



WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

<https://azcommerce.zoom.us/j/97916169482>

Members Present

Dawn Grove, Chair – Karsten Manufacturing

Mark Gaspers – Boeing

David Martin – Arizona Chapter of the Associated General Contractors

John Walters – Liberty Mutual

Bill Gates – Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Welcome

Chair Grove welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Call to the Public

There were no public comments received.

4. November 17, 2020 Executive Committee Minutes - Approval

The minutes were held for approval at the next Executive Committee meeting.

5. Council 2021 Priorities - Discussion

Ashley Wilhelm, Council Manager, reviewed the 2021 Council priorities identifying which of the Council committees will be leading the efforts of those priorities throughout the year. Council priorities include requirements based on the Council functions as well as the implementation of the strategies as defined in the State Plan.

6. State Plan Strategies - Discussion

Ms. Wilhelm gave an overview of the State Plan Strategies including which Committee aligns with each strategy. The Committee will identify and receive updates on a few key activities for each priority.

7. Committee Reports

a. Strategic Communication and Partnership Committee

Chair, Bill Gates, provided an update on the work of the Strategic Communication and Partnership Committee meeting. He explained that his committee is focused on the development of a branding policy that will address the use and protection of the ARIZONA@WORK brand and a digital communication strategy to drive traffic to ARIZONA@WORK. The Committee discussed upcoming items for future meetings to include

the Council Annual Report and the planning of the Council's Convening of Workforce Leaders.

i. State Plan Summary - Update

Ms. Wilhelm provided an update on the State Plan Summary that is being developed. This summary will be used to educate internal and external stakeholders about ARIZONA@WORK. The Summary will include the statewide goals, strategies and implementation, information regarding the economic, workforce and education & training activities as well as an overview of the ARIZONA@WORK system including the core programs delivered under WIOA. She explained that there will be an official launch planned that will include a webinar that will be delivered to economic development, education and workforce leaders as well as community based organizations.

b. Performance Excellence Committee

Chair, David Martin, gave an update on the items his Committee reviewed this quarter. He explained that they will begin the certification and continuous improvement process of the one-stop centers and review the state policies for alignment with the newly developed grievance and substantial violation policies.

i. Maricopa County Grievance - Update

Ms. Wilhelm provided an update to the grievance that was filed regarding Maricopa County. The grievance went through DES' process as outlined in the state policy. The grievance was withdrawn by the individuals who filed it due to the lack of access to legal counsel. DES has consulted with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to ensure that with the withdrawal there would be no need to further advance the claims within the grievance. DOL agreed that with the withdrawal the grievance process is complete. DOL did request that the State create a draft plan to identify gaps, countermeasures and areas of improvement to mitigate the claims from resurfacing in Maricopa County or other local areas including a review of policies for potential revisions, providing technical assistance to local boards and enhancing the program and fiscal monitoring.

1. Local Plan and Recertification

Ms. Wilhelm explained that Maricopa County Local Board's 2018 recertification and their 2020 local plan have not been approved due to the grievance going through the process. Now that the grievance is complete DES has recommended that the Maricopa County Workforce Development Board be recertified for the 2018 recertification cycle and approve their 2020 local plan. David Martin explained that during the Performance Excellence Committee meeting the Committee gave a conditional approval of the recertification based on the resolution of the grievance. He explained that the 2020 local plans was not approved by the Committee at this time as the Committee decided that it fell under the current recertification cycle and should be considered separately as to ensure that the conditions that were identified in the grievance were addressed as to not have the concerns not to be an issue again.

The Executive Committee members gave recommendations on areas for technical assistance regarding the roles and responsibilities within the workforce system.

David Martin made the motion to approve the 2018 recertification of the Maricopa County Workforce Development Board as recommended. The

motion was seconded by John Walters. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Effective Local Boards - Update

Ms. Wilhelm explained that one of the functions of the Council is to support local boards. The Committee discussed the creation of a timeline of the compliance requirements as well as reviewing and discussing a monitoring plan to assist the local boards in their planning process.

c. Quality Workforce Committee

Chair, Mark Gaspers, gave an update on the items that the Quality Workforce Committee reviewed training providers and program eligibility, regional planning and developing a matrix to map out the federal and state funding streams and their requirements.

i. WIOA Funding Allocation and Waiver Request - Update

Ms. Wilhelm explained that a function of the Council is to determine the formula that is used to determine the Title I funding levels that are distributed to the local areas to implement services. Since the Quality Workforce Committee is focused on sector strategies and education & training they will be the Committee that will lead conversations regarding funding formulas and priorities. Ms. Wilhelm reviewed the ability for the State to request a waiver for local areas to maintain the WIOA funding for the third year of the funding cycle rather than reverting the funds back to the State during the second year of the funding cycle.

d. Measuring Effectiveness Committee

Chair, John Walters, gave an update on the items that the Measuring Effectiveness Committee reviewed during their meeting this quarter. This Committee reviewed the performance indicators regarding the employer performance measures to determine changes that need to be made. They also discussed technology efforts underway to align workforce and human services programs within the State as well as federal and state performance reports.

10. Council Agenda

No additions were suggested.

11. Adjournment

John Walters moved to adjourn the meeting and Mark Gaspers seconded the motion; the motion was adopted unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.