



## WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL BOARD MEETING (Q2) Minutes

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom (public link):

[https://azcommerce.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_7Jul9YanTMeTAiLl3wQHHg](https://azcommerce.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7Jul9YanTMeTAiLl3wQHHg)

Council Members use an invitation-only webinar Zoom Link for participation

### **Members Present**

Dawn Grove - Karsten Manufacturing  
Audrey Bohanan - Adelante Healthcare  
Jeff Fleetham - Arizona Registrar of Contractors  
Randall Garrison - FinTek Industries  
Mark Gaspers - Boeing  
Supervisor Bill Gates - Maricopa County Board of Supervisors  
Allison Gilbreath - Arizona Chamber of Commerce  
Sheryl Hart - Arizona Department of Education  
Alex Horvath - Tucson Medical Center  
Will James - Centene Corporation  
Dennis Anthony - Arizona Apprenticeship Advisory  
Gretchen Kitchel - SRP  
Larry Lucero - Tucson Electric Power  
David Martin - Arizona Chapter, Associated General Contractors  
Karen Molina – Raytheon  
Todd Graver - Freeport McMoRan

Brian Rice - Hensley Beverage  
Jonathan Schmitt - ASU  
John Walters - Liberty Mutual  
Thomas Winkel - Arizona Coalition for Military Families  
Michael Wisehart - Arizona Department of Economic Security

### **Members Absent**

Susan Anable - Cox Communications  
Tom Jenkins - Advanced Business Services  
Greg Anderson - Summit Healthcare Committee  
Mayor Jen Miles - City of Kingman  
Stephen Macias - Pivot Manufacturing  
Joanne Osborne - Arizona House of Representatives  
Drew Thorpe - APS  
Sandra Watson - Arizona Commerce Authority

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Dawn Grove called the Workforce Arizona Council meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

#### **II. Roll Call**

Quorum was present after roll call.

#### **III. Welcome**

Chair Dawn Grove welcomed all those in attendance at the virtual meeting.

#### **IV. Chair's Report**

Chair Grove gave highlights of some success stories:

In the City of Yuma, ARIZONA@WORK has worked with Shaw Industries to develop job training to grow their talent and assist them in hiring skilled workers.

Arizona will host the National Association of State Workforce Board Chairs and Liaisons conference in late September or early October.

Council Manager, Ashley Wilhelm, has been chosen to participate in the Center for the Future of Arizona and Aspen Institute's Greater Phoenix Workforce Leaders Academy.

#### **V. Call to the Public**

Teri Drew spoke on behalf of the Arizona Workforce Association, who is celebrating its 20th Anniversary, representing 13 counties and nineteen tribal nations. She stated that they held elections at their recent meeting and the new Chair is Dan Sullivan from Pima County.

Teri Drew also spoke on behalf of ARIZONA@WORK Yavapai workforce board explaining that the Board has submitted their outstanding board certification requirements for review.

Marcelino Flores, Pima County, thanked Supervisor Bill Gates for his leadership on broadband access and digital equity.

#### **VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2021**

Alex Horvath moved to approve the minutes, seconded by David Martin; motion was adopted unanimously.

#### **VII. Manager's Update**

Ashley Wilhelm, Workforce Council Manager, provided updates:

There have been some staffing updates to the Workforce Team at the Office of Economic Opportunity; Krista McGarvey joined the team and Monica Magoon has taken another position in the insurance industry.

The continuous improvement efforts that the team has been working on include:

- Developing a more cohesive reporting structure to track success with the Community Colleges and the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) in the Annual Report.
- Engagement to assist with the alignment with the K-12 education system and the Arizona Career Readiness Program.
- Supporting Arizona Department of Economic Security with the Back to Work program, Stacey Faulkner, WIOA Manager, provided a further update on the changes taking effect July 10, 2021;

#### **VIII. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Strategic Communications Committee**

Committee Chair, Supervisor Bill Gates, provided a review of the Arizona State Plan Summary which was split into two documents: a Summary and a Guide to Arizona's Workforce System. Ben Flores, PIO, Department of Economic Security, provided an overview of the social media outreach for ARIZONA@WORK to assist the Committee in developing a communications plan. Chair Gates encouraged the Council members to follow and share social media posts.

