are currently 8 enrolled. Four are currently enrolled in WBL/OJT opportunities.

Capital Area Career Center had 25 planned enrollments and 8 participated in the program. All are exited and currently enrolled in follow up services.

The full Contractors and Special Projects report was included in the meeting packet.

4. Center/Enrollment/Performance Reports

Michelle Griebler reported that LLWA has provided 12,539 career and training services to 7,442 job seekers, participants, and claimants across the five counties YTD. There have been 334 participants served during the program year, with 191 participants currently enrolled. LLWA is currently exceeding 11/15 performance measures and meeting the remaining four.

Michelle Griebler asked if there were questions on any of the presented program information, and there were none.

The full Program Reports were emailed and included in the meeting packet.

Motion to Approve Program Reports: Motion made by Troy Cummings,
seconded by Linda Curtain, **Motion Carried.**

Fiscal Information and Review:

1. Expenditure and Grant Reports (pgs. 25-29)

Diane Jones reviewed and summarized all active grants. Detailed grant information broken down by each county was also reviewed, and the expenditures roughly correspond to the populations of each county.

They PY' 24 formula grant ends 06/30/26 and will be 100% expended.

The PY' 25 grant ends 06/30/27, and is currently 79% spent and obligated. We will meet the minimum of 80% requirement by the end of this month.

The PY' 25 operating budget is 71% spent as of 05/31/26.

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The full Expenditure and Grant Reports were emailed and included in the meeting packet.

Motion to approve the Expenditure and Grant Reports: Motion made by Linda Curtain, seconded by Tom Madonia, Jr. **Motion Carried.**

PY' 26 Formula funding allocations were received, and provided in the packet. Diane reviewed the annual funding history and current allocations which are slightly under 9% in comparison to last year. Illinois received an overall funding reduction of 10%. We anticipate to offset some expenditures through other grant opportunities such as the Apprenticeship Specialist and Supplement State Grants.

Motion to Approve the PY' 26 Funding Allocations: Motion made by Tom Madonia Jr, seconded by Troy Cummings **Motion Carried.**

Funding allocations were included in the meeting packet.

PY' 26 Formula Funding Transfer Request

Diane also reviewed our need to transfer a maximum of \$400,000 from dislocated to the adult funding stream.

Motion to Approve the PY' 26 Funding Transfer: Motion made by Linda Curtain, seconded by Tom Madonia Jr. **Motion Carried.**

4. PY' 26 Operating Budget

The PY' 26 operating budget was also presented and reviewed. A historical side-by-side of the past three years was also provided.

Motion to Approve the PY' 26 Operating Budget: Motion made by Troy Cummings, seconded by Tom Madonia Jr. **Motion Carried.**

Administrative Information:

1. Director's Report

Michelle Griebler reported, we currently have a Board vacancy for Logan County. Andrea Runge left her position as CEO of LEAD in Lincoln the end of March. We are hopeful that we can recruit her replacement to the Board in the next several weeks.

In addition, we have several current members that we will have to work on term reappointments for over the next couple of months. During the month of August, we will send those WIB members updated forms for review and signature.

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As previously reported, we are transitioning to a new statewide case management and workforce development system that is expected to go live on July 1st. Most of our staff have been going through several virtual learning training sessions and we also had some in-person, onsite training sessions the end of May. Additional trainings are also scheduled. Next week our current system will shut down for a few days in order for the State to complete the data migration from the current system to the new system.

We were able to hire a new Career Planner who will also serve as our Christian County Liaison. His name is G. Case, and he started with the LLWA on May 18th.

The Program Assistant opening recently closed, and we hope to begin interviews soon.

The Construction project at the SCDPH and future home of the new Sangamon County Community Center is supposed to begin by October first. It is currently estimated to be a 15-month project.

Motion to Approve the Director's Report: Motion made by Tom Madonia, Jr., seconded by Troy Cummings. **Motion Carried.**

The full Director's Report was included in the meeting packet.

Remaining Action Items for Approval

- PY' 25 DCEO Monitoring Findings and Responses

Michelle Griebler reviewed the findings of the April 1st monitoring letter and responses sent to DCEO by April 30th. (cash stipends for youth classroom seat time, 10-day data entry lags for case notes, verbiage for two-way communication in case notes and customer's being on track with the goals of their IEPs/ISS every 90 days.

The DCEO monitoring responses were included in the meeting packet.

Motion to Approve the PY' 25 Monitoring findings and responses: Motion made by Tom Madonia, Jr., seconded by Linda Curtain. **Motion Carried.**

- PY 26/27 Apprenticeship Specialist Grant

Michelle reviewed the PY 26/27 Apprenticeship Grant application and requirements. The grant application was due and submitted on May 22nd. We will be working on apprenticeship in all sectors. However, One of the new requirements is that we have to focus on or target two demand sectors that are a part of our regional and local plans. We wrote to this grant to target the manufacturing and healthcare sectors. We

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should hear a response by June 30th, and are requesting approval to accept the grant in the amount of \$136, 552 which will go toward 60% of our Business Services Representative's salary to engage businesses and for employer incentives for training costs and development of registered apprenticeship programs.

Motion to Approve the PY' 26/27 Apprenticeship Specialist Grant:
Motion made by Linda Curtain, seconded by Troy Cummings, **Motion Carried.**

Annual Policy Updates

Michelle Brookens reviewed the annual policy updates to-date. An outline of recommended policy revisions and unchanged policies was also provided. Additional policy revisions are anticipated in the next few months with the transition to IWDS 2.0. LLWA will align its local policies with DCEO updates and revisions, and present those policies in September.

Motion to Approve the Annual Policy Updates: Motion made by Tom Madonia, Jr., seconded by Troy Cummings. **Motion Carried.**

A list of updated and unchanged policies was included in the meeting packet.

Executive Session:

None.

Announcements and Upcoming Events:

CACC STEP Pre-Apprenticeship Program starts on June 22nd (flyer included)

IWDS 2.0 Transition launch is scheduled for July 1st, 2026.

Next CEO Meeting – 09/09/26 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Next WIB Meeting – 06/18/26 at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Tom Madonia Jr., seconded by Linda Curtain, **Motion Carried.**

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.