



## **WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

<https://azcommerce.zoom.us/j/98198605632>

#### **Members Present**

Mark Gaspers, Interim Chair – Boeing

John Walters – Liberty Mutual

Bill Gates – Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

#### **1. Call to Order - 1:02 p.m.**

#### **2. Welcome**

Mark Gaspers welcomed everyone and expressed his appreciation for the great work done by the council members, committees, and others associated with the council across Arizona.

#### **3. Call to the Public**

Teri Drew of the Arizona Workforce Association (AWA) expressed appreciation for the meeting held with Chair Gaspers and Ken Burns, CFO of the Arizona Commerce Authority, and assured that the organization looks forward to working together with the council. She mentioned that, with Arizona's employment supply and demand situation, it is important to build capacity for skills training through the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), and expressed appreciation for the Department of Economic Security (DES)'s management of the process. AWA has elected Teri as President, Nidia Herrera as Vice President, and Dan Sullivan serves as immediate past president.

#### **4. February 8, 2022 Executive Committee Minutes Approval**

John Walters moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Bill Gates. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **5. State Plan Modification Update**

Stacey Faulkner of DES DERS explained to the committee that the State Plan draft was submitted in January 2022, and that, after addressing feedback, the final draft was submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). DOL requested minor and minimal revisions (links to policies, a small narrative on the Youth Waiver Program, and updates to the Council). DOL commended Arizona for needing so few revisions, which are all now complete. DOL expects to approve the Plan by July 1, 2022.

#### **6. Formula Allocation Policy Update and Vote**

Stacey explained that the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) is developing estimates. The proposal is to remain with the Adult- Option 2a, with total funds of \$26,301,024, with is down \$2,688,246, the Dislocated Worker- Option 6, with total funds of \$32,882,281, down \$3,219,615, and the Youth- Option 2d, with total funds of \$27,807,148, down \$2,748,237. She recommended approving PY22 AD, DW and Youth Allocations and moving it forward to Full Council vote.

Mark thanked all for the work done and the input received.

Mark moved to approve the motion, John Walters seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously.

Ken Mall presented on the Updated Formula Funding Allocation Policy. It was available for public comment from May 2 – 13, 2022. Four local workforce areas submitted comments, with 90 total comments. 66 comments resulted in a revision to the policy, with the majority of the revisions for clarity or consistency and all the comments have been addressed. The new policy updates and streamlines the process to determine local workforce area funding allocations, and brings Arizona in line with best practices across the country. It also describes the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)'s funding guidelines and sustains WIOA's hold harmless requirements. He recommended approving the policy.

Mr. Gaspers thanked Mr. Mall for his efforts to assure that the council's policies are aligned and in place. The motion is to move the policy to the Full Council for consideration.

John moved to approve the motion, Bill seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **7. Eligible Training Provider List Policy Update and Vote**

Ken Mall summarized the Updated Eligible Training Provider List Policy. It was available for public comment from May 2 – 13, 2022. Five local workforce areas submitted comments, with 157 total comments. 41 comments resulted in a revision to the policy, with many of the comments being questions on the policy. Some comments were requests for detail on "how" the policy will work, and responses were provided. The policy is limited to WIOA requirements, and guidance on the "how" will be provided in a separate document. All the comments have been addressed. The new policy clearly describes the ETPL requirements, simplifies the process to add training providers to the ETPL, and clarifies the roles of the State and the Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs). He recommended approval of the policy.

John asked if this expands or tightens the ETPL. Ken replied that it did neither, but that it streamlines the process which will benefit all parties.

Mark mentioned appreciation for additional work done by Nancy Meeden, Stacey Faulkner, and all of the public that commented for helping develop best practices in workforce development in Arizona.

Bill thanked Ken for his extensive work for the council. The motion is to move the policy to the Full Council for consideration.

Bill moved to approve the motion, John seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **8. New Council Member Updates**

Krista McGarvey reported that the Workforce Arizona Council, when fully constituted, has 37 members representing various constituencies, as required by WIOA. All members of the council are appointed by the governor and represent key areas of workforce development including the Governor, legislature, chief elected officials, business, labor, apprenticeship, community based organizations, education, economic development and employment and training. 51% of the board is required to be from the business community and representative of growing sectors of the State.

Currently as of May 20, 2022, the council has 28 appointments with the remaining 9 seats in the process of being filled.

Chair Gaspers commented on the positive progress for the council.

## **9. Committee Reports**

### **a. Strategic Communication and Partnership Committee Update**

Bill Gates reported that Ken Mall provided a presentation on the ARIZONA@WORK brand policy. Additionally, they reviewed the New Council Member Orientation process.

Mark commented on making plans for the convening.

### **b. Measuring Effectiveness Committee and Performance Excellence Committee Update**

John Walters explained that the two committees met simultaneously. They reviewed the Veteran Be Connected Initiative. They also heard a project update on the Arizona Workforce Information Technology Project and the IT Solutions/Workforce Modernization Update. They received updates on LWDB Challenges. The Nineteen Tribal Nations have made very positive progress on compliance. DES was an awesome partner for the Northeast Arizona board to address Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) - that they will now continue their current IGA and will work on developing a new IGA that satisfies the needs of all three counties.

### **c. Quality Workforce Committee Update**

Mark summarized that the committee heard an update on the Arizona Career Readiness Program, that the EDSI Arizona Journey Map is in closeout stage, and the ETPL policy discussion, as well as discussion on the Formula Allocation Policies and Procedures.

## **10. Upcoming Council and Committee Meeting Planning Discussion**

Chair Gaspers asked for changes or requests for upcoming council meetings. He said that the Third Quarter meeting will resume 'live' status for the Executive Committee and the full council meetings, with, as before, the virtual option to those who need such.

## **11. Council Agenda - displayed, no discussion was suggested**

## **12. Adjournment - 1:45 p.m.**

*Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to members of the Workforce Arizona Council Executive Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 1:00 pm**, via Zoom. For more information, please call (602) 771-0482.*

*Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by calling (602) 771-0482. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. A copy of the material provided to Committee members (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the Office of Economic Opportunity, located at 100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85007.*

*Under A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), the Committee may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on any item on the agenda.*

*At its discretion, the Committee may consider and act upon any agenda item out of order. Members of the Committee may appear by telephone.*