



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Youth Committee

Thursday, January 6, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

GoToMeeting: <https://www.gotomeet.me/MaricopaCountyWDB>

Phone: +1 (872) 240-3212; Access Code/Meeting ID: 167-097-701

Members Present: Erik Cole and Jason Walker
(Note: All members present attended via GoTo meeting)

Members Absent: Marcia Veidmark, Stan Chavira and Tina Drews

MEETING

Call to Order.

Chairman Erik Cole, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m., and requested roll call.

Roll Call.

MCWDB Board Liaison, Deseret Romero took roll. A quorum was not present.

Welcome and Opening Remarks.

Chairman Cole welcomed the Youth Committee and guests.

Consent Agenda.

Due to lack of quorum Chairman Cole deferred the Consent agenda to later in the meeting. (Note: Later in the meeting Chairman Cole deferred the Consent Agenda (a) Meeting Minutes: September 2, 2021 to the next Youth Committee meeting.)

Chairman Report.

Chairman Cole shared the US Department of Labor WIOA Youth Committee Recipes for Success with the Committee.

Informational/Discussion Only.

Title 1B Updates

- i. WIOA Youth Program Overview (14 Youth Elements)
- ii. Youth Initiatives
- iii. Client Service Numbers

Tina Luke, Youth Program Manager with the Workforce Development Division (WDD) provided the Committee with a presentation on the 14 Youth Elements and WDD's role. The following are highlights from Ms. Luke's presentation.

- WIOA Youth Program Overview
- 14 Elements
- Outreach Partners
- Youth Initiatives
- Client Services
- Participants Served (YTD2019/YTD2020/YTD2021)
- Occupational Skills Training (YTD2019/YTD2020/YTD2021)

- Work Experience Referrals (YTD2019/YTD2020/YTD2021)
- Work Experience Spending (YTD2019/YTD2020/YTD2021)

Following Ms. Luke’s presentation, she answered the following questions below from the Committee.

How do the eligible participants find the youth program?

- There are many forms of outreach conducted by the Workforce Development Division, including but not limited to foster homes, flyers, website, walk ins and word of mouth. They have found that word of mouth is the strongest way for potential participants to find the youth program.

What are the work experience challenges?

- Yes, the number of youth with experience is a challenge. Data has supported the occupational skills training leads to better outcome than a general work experience, which leads staff to better identify which participant is currently ready for a work experience.

Chairman Cole noted ASU’s dip in internship experiences due to the pandemic regulations.

Chairman Cole invited Ms. Luke to present to ASU’s Youth Provider Network.

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark complimented Ms. Luke and the Workforce Development Division staff on the Board approved work they complete.

2021-2022 Committee Focus.

- i. How can the MCWDB bridge the knowledge gap between youth and the Arizona@WORK workforce system?
 1. The Board’s / Committee’s direct role?
 2. The Board’s / Committee’s support of MCWDB staff?
- ii. What priorities do you see?
- iii. What challenges / obstacles do you see?
- iv. How can this Committee best integrate and align with the Employer Connection and the Marketing & Outreach Committees?

The above questions were discussed by the Committee.

Chairman Cole read the in-demand industries for inclusion in the discussion of the questions above.

Mr. Clark briefly discussed the importance of bridging the gap for potential job seekers who would end up filling the in-demand positions. Mr. Clark also suggested inviting partners and stakeholder to the Executive Committee to further discuss ways to bridge these gaps. In addition, Mr. Clark provided an example of how companies are modifying their hiring process to ensure they are receiving the best candidate. Intel has modified their hiring process to focus on soft skills and experience, rather than a sole focus on the applicant’s college degree.

Chairman Cole shared the benefits of ASU’s college peer advisors and their direct connection to potential interested students. The students are communicating with someone their own age who has completed what they wish to complete.

Chairman Cole suggested that the Youth Committee make early awareness of such opportunities. Possibly even starting at the elementary level, which would provide an opportunity to include parents.

Mr. Clark suggested that this be a youth focus for the Strategic Plan.

Youth Committee Member Jason Walker concerned that youth who have completed the program would be very impactful to those considering the program. Mr. Walker also suggested inviting the youth participants who completed the program to speak to the Youth Committee on the challenges they faced.

Mr. Walker noted his encouragement to hear increased counseling for youth program participant symptoms to barriers.

Ms. Luke noted the continued effort by Career Advisors to identify resources for youth that may experience barriers such as incarceration, financial literacy, translation, and future mentorship.

Chairman Cole recommended that the Youth Committee return with a focus on identifying priorities and goals.

Mr. Clark noted the upcoming Youth Committee membership recommendation of Sherie Steele by Chairman Matt McGuire.

Call to the Public.

Chairman Cole made a call for public comment. No one spoke.

Adjourn.

Chairman Cole adjourned the MCWDB meeting at 10:28 a.m.

**For additional information, contact MCWDB staff at: MCWDB@maricopa.gov*