



SIWIB NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR BOARD MEMBERS ■ VOL. 3: ISSUE 4: MAY 2007

SIWIB COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE

William Armstrong, Chair
e-mail: armstrong@mvn.net

John Rendleman, 1st Vice Chair
e-mail: jsr@fmgr.com

Mary Roe, 2nd Vice Chair
e-mail: roe@onecliq.net

John Alongi, 3rd Vice Chair
e-mail: johnr@alongis.com

Rodney Cabaness, 4th Vice Chair
e-mail: cabaness@aol.com

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Milton Maxwell, Chair
e-mail: info@siwib.org

Kathy Lively, Vice Chair
e-mail: kathyilively@mantracon.org

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

John Rendleman, Chair
e-mail: jsr@fmgr.com

John Hammack, Vice Chair
hammack@midwest.net

ONE-STOP

Alan Summers, Chair
e-mail: alansummers@illinois.gov

Angela Holmes-Young, Vice Chair
e-mail: a-holmes@aisinil.com

WIA POLICY & PLANNING

Chair
To be assigned

Vice Chair
To be assigned

YOUTH COUNCIL

Tyler Young, Chair
e-mail: tjyr@midwest.net

June Hickey, Vice Chair
e-mail:
jhickey@cchs165.jacksn.k12.il.us

Visit our web site at
www.siwib.org

A New SIWIB Committee Is Born!

by Michelle Cerutti,

program manager, Man-Tra-Con Corporation

At the last Executive Committee meeting, the members voted to establish a new standing committee entitled "WIA Policy and Planning Committee." The WIA Policy and Planning Committee is charged with the oversight and development of WIA Title IB policy regarding the establishment of programs and services to assist employers meet their hiring needs. In the past, these issues were assigned to the Executive Committee or an *ad hoc* committee. It was felt that it would be in the best interest of the SIWIB to have a committee that focused primarily on WIA Title IB on an ongoing basis. This committee shall develop and make recommendations to the board and CLEOs regarding such policy. Other duties and responsibilities will include:

- recommending plan modifications or new plan submittals
- negotiating local performance measures
- reviewing and modifying supportive service policy
- reviewing and modifying the self-sufficiency policy
- reviewing, monitoring, and providing oversight of WIA Title IB programs
- monitoring achievement of performance standards and program outcomes
- reviewing and modifying local customer grievance procedures

■ establishing programs and services to assist employers in meeting their hiring needs by:

- identifying the appropriate assessment process and mix of core and intensive services
- identifying eligible providers of core, intensive and training services for adults and dislocated workers
- identifying training programs that will allow job seekers to select a training program directly linked to employment opportunities either in the local area, or in another area where the individual is willing to relocate, as identified by the Business and Economic Development Committee
- identifying training services that are directly linked to occupations that are in demand in the local area, or in another area where an adult or dislocated worker receiving such services is willing to relocate, as identified by the Business and Economic Development Committee. The board may approve training services for occupations determined by the board to be in sectors of the economy that have a high potential for sustained demand or growth in the local area.
- developing follow-up and retention services

(Continued on page 2)

SIWIB News is sponsored by the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board and published monthly by Man-Tra-Con Corporation under a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) grant provided by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). This publication seeks to promote workforce development efforts in Local Workforce Area 25. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For those who do not use traditional print this information is available electronically. For specific access information please contact (Voice) 618-241-6731, (TTY) 618-242-7328 or accessinfo@mantracon.org. Please allow two weeks advanced notice for interpreter requests.

Message from Our Chairman...



WILLIAM ARMSTRONG

I wish to offer a big THANK YOU to the Chief Local Elected Officials and the Board members who were able to contact Congressmen Jerry Costello and/or John Shimkus about signing the Congressional Dear Colleague Letter in support of WIA funding at the Fiscal Year 2005 funding levels. Now we will wait to see what the FY 08 appropriations for function 500 (WIA) funding will be and if Congress will attach a military withdrawal deadline.

