

Access to the Employer & Public Engagement Committee meeting is provided via teleconference online via <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84434177856?pwd=3u7FXw17b7213rwPIyp8dGIQAnX8zu.1&from=addon> or by phone at +1 312 626 6799 with Meeting ID: 844 3417 7856 Passcode 523784. Public comments may be submitted by email prior to the meeting, to be read during the public comment portion of the meeting. Public comment via email should be submitted by 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2025, and sent to [COysti@TheWorkforceConnection.org](mailto:COysti@TheWorkforceConnection.org).



## **Employer and Public Engagement Committee Meeting**

**The Workforce Connection, Inc.**

Local Workforce Innovation Board

Serving Boone, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026  
Time: 8:00 am  
Location: Zoom – Link above  
RSVP to: [coysti@theworkforceconnection.org](mailto:coysti@theworkforceconnection.org) or 815-395-6676

The Employer & Public Engagement Committee, working in collaboration and partnership with area business groups and economic development entities, develops and implements strategies to increase employer engagement in the workforce development system and increases the visibility of services in The Workforce Connection partnership network. The Committee provides oversight and guidance for the Business Services Team, evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of business services under WIOA. The Committee is Chaired by a member of the Board and is comprised of Board members, business representatives, and other community stakeholders.

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order Pamela Lopez-Fettes, Committee Chair
2. Review of December 11, 2025 Meeting Notes Pamela Lopez-Fettes
3. Internship Project Presentation Berenice Jaquez, Workforce Program Manager
  - Dr. Deepshikha Shukla-Associate Vice President, Business Innovation at Rockford University
4. Work-Based Learning Finance Update Dan White, Chief Financial Officer
5. Other Business
6. Public Comment
7. Next Meeting: May 14, 2026
8. 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 within 72-hour notice. Additional reasonable accommodation will be made available upon request.*