



Regional Data Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 20, 2025
127 N Wyman St, Ste 100, Rockford, IL 61101

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Jason Holcomb at 3:35 pm.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was present. Attending members included:

☒	Alignment Rockford	☒	Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence
☒	Boone County Health Department	☐	Platform Housing
☐	Bridges to Prosperity Northern Illinois	☒	Rockford Regional Health Council
☒	City of Rockford	☒	Rockford Park District
☒	Discovery Center	☒	Rockford Public Schools District 205
☐	Greater Rockford Chamber of Commerce	☒	Rockford University
☒	Growth Dimensions	☐	The Workforce Connection

Other attendees: Heather Snider, Rock Valley College; Amy McIntyre, Rockford Park District; Isaac Guerrero, R1 Director of Economic Development; Seth Boswell, R1 Lead Data Analyst.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment

4. Introduction and Welcome

Mr. Holcomb gave an overview of the group's purpose, which is to facilitate regional data collaboration. The group's chief activities will include data governance, contribution to data scorecards, geospatial representation, and needs assessments. Members were chosen that provide a broad representation of interests.

5. Committee Roles & Responsibilities

Mr. Holcomb reviewed the committee's charter and pointed out that this committee follows Open Meetings Act regulations. Committee members must complete OMA training if that has not already been done in a separate capacity. Mr. Holcomb also said that members are welcome to send a proxy if not able to attend any meeting or invite other organization members if the agenda is of interest to them.

Mr. Holcomb emphasized that this group does not intend to alter data systems that any of its members partners have in place. It is intended to encourage collaboration and add to existing data systems in the region.

6. Presentation: Metopio Partnership

Angie Grover, COO and Co-Founder of Metopio

R1, in partnership with the Rockford Regional Health Council, has entered into an agreement with Metopio, a national data conglomerate that R1 will use to source its data and conduct assessments. Metopio curates large datasets (from federal sources) to make them valuable for each organization's purpose so the organization can analyze and focus on gaps. It also provides ongoing development and tools, such as assessments, that the group can access. Metopio will provide a standard set of data included in package and we are responsible for detailed local data.

Ms. Grover gave the group a virtual tour of the Metopio platform, including examples of its features, services, reports, and the kinds of data detail and sourcing that it has access to. Metopio is HIPPA-compliant and gathers its data from publicly available sources.

Discussion and questions followed.

7. Meeting Cadence

This committee was set up to meet a minimum of 4 times per year. Mr. Holcomb recommends scheduling every other month – 6 meetings per year – which will allow for regular communication and to meet the quarterly dictate if a meeting happens to be cancelled. The group agreed that the fourth Wednesday of the month at 3:30 would be an acceptable date and time for ongoing meetings. The next meeting will be scheduled in one month with subsequent meetings to take place every other month.

8. Presentation: Northern Illinois Data Dashboard

Isaac Guerrero, Region 1 Planning Council

Mr. Guerrero gave a tour of the recently launched Northern Illinois Data Dashboard. This dashboard was created in-house with advisory oversight from partners Growth Dimensions and the Greater Rockford Chamber of Commerce. This dashboard is intended to provide the most critical economic data for economic development organizations to use when marketing the northern Illinois region for business attraction. Mr. Guerrero explained education and workforce datasets will later be added to the dashboard. Each data card shows a single metric, its trends, and a filterable graph of the metric over time. Data is updated as the source agency updates data.

The data dashboard is accessible on R1, Growth Dimensions, and the Greater Rockford Chamber of Commerce websites.

Discussion and questions followed.

9. Other Business

Ms. Fettes asked if there would be a virtual option for future meetings. Mr. Holcomb responded that it may be possible, due to recent state guidance, but prefers to have all members in person. If a member is traveling for business, OMA permits them to attend virtually. This group will determine virtual requests on a case-by-case basis.

10. Adjournment

Motion by City of Rockford, seconded by the Discovery Center to **adjourn**.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Next Meeting: TBD

Meeting minutes prepared by: Amy Salamon

Minutes approved by action of the Board: _____