



DuPage Workforce Innovation Board Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025

7:30am-9:00am

Superior Ambulance

395 W Lake Street

Elmhurst, IL 60532

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Susan Ryan presided over the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:34am 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	
Erin Cohan	x		
Dan Deasy		x	
Michelle Einfalt	x		
Calvin Giles		x	
Kimberly Godden	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		
Other Attendees:			
Jamie Brown	x		

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Chair's Remarks

Chair Ryan thanked Member Godden from Superior Ambulance for hosting the meeting. Chair Ryan introduced a new member, Erin Cohan. Erin is the Director of Talent Acquisition at Northwestern Medicine.

Approval of August 27, 2025 minutes

- Motion to approve by Member Allen
- Seconded by Member Godden
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

Member Minute

Member Godden presented the Member Minute. She is the Vice-President-Legal, Government Relations & Corporate Compliance at Superior Ambulance. Member Godden shared the history and evolution of the company over the years. Superior Ambulance operates in five states and has 5,000 employees.

One Stop Operator Report

Member Sabathne presented the One Stop Operator report to the group. He reviewed the referral and COD and workNet DuPage continue to have the highest referral numbers. One thing to keep an eye on is the ELL referral numbers but they have declined. The referral numbers are not large, but it is something to keep an eye on. Member Casidy expressed interest in learning how many individuals who applied for services ultimately enrolled in training. Member Cassidy also indicated he would like to know how many individuals have applied for services for the past 5 years. He would like to see the WIB set goals for how many served over each Program Year. He acknowledged his frequent data requests, but he can use the data to inform programming at the College of DuPage.

At the last meeting, the members discussed possible ways to improve the referral and application processes. To that end, Annie (workNet IT), Member Meyer, Member Blackburn held a meeting to discuss potential improvements to the system. Member Blackburn stated that there are many tools available, including AI. The group had a discussion around AI. Member Patrick commented that that automation is valuable, but the human element must not be overlooked. Jamie informed the group that the State will be rolling out a new case management system which has a referral feature. Member Sabathne will reach out to the state for additional information.

Fiscal Report

Member Cassidy presented the fiscal report. Spending is on track, as well as the 50% training minimum requirement. Obligations are over 100% as there is an overage of PY24 spending rather than breaking out the PY25 portions.

WARN Report

Jamie reviewed the WARN report which contains one event. CNC of West Chicago ceased operations the same day the notice was received so there was not a Rapid Response workshop. A total of 53 workers were affected, primarily drivers.

PY 25 Q1 Voucher Expenditure Report

Jamie presented the voucher report for the first quarter of Program Year 25. The largest allocation of funds was provided to the College of DuPage. Symbol, a vocational training provider, received significant funding as well. Symbol recently introduced a new maintenance mechanic program that has received strong interest. One contributing factor might be the English requirements set forth in The Executive Order. The stipulation has been in place for some time however it is being enforced now. Member Schvach indicated she would be interested to know how training providers are handling it. Member Cassidy noted that COD offers bridge programming to help ELA individuals prepare for CDL training.

One new feature of the report are wage gains. It shows the wages individuals earn prior to training the wages post training. Keating stated that the average percentage change in wages is incorrect. Jamie will investigate it. Member Keating asked if it is possible to get the starting wage of applicants per category. Member Schvach said this number would be difficult to get with the current systems in place

2026 Meeting Dates

Chair Ryan presented the 2026 meeting dates

- Motion to approve by Member Allen
- Second by Member Rotondo
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

Slate of Officers

Chair Ryan indicated that the Slate of Officers terms expire on January 1. Chair Ryan is working with Jamie, county leadership and the State's Attorney to update the bylaws, as they have not been updated in some time.

- Motion to extend current slate of officers terms until the January 2026 meeting by Member Blackburn
- Second by Member Potter
- All ayes, **MOTION APPROVED**

workNet Update

Member Schvach provided the workNet update which included information on the State Supplemental grant and the impact of the shutdown on operations.

Old Business

There was no old business

New Business

Member Allen stated that there is an upcoming trades expo on November 6 at IBEW, local 701 in Warrenville. He advised that more information is available on the Cisco website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 am