##### **B. Performance Excellence Committee**

Committee Chair, David Martin, explained that the Committee requested that DES develop an A3 to provide a plan for ensuring the local boards are being certified in a timely process and

identifying areas for continuous improvement. The Committee requested that DES clarify expectations of the submission, review and revision process including the schedule and timing to assist with consistent communication to all stakeholders within the process. The Committee wanted DES to develop this document prior to the Committee recommending local boards for recertification to ensure that a process is in place including timelines to ensure documents are submitted and reviewed within that designated timeline. DES did develop the document and the Committee members received it for review prior to this meeting as requested.

Chair Martin stated that the Committee is recommending that the Council recertify the following local boards: Pinal, Mohave/La Paz, Southeastern Arizona, Maricopa, Coconino, Northeastern Arizona and Yuma. Gretchen Kitchel made a motion to recertify the local boards as recommended. Thomas Winkel seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Chair, David Martin, stated that the local plan of the Maricopa County Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) has been reviewed by DES and is ready for approval. The Committee is recommending that the Council approve the Maricopa County LWDB's 2020 Local Plan. Thomas Winkel made a motion to approve Maricopa County LWDB's 2020 Local Plan as recommended. John Walters seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **C. Quality Workforce Committee**

Committee Chair, Mark Gaspers, provided an update on the upcoming fiscal year WIOA funding allocations (PY21). He explained that Arizona did receive a reduction in funds from the previous year resulting in a total of \$96.5 million in funding for the upcoming program year. After the state reserve, \$72.2 million will be allocated to the local areas to implement the WIOA Title I programs (Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth). Chair Gaspers explained that the Committee reviewed the funding recommendations from local areas and agreed to move forward with their recommendations as follows: Adult - Option 2b, Dislocated Worker - Option 6, Youth - Option 1. Audrey Bohanan moved to approve the funding allocations as recommended by the Committee. Jeff Fleetham seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair Gaspers explained that his Committee will be reviewing the current allocation process to develop a policy for future funding cycles. presented on development of Allocation Formulas

#### **D. Measuring Effectiveness Committee**

Committee Chair, John Walters, provided an update on the Workforce Information Technology Charter that will bring together multiple agencies to develop a plan to modernize and provide a streamlined infrastructure to meet the customer's needs. He explained that Arizona received a grant from the National Governors Association to select a vendor to develop the technology requirements for the Workforce System to be utilized in the IT modernization project development. The vendor will meet with the one-stop delivery leaders and gather input through focus groups, interview and surveys, inventory, review and evaluate the current state and local IT systems, provide a market analysis and develop cost estimates of the scope of the workforce development requirements to be included.

### **IX. Title II - Adult Education Program Overview**

Sheryl Hart, Deputy Associate Superintendent at Arizona Department of Education, provided an update on Title II Services. Sheryl reviewed eligibility for Adult Education and emphasized 100-percent of their

participants enter with barriers to employment. She reviewed historic funding, including Governor's WIOA set-aside funding which increased during the pandemic. Sheryl provided an overview of the Adult Education services that are provided at the local level by contracted vendors which include community colleges, county departments, community-based and school districts. Sheryl provided areas of opportunity for the Council to consider; increase co-enrollment with core programs within WIOA, improve and increase service integration to support Integrated Education & Training (IETs), and ensure compliance in the Adult Education participant Priority of Service Requirement within WIOA.

**X. Council Member Remarks**

No comments were received.

**XI. Upcoming Council Meetings**

- September 8, 2021 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Quarter 3)
- November 30, 2021 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Quarter 4)

**XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.