



The Workforce Connection Board and Chief Elected Officials

The Workforce Connection, Inc.

Local Workforce Innovation Board

Serving Boone, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Time: 8:00 am to 9:30 am
Location: Think Big, 1311 N. Main Street, Rockford, Illinois
RSVP to: coysti@theworkforceconnection.org or 815-395-6676

Mission Statement

The Workforce Connection is committed to providing a workforce that meets the needs of the business community now and in the future.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

- a. TWC Board
- b. Chief Elected Officials

Michelle Cassaro, TWC Board Chair
Mayor Thomas McNamara, CEO Chair

2. Roll Call

- a. TWC Board
- b. Chief Elected Officials

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes-*TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)*

- a. TWC Board Meeting Minutes – 06/03/2025
- b. CEO Meeting Minutes – 06/03/2025

Michelle Cassaro, TWC Board Chair
Mayor Thomas McNamara, CEO Chair

4. Board Member Recognition

Michelle Cassaro

5. Approval of Preliminary Program Year 2025 Budget- *TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Roll Call Vote)*

Paul Nolley, Finance Committee Chair

6. Approval of Request for Bids Awards-*TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Roll Call Vote)* Dr. Gina Caronna

- a. Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Project Administrator
- b. Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Business and Employment Services

7. Training Provider and Program Approvals/Re-Approvals-*TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)*

Emily Welsh

- 8. Approval of Policy Changes-TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)** Dr. Gina Caronna
a. Follow-Up Policy
- 9. Finance** Paul Nolley
a. Finance Report – June 30, 2025
b. Community Foundation – June 30, 2025 Update
- 10. Annual Report** Dr. Gina Caronna
- 11. Presentations**
➤ Scott Bloomquist, Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education (ROE4)
➤ Dr. Sheila Hill, Think Big and Matthew Simpson, Eight Fifteen Capital
- 12. Board Chair’s Remarks** Michelle Cassaro
- 13. President & CEO’s Remarks** Dr. Gina Caronna
- 14. Member Comments**
- 15. Board Member Engagement Opportunities** Berenice Jaquez
- 16. Public Comment**
- 17. Adjournment**

*The Workforce Connection Board is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.
A sign language interpreter, alternative format materials, or infrared assistive listening devices will be made available
with 72-hour notice. Additional reasonable accommodations will be made available upon request.*

*In accordance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act, The Workforce Connection Board may enter into a
meeting session closed to the public to discuss issues identified as appropriate for a closed session.*