

North Central Workforce Development Board Meeting
September 14, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Josie's Restaurant
Minutes

Members Present:

Ben Baxter, Zach Branscum, Regina Burkett, Lisa Earls as proxy for Kimberly Clayborn, Gayle Cooper, Pat Dunegan, Alvin Hearyman, Garry Lawrence, Keith McHan, Darrell Moore, Steve Roofener, Angela Ryland, Darline Tucker, Nancy Whitmire, Pam Williams and Micah Woods

Members Represented by Proxy:

Les Eaves and Kendrick Ketchum

Others Present:

Kay Price, Local Manager, DWS, Judy Duncan, AOC, DWS, Denise Wilson, AR Rehab, Carolyn Talley and Rowena Reyes, DWS, and Angela Goodwin, Lynn Haas, and Van Thomas, WRPDD

In the absence of Chairman Randy Ratliff, a meeting of the North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board was called to order by Vice Chairman Garry Lawrence at 10:00 a.m. on September 14, 2016. Vice Chairman Lawrence called for approval of the minutes of the previous meeting which had been distributed earlier by mail. On a motion by Alvin Hearyman and second by Pam Williams, the minutes of the meeting were approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the annual election of officers. Lynn Haas told the board that the chairperson must be elected from the private sector business representatives and distributed a list of those members. Vice Chairman Lawrence stated that the current slate of officers included Randy Ratliff, Chairman, a businessman from Sharp County; Garry Lawrence, Vice Chairman, a businessman from Sharp County, and Tim London, Secretary, a labor representative from White County.

Vice Chairman Lawrence opened nominations for the position of chairman. Ben Baxter nominated Pam Williams, a business person from White County, and moved that she be elected chairman. Seconded by Nancy Whitmire, the motion carried unanimously. Nominations for vice-chairman and secretary were next. Alvin Hearyman nominated Garry Lawrence as vice chair and moved that he be re-elected. Seconded by Regina Burkett, the motion carried unanimously. Alvin Hearyman nominated Tim London as secretary and moved that he be re-elected. Seconded by Angela Ryland, the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Haas distributed the current eligible training provider list for the board's review and approval. A list of all the programs was available for review, also. She explained that each of these institutions has to make application through the Arkansas Consumer Reporting System to get the training program on the list and it is effective for one year. Then the program has to be

approved by the local workforce development area before WIOA will pay for training for an individual. These positions must be on the state or local Projected Employment Opportunities List which means that these jobs are in high demand. She added that our area in the past has provided more supportive services since PELL and other grants can pay for the school courses, but we hope to provide more individual training accounts in the future if allowed through the WIOA Act. After a lengthy discussion, Alvin Hearyman moved to approve the eligible training provider list. Seconded by Zach Branscum, the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Haas stated that the board, in partnership with the Chief Elected Officials, is responsible for developing and submitting a local workforce development plan to the Governor that is patterned after the state's WIOA plan. She presented the vision and goals for the area to the board for their review and approval and added that they are mirrored after the state's vision and goals. On a motion by Ben Baxter and second by Alvin Hearyman, the Board unanimously approved the vision and goals as presented.

Ms. Haas stated that one of the board's responsibilities is to identify specific sectors that are in high demand based on labor market information. Under WIOA, the need to focus local workforce strategies on industries and occupations that are in demand and offer substantial current or potential impact are stressed. An analysis of the regional economic conditions including existing and emerging in-demand industry sectors and information on current labor force employment and unemployment data has been conducted as part of the local plan. Ms. Haas distributed data that indicated the North Central area will see an increase in the Health Care, Educational Services, Manufacturing, Retail Trade and Accommodations and Food Services by 2022. After discussion, the board asked for a more detailed list that included the number of new jobs each sector would grow by before identifying the targeted sectors for the area.

In order to finalize the local plan, Vice Chairman Lawrence appointed a Planning Committee including Nancy Whitmire, Pam Williams, Steve Roofener and Ben Baxter to meet with Ms. Haas and work on the plan. Ms. Haas stated that the plan has to be submitted to DWS by December 31, 2016, but a 30-day period for public comment must be conducted before it is submitted. The plan will be presented to the board and Chief Elected Officials for approval at the December meetings.

Angela Goodwin, Program Director, presented the program report and talked about the changes in the WIOA performance measures that took effect July 1, 2016. She also discussed the summer program in which 49 youth participated. She reported that we have 26 NEG workers, 43 dislocated workers in which six are on work experience and the others are receiving supportive service while attending college, 95 adults with six on work experience and the remaining being provided supportive service and 75 youth with 24 out-of-school youth on work experience, 21 paid hourly to be in GED classes, one on OJT and seven co-enrolled in the adult program.

Each board member received a copy of the One-Stop Operator Procurement plan in their packet. Ms. Haas distributed a fact sheet and the state guidance regarding this, also. It was the consensus of the board at the June 8, 2016 meeting that the One-Stop Committee would work to develop the RFP, and then share with the other board members for their review and recommendations.

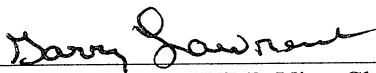
She told the board that the separation of duties between the one-stop operator, service provider and fiscal entity should be very clear. Ms. Haas went over the procurement plan and timeline that had already been approved by the CEO's. Alvin Hearyman made a motion to approve the procurement plan as presented. Seconded by Pam Williams, the motion carried unanimously.

Van Thomas, WRPDD Executive Director, discussed the proposed nepotism policy that the board received in their packet. On a motion by Pam Williams and second by Regina Burkett, the nepotism policy was unanimously approved.

In other business, Ms. Haas asked for the board's approval to appoint Staci Ringwald to the Youth Committee. She was a former member of the Youth Advisory Council and is the Regional Community Care Director at Health Resources of Arkansas. She works with children who have mental health needs and are at risk for out of home/community placements. On a motion by Nancy Whitmire and second by Darline Butler, the board unanimously approved Ms. Ringwald's appointment to the Youth Committee.

Ms. Haas informed the group that the date for the next board meeting is Wednesday, December 14, 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Pam Williams and second by Regina Burkett.



Garry Lawrence, WDB Vice Chairman