Mid America Workforce Investment Board Meeting  
October 26, 2011

Members Present:  
Rich Sauget, Jr.  Carol Foreman  Dr. Suzanne Dailey  Janice Kerin  
Larry McLean  Keo Sabengsy  Melinda Nicholson  Everett Stuckey  
Cassandra Williams  Charlene Willis  Tim Garvey  Matt Gomric  
Ken Keeney  Larry McCulley  Robert Pautler  Tony White

Guests:  
Bryan Ellis  Vicki Niederhofer

Staff:  
Dr. Debra Moore  Ed White  Vince Kwiatkowski  Rick Stubblefield

Chairman Sauget called the meeting to order at 8:35a.m.

The Chairman introduced two new board members.  Carol Foreman is replacing Robert Clark as a One-Stop Partner. Ms. Foreman is the new Project Director for AARP Foundation.  Keo Sabengsy is replacing Brenda Klein as a One-Stop Partner. Mr. Sabengsy is the new Department of Human Services Supervisor in the Belleville office.

The Chairman also acknowledged two new members that were unable to attend the meeting: Susan Sarfatey is replacing Brad Harriman as an Education Representative on the board. Ms. Sarfatey is the new Regional Superintendent for the Regional Office of Education St. Clair County.  Vicky Watts is replacing Jeff Thomas as a Labor Representative on the board. Ms. Watts is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator for Southwestern Illinois Labor Council.

Rick Stubblefield reported for the System Development and Oversight Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the board packet. It was decided that because several of this committees members were no longer able to serve, now would be a good time to redefine and redevelop this committee. Committee members reviewed the MAWIB bylaws outlining the roles and responsibilities of the SD&O committee. After some discussion, it was decided that the committee would discuss the possibility of appointing several new members with Chairman Sauget. It is hoped that with these appointments, we will be able to strengthen partner relationships and bring a little more solidarity to the table.

The committee was updated on and reviewed the cost allocation spreadsheet recently approved by IDES. Partner addendums were reviewed and are being executed.

The service matrix was also reviewed and updated. Mr. Stubblefield also reported that the board recertification packet had been submitted to DCEO. On a motion by Mr. McLean with a second by Mr. Stuckey, the board approved the SD&O report.

In Ms. Roy’s absence, Rick Stubblefield reported for the Marketing Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the board packet. We continue to update the website; we have regained control of the MAWIB name and own the domains com, net, org biz and us. The
website is now living on a local server within the county building. New servers and software have been ordered. Once the servers arrive and the software is installed, access will be granted and we will be able to edit and create pages on our own. Estimated completion date is December 1. The newsletter is complete and ready for mailing.

A new board member packet has been created and was reviewed by the committee.

Illinois workNet has created several new print pieces. These pieces have been customized for LWIA 24 and were presented to the committee for approval. Mr. McLean asked if the website had been up during all of the transition, Mr. Stubblefield reported that it was however it was not up to the standards we want to convey. Ms. Foreman suggested that once the website is switched over, we add the newsletter to it as it will draw a lot of hits due to its content. On a motion by Mr. McLean with a second from Ms. Kerin, the board approved the Marketing Committee report.

Larry McLean reported for the Youth Council. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the board packet. Mr. McLean reported that Mers-Goodwill is making progress in both Belleville East and West High Schools. Mr. McLean also updated the board on the progress of the RFP’s, noting that Mr. White is spearheading these efforts for the staff. Mr. McLean reminded the board that there had been previous discussions about hiring staff to work at the schools and manage the programs internally however it has been determined that this would not be allowable. Mr. McLean concluded that it is a long journey from issuing to implementing new RFP’s however the staff as well as the council seems to have a good handle on the process as well as the timeline. Dr. Dailey motioned to accept Mr. McLean’s report, Mr. Keeney seconded.

Chairman Sauget reported for the Executive Committee noting that Executive Committee business had been covered well by the individual committee reports. The Chairman noted one exception, that being a discussion concerning Youth Council provider reports. Chairman Sauget asked the board if they would prefer youth provider reports be submitted to the entire board via the board packet or left to the Youth Council to evaluate and report on. The board decided to send the reports to the Youth Council for evaluation and inclusion in their committee report. Chairman Sauget went on to congratulate and ask that the minutes reflect that board member Darlene Roy has been honored by Racial Harmony as a Phenomenal Woman of Metropolitan St. Louis. Mr. Pautler moved to accept the Chairman’s report, Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

Ms. Nicholson presented the Managers Report a copy of the report was included in the board packet. Highlights of the report are as follows. Ms. Nicholson presented the third quarter service numbers noting that all of the stimulus funds have been exhausted. Rick Stubblefield met with board member, One-Stop Partner and Project Director for AARP, Carol Foreman and Ms. Forman has agreed to commit more senior workers to the One-Stops. Ms. Nicholson also updated the board on the Department of Labor’s (DOL) final report noting LWIA 24 had a very favorable review all findings have been corrected and several best practices were identified. Financial reports were reviewed and it was noted that a modification of the TGAA Grant had been requested asking that the grant be extended. Ms. Nicholson went on to give the board a brief overview of the performance report noting that performance is on target for 2011 and that exits are going well. The 2011 Jobs Plus Job Fair was successful with over 50 employers and 1100 job seekers in attendance. Dr. Moore added how pleased she is with the direction the division is going noting that monitoring reviews indicate we are on target and show the hard work of this board and its committees is paying dividends. DCEO representative Bryan Ellis
seconded that notion and added that LWIA 24 appears to have turned the corner and while there are still issues to work out, things are much improved.

Mr. Stuckey commented that he would encourage interaction with all of the St. Louis Metro Workforce Boards. Dr. Moore informed the board that talks are already underway to have such a meeting. Mr. Stuckey suggested the Community Colleges also be included in those meetings as they are playing a bigger role in workforce development.

Larry McLean reported for the Nominating Committee saying all members should have received the committee’s recommendation. Mr. McLean moved the current slate of officers as is be placed into nomination. Mr. McLean then opened the floor to additional nominations. Having been called three times and on a motion by Mr. Garvey with a second from Mr. Keeney, the nominations were closed. Mr. McLean called for a vote and the motion carried.

Chairman Sauget presented the consent agenda. On a motion by Mr. Garvey with a second from Mr. Keeney, the consent agenda was approved.

The Chairman asked for comments from the floor. Vicki Niederhofer, Labor Market Economist with IDES informed the board that as a result of DOL’s monitoring visit; she had been asked to speak at a conference of the 10 states that make up the Midwest Region. Ms. Niederhofer wanted to thank the board and partners for all of their support. Ms. Niederhofer went on to tell the board that during her presentation, she had singled out two of our Career Specialists, Josh Moody and Pakita Eckford for their involvement with TORQ. Ms. Niederhofer wanted the board to be aware that after her presentation representatives from the state also acknowledged they were aware of Ms. Eckford and Mr. Moody’s contributions and how pleased they were. Ms. Niederhofer went on to compliment the board saying “this body has had and incredible transformation over the past several years”. Dr. Moore thanked Ms. Niederhofer for sharing and added that Ms Eckford and Mr. Moody are two high quality young individuals who do great work.

Being no further business and on a motion from Mr. Stuckey with a second by Mr. McCulley, Chairman Sauget adjourned the meeting at 9:40.