

## Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Zoom

03/27/2025

### Attendees:

Ken Keeney  
Larry McLean  
Barb Cempura  
Brianna Anderson

### Staff:

Lee Reese  
Brenda Boggs  
Sandy Billhartz  
Linda Vanderpluym

The meeting was called to order by Larry at 1:31 P.M. With no public comment on the agenda, a motion was requested to approve the January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes. Barb made the motion, and it was seconded by Brianna. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**YOUTH RFP/YOUTH SERVICES CONTRACT** – Lee shared that a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Out-of-School Youth (OSY) Services was posted. MERS Goodwill and Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) submitted an RFP to be evaluated. Lee shared that Cindy Layman, Brenda, and Lee scored the two proposals. Lee shared that MERS Goodwill's aggregate score was 268 and SWIC's aggregate score was 288. Lee shared that IGD staff agreed in recommending that SWIC be awarded an OSY Services contract in the amount of \$165,000.00 for Program Year 2025 (PY25). A motion to approve and recommend the OSY Services contract for PY25 to SWIC was made by Ken and seconded by Barb. The motion was approved unanimously.

**PROVIDER UPDATES** – Brenda shared that numbers served are down slightly, but due to spending more money on each participant getting better outcomes for the participants. The Youth Program is focusing more on work-based learning for participants leading to better paying employment opportunities.

**PERFORMANCE** – Lee shared that three of the five performance measures have been met and the remaining two listed as unmet were very close to being met. Lee and Brenda are very confident that all measures will be met by the program year's end.

**PWE UPDATES** – Brenda shared that there are currently fourteen employers engaged in Paid Work Experience with IGD.

Barb made a motion that was seconded by Ken to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by Larry at 1:50 pm.