

**Local Elected Officials Executive Council Meeting – Region 8
South Central Indiana Workforce Service Area
Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom Invite or Call-In
August 12, 2025
2:00pm – 3:00pm**

Members Present:

Commissioner Rodney Fish (Lawrence County)
Commissioner Richard Dixon (Orange County)
Commissioner Norman Warner (Owen County)
Commissioner Paul George (Martin County)
Commissioner Ed Michael (Greene County)
Commissioner Kevin Patrick (Brown County)
Jane Kupersmith (City of Bloomington – Mayor’s Office)
Mayor Sam Craig (City of Bedford)

Member’s Not Present:

Commissioner Julie Thomas (Monroe County)
Commissioner Nathan Gabhart (Daviess County)

Staff Present:

Rob King
David Tucker

Call to Order – On behalf of Sam Craig, Rob King called the meeting to order and a quorum of the Council was confirmed as present.

Region 8 Operational Update - Rob King reviewed the Governance structure for Region 8 and provided a regional review of Economic Growth Region 8 and services provided. Explained counties represented, mission of Workforce Board, and current status for all WorkOne offices located throughout South Central Indiana. Additionally, Rob discussed WIOA Funding allocations for PY’24 and PY’25. Rob reviewed the estimated PY’25 WIOA budget allocations with the Council. Rob also explained that members present would make motions and vote at the LEO meeting, and would always be welcomed guests at the Workforce Board meetings. Rob provided PY’25 Workforce Board meeting dates.

Rodney Fish moved to approve the recommended PY’25 Region 8 WIOA Budget Allocations and continuance of the Governance structure with Vincennes University serving as Staff to the Board, One-Stop Operator and Service Provider functions. Ed Michael seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Elected Officials Agreement – Rob King reviewed the Region 8 LEO agreement (2023-2028), approved by members in June of 2023, which all members signed on behalf of their County. Rob explained that this new agreement is currently active through June of 2028. Rob reviewed LEO agreement requirements. All Council members agreed that per WIOA regulation, LEO’s have to repay funds disallowed under audit in the event that funds are unable to be repaid by another entity. Members understand that there are built-in safeguards to make sure disallowed costs do not happen and that the Region 8 Fiscal Agent, Crowe LLC, periodically reviews and makes certain funds are spent in accordance with regulations. Members also understand how costs would be divided proportionally based on the population of government entities that sign the LEO agreement.

Chief Elected Official for Region 8 – Rob King explained the role of the Regional Chief Elected Official (RCEO) and stated that Sam Craig, Mayor of Bedford, Indiana in Lawrence County, was officially appointed to serve as the RCEO for Region 8 with a start date of January 1, 2025. Mayor Craig will continue to serve as RCEO for the PY25 & PY26 Program Years (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027).

Next Meeting and Adjourn – Rob King advised that he would continue one-on-one meetings as requested by Council members and that he is always available to them as needed. The next LEO meeting will be scheduled as appropriate with an annual meeting to be around June or July of 2026. Rob also advised that each member would receive an invite to all Workforce Board meetings as well.

With no further business – *Sam Craig moved to adjourn meeting and Ed Michael seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.*

Prepared By: Rob King