THANKS to all who have returned your Economic Interest Statement to Williamson County Clerk Sandra Jent. If you have not had the opportunity to complete and return the form to Ms. Jent, please do so as soon as possible. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

The Board continues its re-certification by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). The Board undergoes re-certification every two years as required by law. You will all soon receive a copy of your Appointment/Reappointment Form from Secretary Hopkins.

(Continued on page 4)

SIWIB COMMITTEE PROJECT OVERVIEW

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on Tuesday, April 24th, and approved the consolidation of the duties of the Marketing Committee into the One-Stop Committee, and the creation of a new WIA Policy and Planning Committee.

In related business, the committee approved sending modifications of the SIWIB Bylaws to the Board at the annual meeting in June for review and adoption. The proposed modifications delete reference to the Marketing Committee and add the WIA Policy and Planning Committee as a standing committee. They will also be modified to extend current terms of appointment until October 1st, and will then change terms of appointment from July 1st through June 30th to October 1st through September 30th. The committee asks that the terms of appointment be changed to accommodate the state's request for an October 1st date for re-certifying all of the LWIBs in the state.

The committee ratified the submission of the WIRED SI grant (see article on page one of the April issue) in conjunction with Southern Illinois University.

In other business, the committee authorized the submission of a Board grant in the amount of \$50,000 to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

Director Lively reported that nearly \$2 million in tax refunds were processed through the tax counseling project this year. This is a 23% increase over last year.

There were approximately 400 individuals enrolled in the TAA program from the Technicolor Universal Media Services (TUMS) plant closure, and Ms. Lively expects 125 individuals to enroll for the summer semester. In addition she expects over 500 TAA-registered individuals to be enrolled in local colleges by fall of 2007.

Director Lively also reported that an Employment Opportunity Fair was

(Continued on page 3)

A New SIWIB Committee is Born!

(Continued from page 1)

- establishing a competitive process for use in awarding contracts for training services when exceptions are made to the use of ITAs
- reviewing and commenting on WIA Legislation, DCEO's State WIA Plan, and USDOL Rules and Regulations pertaining to WIA.

Jackson County Office Moves to Carbondale

by Tammy Kirk, *executive secretary, Man-Tra-Con Corporation*

We are excited to announce that the Jackson County Man-Tra-Con Corporation office and One-Stop



PHOTO BY THERESA SMITH

Our new offices are located in the lower level of the Old National Bank building in Carbondale.

Business and Employment Center have moved to a new location!

Our offices are now located in Carbondale at 509 South University Avenue (US51), in the lower level of the Old National Bank building.

The new location has six offices, an expanded resource room and a meeting

(Continued on page 4)

Executive Committee

(Continued from page 2)

scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Southern Illinois Center located on the south side of the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds.

Ms. Lively informed the committee that asset mapping and Readiness Assessment interviews are occurring throughout the 20 county region as part of Connect SI.

As of March 30th, there were 23,986 visits to our affiliate offices and One-Stop Centers. Funds in the amount of \$50,000 were made available for training workers already on worksites. These dollars came from the regular Title 1B Adult funding stream in the new Incumbent Worker Training initiative which allows Local Workforce Investment Boards to allocate up to 10% of a funding stream for this initiative.

Youth Council

The Youth Council met on April 11, 2007. The meeting was held to develop a summer program for WIA youth. Kate Stiles, Man-Tra-Con's summer youth coordinator, researched summer activities that would be most beneficial to the youth, and recommended classes offering a certificate upon completion. She felt that the CNA, Work Certified and Pharmacy Tech classes offered through John A. Logan College would best fit the requirements of a WIA Summer Program.

A survey of youth contractors showed that they would not have enough youth available to fill the classes. Kate suggested that the Council offer classes to all high school seniors who did not have specific plans after graduation. Since the deadline was so tight, the Council decided to only include schools in John A. Logan College's district that were offering JILG classes. It was suggested that DuQuoin High School be added because Man-Tra-Con's DuQuoin office has a lab that could be used for CNA classes. The Council considered including classes from Rend Lake College's District, but their CNA classes are full — a result of Rend Lake College's prerequisite of CNA course completion prior to starting LPN classes.

