



408 Washington Avenue, Suite 210, West Plains, Missouri 65775 ❖ Phone 417-257-2630 ❖ MO Relay 711

Committee for Inclusion and Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Twin Pines Conservation Center, Winona, MO and Webex

Members present: Joan Wright, Ingrid McCallister, Diana Ball, Jennifer Taylor, Nicole Reese, and Zora Mulligan.

SCWIB staff and guests present: Jackie Roberts, Deanna Lorraine, Jeanna Hunter, and JoAnn Hughey.

Call to Order: Joan Wright called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Jackie Roberts completed the roll call, and it was established there was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes were sent to the committee prior to the meeting. Diana Ball made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ingrid McCallister seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Joan Wright welcomed the guests attending the meeting. She asked each of them to introduce themselves. JoAnn Hughey and Jeanna Hunter both work as Admissions Counselors for Job Corps.

Deanna Lorraine provided the staffing pattern update. The Poplar Bluff Job Center has added one staff member. The West Plains Job Center added two staff members, but we have received a resignation from one staff member and one of the new hires has been let go. The South Central Workforce Investment Board (SCWIB) has hired one part-time position.

Deanna shared that the WIOA Youth program is currently recruiting for the summer youth program, and they are prioritizing Juniors and Seniors. The positions are scheduled to begin on May 18, 2026. Job Center staff have been attending career days across the region.

Deanna stated that there have been two hiring events. We have implemented early hours for veterans to attend these events. The hiring event in West Plains had 16 employers participate and 72 job seekers attend. The hiring event in Poplar Bluff had roughly the same amount of participation. That event had early hours for schools to send students to attend. We are asking schools to encourage students to tour the job centers.

Jackie Roberts provided an update on the Committee for Inclusion chair position. The new district supervisor for Vocational Rehabilitation in West Plains should start in July. That individual will replace Robin Thomas on the Committee for Inclusion. The two committees will be able to separate their meetings once that individual starts attending meetings.

Joan asked for any updates from the committee members. Jennifer Taylor shared that Steve McCann has retired and the Office of Workforce Development (OWD) does not intend to backfill that position due to low traffic. She also stated that the Jobs for Veterans state program will have a new Regional Lead as of May 1, 2026. Diana Ball shared that there are representatives located in Rolla and Branson who will help cover any referrals. Joan Wright shared that the current AEL program is funded through June 30, 2026. They are waiting to see if funding will be available after that date. Joan stated that they are currently providing a free training class for substitute teachers and paraprofessionals, which provides a DESE Certificate once training is successfully completed. They are interested in looking at hybrid options for this training if their funding continues after June 30, 2026.

As there was no other business, Ingrid McCallister made a motion to adjourn. Diana Ball seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday – July 28, 2026
11:00 a.m. at Twin Pines Conservation Center – Winona, MO