



DuPage Workforce Innovation Board Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2025

7:30am-9:00am

Jel Sert

501 Conde St.

West Chicago, IL

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Susan Ryan presided over the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:43am and a membership quorum was present.

Members	Present	Absent	Notes
Dan Allen		x	
Kavin Bass	x		
Greg Bedalov	x		
Larry Blackburn	x		
Joe Cassidy		x	
Patrick Chandler		x	
Jane Clark	x		
Dan Deasy	x		
Michelle Einfalt		x	
Calvin Giles		x	
Kimberly Godden (Val Bruggeman)	x		
Beth Goncher		x	
TJ Jarman		x	
Mary Keating	x		
Danielle Kuglin Seago	x		
Eric Metcalf		x	
Craig Meyer		x	
Nisha Patel		x	
Rosanne Potter	x		
Patti Romanowicz	x		
Tiffany Rotondo	x		
Susan Ryan	x		
Lisa Schvach	x		
Peter Skoda	x		
Barb Szczepaniak	x		
Christine Torres		x	
Tom Wendorf	x		
Michael Wojtowicz	x		
Kate Wollensak		x	
Other Attendees:			
Jamie Brown			

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Chair's Remarks

Susan reported that 35 attendees from major healthcare systems, community organizations, economic development and schools attended the Industry Insights Series on June 18. Discussions highlighted shortages in technical healthcare roles, limited awareness of career pathways from high school, and barriers to placing students under 18 due to insurance issues.

Next steps include developing a visual healthcare career map, advocating state-level alignment on licensing and work-based learning, and exploring the use of unrestricted state funds to establish a local healthcare workforce alliance. Susan will keep the group apprised for any new development.

Approval of May 28, 2025 minutes

- Motion to approve by Member Bedalov
- Seconded by Member Potter
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

Member Minute

Member Skoda presented the Member Minute. He is the HR Manager and Deputy Site Executive Officer for Freudenberg Home and Cleaning Solutions. Freudenberg is best known for its Vileda and O-Cedar brands amongst others. Peter provided an overview of the company, highlighting its successes and challenges.

Fiscal Report

Member Schvach presented the fiscal report. The program year ends 7/1/25, so most of the funding has been used. Obligations are on target with 1A at 86%, 1D 74% and 1Y at 75%. Spending is progressing as planned and the 80% obligation requirement will be met. The direct training expenditure for 1A and 1D has reached 51%, exceeding the required 50% threshold.

WARN Report

Demar direct, a direct marketing solution in Lombard, is laying off 86 employees, effective 7/7/25. Positions affected range from entry-level to executive. A Rapid Response workshop was held in English and Spanish and 65 employees attended.

Allocation Report

Jamie informed the group that the allocation for Program Year 25 (July 1-June 30) was released by DECO. The total allocation is 6,140,333, up from 5,408,075 in Program Year 24. The youth and adult funding stream slightly decreased but the dislocated worker funding stream increased by 38%. DCEO releases "base funds" from July 1-September 30, which is about 20% of the total allocation. The remaining 80% of funds are released October 1. As everyone knows there is significant uncertainty at the federal level and there is the possibility funds could be rescinded. DECO has instructed the local areas to develop contingency plans should there be a recession. They also emphasized the importance of serving more customers with an emphasis on transitional jobs and work-based learning.

Expenditures Report

Jamie reviewed the expenditures report from 3/1/25 to 3/31/25. Comnet Group, Inc., an IT training provider, received the largest share of training expenditures amounting to 103K. The occupation with the largest expenditure was IT & business management. There is still a significant number of clients training in CDL.

Training Provider Approvals

West Professional Center

HVAC & Electrician Technician

HVAC

Electrician Technician

These programs are annual renewals

- Motion to approve by Member Rotondo
- Seconded by Member Keating
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

College of DuPage

Adult ELA/HSE CDL

Adult ELA ICAPS CAN/PCT

These programs are annual renewals

Certified Associate om Project Management

Machine Learning Certificate (AI) Certificate

These are new programs

Member Bedalov inquired if there is local employment involvement with the AI program. Jamie will inquire.

- Motion to approve by Member Rotondo
- Seconded by Member Bedalov
- Abstention by Deasy, Kuglin Seago
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

Presentation

Member Rotondo gave a presentation highlighting Jel Sert's operations, products, contributions to the local economy and how they give back to the community.

Old Business

There was no old business

New Business

There was no new business

The meeting adjourned at 9:21am, followed by a tour of Jel Sert