(Continued at right)

Spotlight On...

BOARD MEMBER P. E. CROSS

Dr. P. E. Cross serves as a distinguished member on the Youth Council of the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board. Dr. Cross has worked with, or for the advancement of, children for most of his adult life. Following his graduation from SIU with his Bachelor's of Science degree, he landed his first teaching position as an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Dahlgren Community High School. He received both state and national recognition for the vocational agriculture program he developed while working on his Master's of Science degree in Agriculture Education. He then worked as the vocational director of the Hamilton County Community Unit School District. After completing his Specialist degree in Education Administration, he accepted a position as the Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools for Hamilton-Jefferson Counties in the Regional Office of Education. While working in this position, he completed his Ph.D. in Education Administration. He currently serves as the Regional Superintendent of Schools for the Hamilton-Jefferson Counties Regional Office of Education. He has held this position since March of 1985.



P. E. Cross

In addition to his service on the Youth Council, Dr. Cross has a long list of professional service which includes:

- National Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers - life member,
- Illinois Association of Regional Superintendent of Schools - past president,
- Education Council 100 - past president,
- Illinois Association of Vocational Teachers - past president,
- Illinois Association of School Administrators - member,
- Illinois Association of Career and Technical Education - member,
- Rend Lake College Agriculture Advisory Committee - member, and
- Phi Delta Kappa - member.

In addition to his many professional organizations, he has been an active community leader as well. He is a member of the Dahlgren Baptist Church, the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the K.A.R.E. Foundation, the United Way, the Rotary International, the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, the local PTA/PTO and the Booster's Club.

P. E. and his wife, Wilma (a retired school principal), live on their family farm in Dahlgren where they raised their three sons (Edward, Bryan and Laban) and daughter (Lisa). Their five grandchildren (Rachel, Noah, Jack, Will and Allyson) are the apples of their eyes! ■

Youth Council

(Continued from left column)

After a discussion, the Council agreed to allow Man-Tra-Con to coordinate and offer classes to seniors from Herrin High School, Murphysboro High School and DuQuoin High School. The Council was not able to identify any other classes in the area that would meet the timeframe and certificate requirements. ■



**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

3000 W. DeYoung Street, Suite 800B
Marion, IL 62959

INSIDE:

- **Message from Our Chairman**
- **Murphysboro Office Moves to Carbondale**
- **Committee Reports**
- **Spotlight On... Board Member P. E. Cross**

Additional information about SIWIB Initiatives and board members can be found on our web site at www.siwib.org.

Jackson County Office Moves to Carbondale

(Continued from page 2)

room. Two full-time career specialists, Douglas Baggett and Liz Boucher are currently available to assist with customers' career or job search goals. Additional staff will be added in the near future. An elevator is available for individuals with special needs or for those who are unable to use the stairs.

The Carbondale facility offers a professional atmosphere that includes the relaxing ambiance of a fountain and garden in the waiting area. You will love the new location. Stop by and visit us soon! A Grand Opening celebration is being planned. Watch your mail for the announcement! ■

Message from Our Chairman

(Continued from page 2)

Please review the information, make any corrections, sign, and return the form. Your timely assistance is requested.

The Executive Committee met last month (see page 2) for more details on the committee meeting. The committee incorporated the duties of the Marketing Committee into the One-Stop Committee and established a WIA Policy & Planning Committee. I am asking for volunteers to serve on this new and very important committee. Please contact me or Director Lively if you think you might be interested in serving. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 5, 2007

One-Stop Committee Meeting
8:00 a.m. at the
Marion One-Stop Business
& Employment Center

JUNE 13, 2007

Youth Council Meeting
4:00 p.m. at the
Marion One-Stop Business
& Employment Center

JUNE 21, 2007

SIWIB Board Meeting
5:00 p.m. at the
Herrinfesta Bocce Courts
West Walnut Street
Herrin, Illinois