



**PHOENIX BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes**

**VIRTUAL MEETING
June 18, 2020
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present:

Ali Gamero-Hernandez
Kaaren-Lyn Graves
Jesus Love

Janice Mrkonjic
Dean Van Kirk

Public Attendees:

Christina Edwards
LaSetta Hogans (PBWDB Exec. Dir.)

Hayden Maynard
Rob Stenson

Action items taken are noted in **bold** print.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Introductions:

The Business Engagement Committee (BEC) Chair, Jesus Love, called the June 18, 2020 meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Roll call was completed and a quorum of four members was present.

2. Approval of May 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

BEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves motioned for approval of the May 21, 2020 BEC minutes, BEC Member Dean Van Kirk seconded.

Ali Gamero-Hernandez and Jesus Love voted to approve. No members were opposed.

3. Review Committee Attendance Hours:

BEC Member Ali Gamero-Hernandez motioned to approve the consent agenda item, BEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves seconded.

Jesus Love and Dean Van Kirk voted to approve. No members were opposed.

4. Strategic Plan Changes:

PBWDB Executive Director LaSetta Hogans shared the new PBWDB Strategic Plan presentation that was shared previously with the full board. PBWDB members participated in a planning session and developed the mission, centered on the six purpose of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and vision for the board and the strategic plan. As a result of the new strategic plan, the PBWDB has decided to change the committee structure and replace the four existing committees with three new committees that will focus on the three PBWDB goals: instill hope, drive economic mobility and impact, and make ARIZONA@WORK the recognized workforce authority in the region. The new committees are the Program Excellence Committee (PEC), the Business and Workforce Engagement Committee (BWEC), and the Communications and Outreach Committee (COC). Twelve strategies were developed from the goals and the Executive Leadership Committee (ELC) developed the committees and assigned the strategies to the respective committees.

The PEC will focus on Goal 1: instill hope and will be responsible for performance of Adult and Dislocated Worker programs and monitoring and oversight of Youth providers and the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), along with Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) and On-The-Job Training (OJT). The BWEC will focus on Goal 2: drive economic mobility and impact and will focus on connecting education, talent, and business to create an effective talent pipeline. The COC will focus on Goal 3: make ARIZONA@WORK the recognized workforce authority in the region and will focus on how to effectively market the ARIZONA@WORK program so it is no longer the “best kept secret”. The ELC will be comprised of the PBWDB Chair and Vice-Chair and the chairs and vice-chairs of the respective committees and will focus on funding and oversight of the budget, by-laws, and the PBWDB work plan.

5. Committee Ad-Hoc Member Recruitment:

BEC Chair Jesus Love reminded members to continue to identify and recruit potential ad-hoc members to the PBWDB committees to grow board membership. Jesus Love asked if the BEC would meet again in July. PBWD Board Liaison Christina Edwards shared that the new committees should be effective in July 2020.

BEC Vice-Chair Janice Mrkonjic joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

6. Bagels & Business Wrap-Up:

BEC Vice-Chair Janice Mrkonjic shared with the BEC that 73 people registered to attend the June 17, 2020 Bagels & Business event and that 48 people attended. Janice said she believed the only possible improvement of the virtual Bagels & Business event was more effective marketing. Christian Michael from Grow with Google told Janice that representatives from Denver and Nashville workforce systems attended the Bagels & Business events and were interested in having similar programming in their local areas.

ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix (COP) Business Engagement Supervisor Rob Stenson shared that there would be a newsletter developed from information shared by the presenters during the Bagels & Business event that would be sent out to individuals who registered for the event to keep them engaged and for them to forward to colleagues and potentially grow attendance at future events. He shared that other Arizona local boards are looking to put Coursera on their ETPL, to provide the Google IT Help Desk Certification training. He also shared that regional business engagement teams are discussing Europe and how companies in Europe are looking to engage United States help desk employees, allowing them to have jobs but still live in the United States.

BEC Chair Jesus Love suggested choosing a date for the next Bagels & Business event and that a thank you note be sent to the attendees with a save the date for the next event. BEC Vice-Chair Janice Mrkonjic suggested investigating whether or not virtual Bagels & Business events can be taped and sent out to people who signed up for the webinar but were unable to attend. The BEC members discussed a potential date for the next event and settled on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in observance of Workforce Development Month.

BEC Vice-Chair Janice Mrkonjic motioned to schedule the next Bagels & Business Event at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 in observance of Workforce Development Month, BEC Member Dean Van Kirk seconded.

Ali Gamero-Hernandez, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, and Jesus Love voted to approve. No members were opposed.

7. Regional Business Engagement Efforts:

ARIZONA@WORK COP Business Engagement Supervisor Rob Stenson shared regional business engagement efforts updates. The Workforce Collaborative (TWC) met on June 11, 2020. At this meeting, City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development Director Christine Mackey gave an update regarding the current economic situation in Phoenix.

The ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Business Engagement team has contacted 80 jobseekers across Arizona about the customer service cohort and referring eligible candidates to the ARIZONA@WORK job centers to register and participate in the cohort. Republic Services has identified 12 candidates to potentially participate in the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training cohort.

8. Numbers@Work Report:

ARIZONA@WORK COP Business Engagement Supervisor Rob Stenson shared the May 2020 Numbers@Work report. There is a high ratio of permanent and temporary layoffs in hospitality/service based sectors including food service, hotels, and casinos. Employers with open ABS and Customer Service positions are trying to engage with laid-off employees, but Unemployment Insurance is proving to be a barrier to connecting with workers dislocated by COVID-19. Work-based learning contracts that are currently in progress will close out during the 2020-21 program year. Though contracts are still in progress, there have not been many businesses interested in new contracts in recent months. The COP Business Engagement Team is seeing an increase in job postings, especially in material handling and light industrial positions.

9. Committee Update Report:

BEC Chair Jesus Love shared that he would include information about the June 16, 2020 Virtual Bagels & Business event and that the next Bagels & Business event is scheduled for September 16, 2020. He will also include the discussion of the new committee structure. He will ask that more PBWD Board members be engaged in attending and marketing the Bagels & Business events in the future.

10. Matters for Future Discussion:

None

11. Call to The Public & Open Discussion:

None

12. Adjournment:

BEC Member Ali-Gamero Hernandez motioned to adjourn the meeting, BEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves seconded.

Jesus Love, Janice Mrkonjic, and Dean Van Kirk approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

