



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE  
MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 1, 2025 – 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

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**Members Present:** Anne Landers, JakinDee Kosaka, Marie Raymond, Robert Garcia, Liz Valdez, Barbara Coakley, Jessica Putton, John Dvorak

**Members Absent:** Che Collins, Brittany Holmes, Meredith Critchfield, Jessica Rivera-Garcia, Justin Oviatt, Anna Yap

**Call to Order.**

Chair Anne Landers called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm and requested roll call.

**Roll Call.**

MCWDB Executive Assistant, Amy Tidwell, called roll. A quorum was not present at that time. However, at 2:21pm, a member joined, and a quorum was met.

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**Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Meeting Objectives.**

Chair Landers welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the objectives and goals for the committee.

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**Consent Agenda.**

**Meeting Minutes:** November 7, 2024  
March 6, 2025

**MOTION:**

Motion: Robert Garcia

Second: Liz Valdez

All in favor vote held:

In favor: all

Opposed:

Abstained:

Motion passed.

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## **Information/Discussion Only.**

### **MCWDB Youth Success Story**

Workforce Development Division Career Advisor, Rebekah Keizer presented a success story.

### **Arizona Coalition for Career Readiness (ACCR)**

Katherina Adams from Pipeline Connects gave a presentation. Below are the highlights:

- Why was the coalition started?
  - 75% of high school graduates say they were moderately or not at all prepared to make college or career decisions after graduation
  - The percentage of adults aged 18-29 who view college as “very important” dropped from 74% to 41% in just six years.
- ACCR brings together leaders and stakeholders to advance Arizonans’ quality of life with career development opportunities to help meet the workforce goals.
  - Equitable access to career exploration across all of Arizona
  - One technology solution
  - A feedback loop between industry and education
- ACCR’s goals are guided by Achieve60AZ, an initiative that aims to help 60% of Arizona adults attain a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030
- ACCR aims to:
  - Help students plan their careers earlier and with intention to reach better outcomes
  - Support learners, connect businesses to educators and connect job seekers to careers by making career exploration access more equitable through Pipeline AZ
  - Make career exploration and development more coordinated and more meaningful for all
- ACCR supports the career journey:
  - Awareness
  - Exploration
  - Development
  - Readiness
  - Career

### **East Valley Institute of Technology - EVIT**

Lindsey Gregor, Apprenticeship Project Manager with EVIT shared EVIT’s new programming options and update on the DOL Apprenticeship Grant. Below are some highlights from the presentation:

- American Building America Grant
    - Received \$6 million in June 2024 from the US Dept of Labor
    - EVIT is an Apprenticeship Hub serving the state
    - Funds assist with marketing, professional development for staff and employers, Employer Incentive Funding and building/classroom adjustments
  - Goals for EVIT-ABA2 Grant by June 2028
    - 1000 apprentices
    - 6000 business contacts
    - 6 registered apprenticeship programs
    - Expand, diversify, and strengthen the Registered Apprenticeship system through support in the public/private sector
  - Apprenticeships currently available:
    - Airframe Mechanics
    - Electrical
    - HVAC
    - Plumbing
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- Welding

### **Apprenticeship Update**

Katelyn Harris Lange from MCWDB gave an update on Registered Apprenticeships:

- East Valley Apprenticeship Fair, November 2024:
  - 61 job seekers
  - 15 Registered Apprenticeship Programs
  - 25 Scheduled Interviews
- West Valley Apprenticeship Fair, April 2025:
  - 180 job seekers
  - 13 Registered Apprenticeship Programs
  - Pending scheduled interviews
- Apprenticeship by the Numbers:
  - \$12.5M ARPA investment (Nov 2022-2026)
  - 414 active apprentices
  - 7 WDD apprenticeship team members
  - 1701 total apprentices served
  - 17 RAP partnerships FY25
  - 42.06% projected growth through 2030 (average)
- Reviewed Apprenticeship Toolkit
  - To help employers and training providers establish apprenticeship programs in Maricopa County
- Apprenticeship Funding:
  - Preparing for reduced allocations through creativity and innovation

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### **Call to Public.**

Chair Landers made a call to the public for comments. No one spoke.

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### **Adjourn.**

The MCWDB Youth Committee meeting adjourned at 2:21pm.

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