

**Northwest Central IL Works (NCI Works)
Meeting
Tuesday, November 4, 2025
12:00 Noon
Business Employment Skills Team, Inc., 4110 Progress Blvd., Suite 1C, Peru, IL
One Stop Center, 406 Avenue C, Sterling, IL
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81705619563>
Meeting ID: 817 0561 9563
One tap mobile
+13126266799
Meeting ID: 81705619563# US (Chicago)**

AGENDA

Call to Order (Patty Head)

Roll Call

Approval of September 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes (*Page 1*)

Business Meeting

Committee Reports

- Business Liaison & Marketing Committee (September 3, 2025) (*Action Item*) (*Page 8*)
 - ✓ Nomination & Election of Officers
 - Patty Head, Chair
 - DeAnne White, Vice-Chair
 - John Spencer, Secretary

Oversight Committee Report (Linda Hessenberger)

- Review and Approval of the Financial Reports Ending August 31, 2025 (*Action Item*) (*Page 10*)
- Review & Approval of the 1st Quarter Title I Performance Report (*Action Item*) (*Page 11*)
- Review & Approval of PY 25 First Quarter Partner Report (*Action Item*) (*Page 12*)
- Review of the Partner Referral Report (*Page 13*)
- Review of One Stop Partner Customer Satisfaction Survey (*Page 14*)

Other Business

- Bylaw Amendment (Carrie Folken) (*Action Item*) (*Page 26*)

- Approval to Transfer up to \$400,000 from the Dislocated Worker Grant to the Adult Grant (Carrie Folken) *(Action Item)*
- Approval to modify the PY 24 WIOA Grant to true up the budget lines (Carrie Folken) *(Action Item)*
- MOU Update (Carrie Folken)
- Appointment/Selection of an Impartial Negotiator for the PY 25 MOU (Carrie Folken) *(Action Item)*
- Request approval for any grant modifications (if necessary) (Carrie Folken) *(Possible Action Item)*
- Grant Updates (Carrie Folken)

PY 2025 Apprenticeship Activities – Dianna Schuler, Apprenticeship Specialist

Updating outreach material completed this quarter. Scheduling an in-person event for October 8th and a virtual event for October 9th is also completed. October 8th event will focus on manufacturing in the Sauk Valley Area given that Manufacturing Day for that area is scheduled for October 9th. The October 9th event will be virtual and will reach across all industry sectors.

Summary of Grant Goals:

- * Partners updated on new grant year.
- * Outreach Material updated.
- * Two events scheduled for October
- * Follow-up conducted with the City of Ottawa concerning City Council approval of draft standards. The council is not, at this time, in favor of pursuing a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP). The reason stated is that they do not find it monetarily feasible at this time even though there is no cost to establish or operate a RAP.
- * Initial discussion started with Tri-County Opportunities Council and SVCC concerning Early Childhood Education RAP.

Status Update on Strategic Partnership Activities:

Continue to work with educators (now pre-school through 12) concerning teacher RAP programs. Focus being given to those programs established and operated by in-state training providers.

Status Update on Employer Engagement Activities:

The first quarter is always about preparation for the new grant year and tweaking resources and strategies from previous years. Employer engagement this first quarter has focused on closing out efforts with the City of Ottawa, for the time being, and finding new interest with area educators.

Significant Accomplishments:

Significant accomplishment this quarter is the interest in pre-school educators in developing a RAP with SVCC serving as the intermediary.

PY 2025 State of Illinois Supplemental Grant

We have submitted a grant application for the PY 2025 year for the amount of \$245,611.00. Projects include, Work Based Learning opportunities, Barrier Reduction Fund, Financial Literacy, Workplace Skills and Life skills project, Lunch and Learn programs and finally, accessibility computer updates in the Sterling American Job Center (AJC). We are still waiting for the actual grant papers.

- Partner Updates (Partner members) and Member updates (NCI Works members that want to update the board about their business needs)
- BEST Success Stories (Page 45)
- Updated NCI Works Membership List (Page 55)
- Next Meetings:
 - ✓ NCI Works Executive Committee Meeting – January 6, 2026
 - ✓ NCI Works Meeting – March 3, 2026

Public Comments

Adjournment