



Maricopa County Workforce Development Board – Audit Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 12, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

WDB Staff Office - 701 W Jefferson St. Ste 104 Phoenix, AZ 85007

WebEx: <https://mcwdb-1095-9b71.my.webex.com/meet/mcwdb>

Phone: +1-510-338-9438; Access Code/Meeting ID: 625 125 871

Members Present: Mark Lashinske, Drew Thorpe, Gregg Ghelfi (Ph), Vanessa Andersen (Ph)

Members Absent: Lee Ann Bohn

Guest/Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Patricia Wallace, Isabel Creasman, Nancy Avina

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Audit workgroup lead, Mark Lashinske, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call – WDB Liaison, Nancy Avina, took roll. Quorum was present.

Lead Remarks – Lead, Lashinske noted the committee agenda listed 2019 as the meeting year; staff will revise the agenda to reference correct year.

Approval of December 17, 2019 meeting minutes*

Lead, Lashinske asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Drew Thorpe made a motion. Vanessa Andersen seconded the motion. In favor: Mark Lashinske, Drew Thorpe, Gregg Ghelfi (Ph), Vanessa Andersen (Ph). Motion carried.

Review and discuss response received from the State

The committee discussed reviewing the response received from the State and subsequently the County response to the State response. It was discussed, DES reviewed [submitted documents] and came back with almost identical issues at hand and that [documents] did not follow conflict of interest. County response isn't clear enough regarding indicating change on conflicts. Response document provided, were projected on the screen and reviewed. Key issues were pointed out regarding structure including an issue being that the audit committee has not reviewed the full SGA, given concerns in structure being proposed. Response from state remains consistent as well as, original finding from the audit. Indication of document provided, shows County maintains its position that no change is needed; from a Board perspective the Board is in agreement that there are compliance and conflict of interest issues with the current structure. Intent of Audit committee was briefly discussed; in evaluating responses, there is a fundamental chasm between the County and the State. It was further discussed that as long as the position remains that there are no compliance issues, there can't be any value-added dialogue towards resolving the conflicts, which puts into question the need/value for the audit committee. Additional comments were added on lack of observed correlation between City of Phoenix and Maricopa County org as well as, frustration.

Review action items to date

Lead, Mr. Lashinske, reviewed action items from the December 17th meeting and requested a status update on following up with legal regarding the review of documents provided by the Audit Committee. Executive Director, Patricia Wallace informed follow up occurred and was informed by Board of Supervisor Liaison, Lee Ann Bohn, who was copied on the email, that the review would not occur or take place. Lead Lashinske noted for the record, some restriction/obstruction to that process. Lead Lashinske, noted the completion of a second action item of having all second opinion documents reviewed. It was confirmed all previous action items [prior to the December 17th meeting] have been completed.

Determine next steps for the Audit Committee

Lead, Mr. Lashinske, offered comment on his perspective of the work of the Audit Committee and acknowledged expressed frustration. He further informed that as team lead, he will be suggesting to the Full Board, the termination of the Audit Committee. Mr. Lashinske will provide an overview and will inform that if the two parties cannot come together, decertification would be occurring given the impasse. Discussion held expressing agreement.

A question was raised on reaching out the Ms. Bohn on her idea of next steps; given state response a response may be due. Mr. Drew Thorpe shared that during a budget meeting it was expressed the County did not view the current structure as out of compliance and will fight finding legally with the State. A suggestion was made on having dialogue/communicating with Ms. Bohn on the impasse and next steps. Discussion was held on the difference in views and impasse since November. Mr. Thorpe will reach out to Ms. Bohn. It was further noted that if the County wishes to continue the discussion with the state regarding the compliance issues, the MCWDB is at a loss of impacting that until there is resolve.

Call to the Public

Lead, Mr. Lashinske, asked for public comment. No public comment noted.

Adjournment

Lead Lashinske adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

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