



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2024**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Moses Alvarez, Colorado Contractors Association
Dennis Atencio, Apex Transportation
Angela Atkinson, North Metro Denver Small Business Development Center
Peter Brissette, DMD Consulting
Jaime Campbell, Platte Valley Medical Center
Amy Clement, United Power
Robb Gallegos, MSU Family Literacy Center
Lisa Hough, AC-REP
Jay Newby, CDLE
Janet Renden, FutureForward at Bollman
Erika Rodriguez, Colorado Laborers and Contractors Education & Training Fund
Mary Stevenson, Deltech Furnaces
Rebecca Wolfe, Font Range Community College

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Simone Mortenson, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

GUESTS

Britta Blodgett, CWDC
Melissa Jacquez, CDLE
Adele Newton, Business Excellence Group
Todd Nielsen, CUWA

STAFF MEMBERS

Yvonne Castillo, WBC Coordinator/OSO
Claudia Ells, Supervisor
Laura Garcia, General Accounting Manager
Jodie Kammerzell, Local Area Director/WBC Administrator
Greg McBoat, Senior Management Analyst
Karen Ortiz, Senior Fiscal Analyst
Joel Parriott, Supervisor
Monica Sailas, Grant Administrator

INTRODUCTIONS AND QUORUM

A quorum of members was present, and the meeting was called to order at 8:02 A.M. by WDB Chair, Amy Clement. All attendees were welcomed, and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board members reviewed the minutes from November 9, 2023, meeting.

MOTION was made to approve the November 9, 2023, meeting minutes and was seconded.

MOTION CARRIED. The minutes of the November 9, 2023, meeting was approved with no corrections.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Amy reported that several workforce regions are working with a consultant, Johanna Gibbs, to facilitate strategic planning sessions with their workforce board to develop the goals for their local plans. At the Director's level there have been several discussions about working together to develop more common language and a clearer understanding of the role of board members within their areas. At the December meeting the Executive Committee did approve to contract with Johanna to facilitate the development of the strategic plan.

Moving forward the proposed plan is to develop a survey asking for board members' input on our current strategic goals to ensure we are keeping the Governor's priorities at the forefront. Following the survey, the Executive Committee will work with the consultant using the information collected from the survey to develop the new strategic goals on behalf of the full board. This strategic planning session will take the place of the February Executive Committee meeting. The Regional and Local Plans are due on May 17 and must go out for public comment for 30 days.

MOTION was made to have the Executive Committee develop the strategic goals on behalf of the board utilizing the board's input from the survey.

MOTION CARRIED. The Executive Committee will develop the strategic goals on behalf of the board utilizing the board's input from the survey.

National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB)

Amy reported on the NAWB roundtable event the WBC hosted on December 12, 2023, which included educators, businesses and workforce representatives from around the county. The point of convergence was to discuss ways to make skill-based hiring easier for employers and workforce development boards. One of the main topics was centered on Learning and Employment Records (LER's) which is a digital badging system that a job seeker could earn for credentials, degrees, or any on the job trainings. Other states have incorporated similar digital platforms where individuals can store their driver's license, passport, and other vital information. The conversation included a discussion on how to ensure that HR systems

would work with an LER system to be able to validate the information in the applicant tracking systems. The LER's would also include assessments for employers similar to what Indeed includes for employers. A lot of work still needs to be done but the larger idea of LER's as a way to help make skills-based hiring easier will remain a focus for this group and will be a main topic of the 2024 NAWB Forum scheduled for March in Washington, D.C. They will be exploring how workforce development boards can support LER's.

WBC DASHBOARD

Greg presented data on the status of the current WIG, unemployment, economic overview and the ROI of the workforce.

Staff members Joel and Claudia reported on the WIOA enrollments. Several staff members have been hired but are still in the training phase. Lead Workers are working with new staff on the full enrollment process from eligibility through enrollment. Teams are reviewing all grants and eligibility during team meetings to ensuring we are braiding funding. Some of the challenges to meeting enrollment numbers are the fact that the economy is doing well right now and we are competing with other organizations who provide grants for training. The benefit with utilizing the workforce center is that we provide wrap around services. WIOA orientation attendance has increased since October and Case Managers are working with school counselors so we expect the in-school youth numbers to increase.

Karen provided the fiscal report. We are looking at transferring money from the Dislocated Worker program to the Adult program, but the request is still pending. We are trending lower in our spending, but will see an increase in the spending for December once the labor costs are accounted for.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 A.M.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2024.