



**Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB)  
Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2023**

---

**Attendees:**

**EKWIB Members**

Vic Adams  
Travis Cox  
Vince Minix  
Sonya Bergman – Chair  
Frances Feltner  
Tracey Smith  
Michael Lasslo  
Frank Dawahare – Vice Chair  
Paul Dole  
Brent Sturgill  
Meriwether Hall  
Kevin Chesnut  
Paul Patton  
Tanelle Sawyer – Proxy – Kelia Miller  
Rusty Justice  
Kim Combs  
Keith Gabbard  
Colby Kirk  
Jeff Johnson

**Absent EKWIB Members**

Tonia Prewitt  
Roger McGinnis  
Betsy Clemons  
Jared Arnett

**EKCEP Staff**

Rebecca Miller – Executive Director  
Bridget Back  
Tonya Collins  
Cris Ritchie  
Melissa Williams  
Sharon Poff  
Travis Winkler  
Lisa Meade  
Theresa Noble  
Tesa Turner  
Michele Whitlock  
Dottie Nolan  
Crissy Sexton  
Vanessa Collier  
Michelle Feltner  
Bobbie Eldridge  
Christina Sowders

**Guests**

Mike Fine	Derek Collins	Andrea Begley	Dylon Baker
Ken Corso	Allison Brown		

## **Minutes**

The Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (EKWIB) held its quarterly meeting on December 14, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. The hybrid meeting was held at 412 Roy Campbell Drive Hazard, Ky or via Zoom (if requested).

### **Welcome & Call to Order**

EKWIB's Board Chair, Sonya Bergman called the meeting to order. The roll call resulted in 19 WIB members being in attendance.

### **Introduction of Guests**

Sonya Bergman introduce Mike Fine and Andrea Begley as guest. Rebecca Miller, EKCEP Executive Director, introduced Jeff Johnson as a new WIB member representing business.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Sonya Bergman asked for a motion to approve the October 6, 2023 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Keith Gabbard made the motion to approve the minutes. Vic Adams seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

Sonya Bergman asked for a motion to approve the EKWIB meeting minutes of September 14, 2023. Brent Sturgill made the motion to approve the minutes. Tracey Smith seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

### **Attendance Bylaw Policy Reminder**

Rebecca Miller reviewed the EKWIB Attendance Bylaw Policy with the members. This item will be placed on the March 2024 EKWIB meeting agenda for the EKWIB to address current board members absenteeism.

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

Mike Fine, EKCEP attorney, discussed the Conflict of Interest policy. Annual Conflict of Interest Statements were provided to all EKWIB members for their review and signature.

### **EKCEP Department Updates**

- Tonya Collins, EKCEP Director of Finance provided an overview of current budget.
- Bridget Back, EKCEP Deputy Director provided an overview of FLOOD, First Quarter WIOA Reports, and Professional Development Activities.
- Michele Whitlock, EKCEP Internal Auditor provided an update on the EKCEP Board Portal activity.
- Melissa Williams, EKCEP Business Services Director provided an update on Business Services.

### **October 2023 State Plan Meetings**

Rebecca Miller discussed the findings of the October 2023 State Plan Meetings. A handout was provided in each “board packet” giving details.

### **Economic Development & Workforce Investment Interim Joint Committee**

Rebecca Miller discussed the Interim Joint Committee and connecting in-school youth and workforce.

### **Board Retreat Reminder**

Rebecca Miller reminded the EKWIB members of the upcoming Board Retreat to be held in Lexington, Ky on January 11 and 12, 2024.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss Keith Gabbard made a motion to adjourn. Brent Sturgill seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.