

**North Central Arkansas  
Workforce Development Board  
September 9, 2020  
Minutes**

The North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board convened through electronic means on September 9, 2020, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The meeting was conducted remotely utilizing Zoom and teleconference. Chair Pam Williams presided with the following members voicing their presence: Ben Baxter, Kimberly Clayborn, Gayle Cooper, Pat Dunegan, Shayne Gaither, Garry Lawrence, Dr. Chris Lorch, and Sherry Organ

Others Present: Wendy Howard, Angela Goodwin, Bree DeShazo, Elizabeth Smith, Jan Smith, Byron Southerland, and Tamika Speed.

Chair Pam Williams called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. After several minutes, Chair Williams declared the lack of a quorum. It was determined that the discussion items will be presented, but that no approval can be obtained.

Board Chair Pam Williams asked if there were any corrections regarding the March minutes. After hearing no response, Chair Williams moved to the next agenda item.

Ms. Williams invited Mr. Byron Southerland to present the financial report. Mr. Southerland presented a detailed spending report. He presented the funding amounts that must be spent by June 30, 2021. Mr. Southerland asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Ms. Elizabeth Smith then discussed the One-Stop/Partner update. She announced the plan for a local partner meeting to be held in the new WRPDD building, taking precautions with social distancing, temperature checks, and masks. She gave an update on the one-stop centers' response to COVID-19.

Chair Williams then introduced Ms. Angela Goodwin to facilitate the updates to the officers and committees. Ms. Goodwin explained that the committees can be updated, but that the Executive Committee chair, Workforce Development Board Chair and Vice-Chair require a vote.

Ben Baxter nominated Jamie Rayford to move to the chair position for the youth committee. Sherry Organ responded that she would be willing to fill the vice-chair position. Chair Pam Williams approved these changes.

Chair Williams asked Ms. Pat Dunegan if she would fill the position of Vice-Chair on the Disabilities Committee. Ms. Dunegan responded that she would be willing.

Regarding the One-Stop Committee, Ben Baxter volunteered to chair for the committee. Chair Williams approved this change.

Chair Williams recommended moving Regina Burkett to the secretary position of the Executive Committee. All were in favor.

Ms. Williams then introduced the next agenda item, program updates. Bree DeShazo presented a program report. She stated there are currently 194 active WIOA participants in North Central. 99 Adults, 17 ISY, 74 OSY, 4 DLW. Of those, 13 were in work experience. After Ms. DeShazo asked if there were any questions, Ben Baxter asked about adult enrollment. Ms. Elizabeth Smith responded that the career specialists are enrolling only a few new adults based on their priority of service and

that we hope to see more enrollment in January due to a decrease in obligations brought on by the change in application of Pell funding.

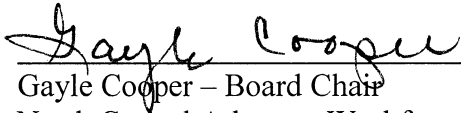
Ms. Angela Goodwin discussed the changes in supportive services policies. Fuel is allowed \$30 a week and max of \$500 for laptops. With no quorum, we cannot approve the updated policies. Ben asked if we can pay internet services, Elizabeth Smith said we are looking into how to do this.

Ms. Goodwin then discussed the approved programs report list. She explained that the board is encouraged to review it, but that no approval can be made without the quorum.

Ms. Elizabeth Smith shared that the state has approved the local plan. She explained the additional youth barriers may help us to increase enrollment in the out-of-school youth program

Garry Lawrence then discussed 200 possible job opportunities in Sharp County.

Board Chair Pam Williams asked if there was any other business. Hearing no response, she thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gayle Cooper". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gayle Cooper – Board Chair

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