

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes of Meeting June 3, 2020

A meeting of the Northwest Arkansas Workforce Development Board (LWDB) was held Wednesday, June 3, 2020, via conference call.

Board members present on the call were:

MR. BEN ALDAMA, NWACC ADULT ED.
MS. SARAH BROZYNSKI, BAXTER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
MS. CHERYL DAVENPORT, ADVANCED MARINE PERFORMANCE
MR. JOHN DYESS, ALTRONIC RESEARCH, INC.
MR. KEVIN ESTES, DHS SERVICES FOR THE BLIND
MR. WALTER HINOJOSA, NWA LABOR COUNCIL
MS. AMY JONES, ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES
MS. JANA KINDALL, AR DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES
MR. BOB LARGENT, HARRISON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MR. ROSS PARKER, PARKER FARMS AND RENTALS
MS. BILLIE REED, NAPHE
MR. KELLEY SHARP, UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FAYETTEVILLE
MR. RICKY TOMPKINS, NWACC

Board members not present, but represented by proxy were:

MR. BO PHILLIPS, COX-RAPID SCALE, HARRISON – proxy Ross Parker

Board members absent and excused were:

MR. EDDIE BARTLETT, THORPE PLANT SERVICES
MR. DAVID BELL, DAVID BELL, LLC.
MR. STEVE CLARK, FAYETTEVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MR. CLINT MORRIS, LOCAL 155 PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS
MS. ERIN POE, TEC STAFFING

Others present were:

Ms. Susan Sangren, NWAEDD
Ms. Patty Methvin, NWAEDD
Ms. Karen Henry, NWAEDD
Mr. Joe Willis, NWAEDD
Mr. James Moss, NWAEDD
Ms. Beverly Taylor, NWAEDD
Dr. Megan Bolinder, NWACC
Ms. Donna Braymer, Harrison Daily Times
Ms. Cherrie Conner, Adult Education North Arkansas College
Mr. Robbie Cornelius, Fayetteville Adult Education
Ms. Teri Garrett, Congressman Womack
Ms. Mary Beth Hatch, North Arkansas College
Dr. Rick Massengale, North Arkansas College

Mr. Nicholas Ryburn, Adult Education
Ms. Melissa Bray, North Arkansas College

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by CHAIR JOHN DYESS. CHAIR DYESS addressed the need for the conference call type meeting due to the on-going concern from COVID-19. Roll call of the members present on the call was conducted by MS. PATTY METHVIN. MS. METHVIN confirmed to CHAIR DYESS that a quorum was present on the call.

MS. PATTY METHVIN gave the quarterly staff report. She briefly explained the changes in the work schedules for employees since the last board meeting. MS. METHVIN thanked MR. JOE WILLIS AND MR. JEREMY RAGLAND for their leadership in continuing to serve clients and keep all employees safe. MS. METHVIN informed the board about the funding that was received to serve dislocated workers (laid off due to COVID-19) and how North Arkansas College and NWAEDD had worked together to create on-line classes. She also credited MR. BOB LARGENT for his help in reaching out to industry in this area. MS. METHVIN shared with the board the progress on the Apprenticeship grants. UA Global is the provider for the IT pre-apprenticeship program and high school graduates with an interest in IT are being targeted for this program. An update on the Turf Management Apprenticeship grant was presented to the board along with the Rural Community Grant through ASU-Mountain Home which will provide training for current and future employees for the boat manufactures in the area. She praised all the training providers in this area for their excellent cooperation and added that a potential of 434 apprentices will be served. MS. METHVIN informed the board that the monitoring scheduled for April 6-10 was completed by staff uploading all required documents. There were only a few minor problems found and all have been corrected. The National Dislocated Worker Grant was applied for and has been received. MS. METHVIN reported that she had reached out to all nine Chamber of Commerce's in the district and supplied them with information about the programs that are available. MR. STEVE CLARK had contacted MS. METHVIN to inform her about the Robotics Training Center located in their office. The Career Advisors in that area will be touring the facility soon. MS. METHVIN discussed performance negotiations with DWS and reported that our programs need to reach out and serve more "hard to serve" participants.

CHAIR DYESS addressed the agenda items that the executive committee had approved and asked for the board to ratify the committee's actions. Due to this being a conference call MS. METHVIN called role of the board for each vote, all were passed.

Agenda Item #1 - Updated Workforce Budget

Motion - MR. BOB LARGENT

Second – MR. RICKY TOMPKINS

Motion passed.

Agenda Item #2 – Executive Committee Report

- Changes to the Supportive Service Policy, Motion by MR. ROSS PARKER, Second by MR. BOB LARGENT.
- Supportive Services Procedure, Motion by MR. BEN ALDAMA, Second by MR. BOB LARGENT.
- One Stop Operator Procurement Task Force Consultant, Motion by MS. BILLIE REED, Second by MR. ROSS PARKER. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #3 – By-Law Revisions. MS. METHVIN went over the by-law revisions that were required by the State. Required changes included clarification of the nomination process and defining termination for "good cause".

Motion to approve with corrections – MR. RICKY TOMPKINS
Second – MR. BEN ALDAMA Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4 – One Stop Operator Monitoring Task Force Committee. The OSO Monitoring Task Force Committee report was given by MS. BILLIE REED. MS. REED reviewed the process for procuring an OSO monitor. One bid was received from Ms. Lorrie Romero, MPA with a bid of \$4,985.00. The Task Force approved the bid. A motion was made to ratify the decision of the Task Force to hire Ms. Lorrie Romero as the OSO monitor.

Motion – MR. WALTER HINOJOSA
Second – MR. BOB LARGENT
Motion passed.

Agenda Item #5 – Infrastructure Funding Agreement Modification 4. MS. SUSAN SANGREN presented the updated Infrastructure Funding Agreement which included the addition of Services for the Blind in our Harrison office.

Motion – MR. ROSS PARKER
Second – MR. BOB LARGENT
Motion passed.

Agenda Item #6 – One Stop Operator Report. MS. SANGREN presented the One Stop Operator report.

Motion – MS. SARAH BROZYNSKY
Second – MR. KELLEY SHARP
Motion passed.

Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda and Eligible Training Provider

Motion – MR. ROSS PARKER
Second – MR. WALTER HINOJOSA
Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by MR. SHARP and seconded by MR. LARGENT. Motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.


John Dyess, Chair