

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board Meeting
June 12, 2019 – 10:30 a.m.
UACCB Independence Hall – Batesville, AR
Minutes

Members Present: Ben Baxter, Gayle Cooper, Shayne Gaither, Raye Ann Hager, Garry Lawrence, Sherry Organ, Angela Ryland, Kimberly Clayborn, Pat Dunegan and Pam Williams

Member Represented via telephone: Regina Burkett

Others Present: Bree DeShazo, Carrie McIntosh, Mitzi Hargan, Wendy Howard, Antonio Garcia, Donetta Bradford, Andrea Lee, Jan Smith, Tonya Hass, Chris Lorch, Lynn Poff, Amanda Chapman, Tonya Crawford, Ronda Ivy, Edward Myers, Angela Davis, Amber Neal, Elizabeth Smith, Byron Southerland, and Greg Miller.

A meeting of the North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Board Chair Pam Williams on June 12, 2019. Board Chair Williams called for an approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. A motion was made by Angela Ryland and seconded by Raye Ann Hager, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Elizabeth Smith introduced new staff members Tonya Crawford and Amanda Chapman. Tonya will be serving the Sharp county area, while Amanda will be serving Woodruff and Jackson counties. Jan Smith discussed the hire of a new White County employee who starts June 17th as a Career Specialist for that area.

Byron Southerland gave a financial report explaining the decrease in funding from 2020 to 2021 and the May 31st financial status of the program.

Elizabeth Smith discussed the updated ACRS eligible provider and programs list which had been previously distributed.

Ms. Breana Howard, a WIOA participant, spoke about her experience in the program. She told of how she has maintained a 3.6 grade point average while on the program, and how none of it could be possible without the help she has received. Breana is a student at Ozarka College working toward her RN degree.

Elizabeth Smith gave an update on the One-Stop Centers explaining the new procedures for the centers through a handout that was previously given.

Elizabeth Smith presented proposed updates to several policies, which had been previously distributed. She explained that they have been updated to further align federal and state regulation. The changes include:

1. Conflict of Interest: new policy
2. Dislocated Worker Eligibility; whereas the previous Unlikely to Return policy was a part of determining dislocated worker eligibility, General Announcement, Unemployed as a Result of General Economic Conditions, and Self-Employed but Unemployed as a Result of Natural Disaster were added
3. Eligible Training Provider: a description of how to add to the Projected Employment Opportunities List was added

4. Grievance: new policy
5. Referrals of Youth and other individuals: new policy
6. Supportive Services for Youth: requiring the participant to attend WIOA activities to receive supportive services was removed
7. Work Experience Transitional Jobs: new policy
8. Youth Incentive: incentive for youth who obtain their GED was removed

Ms. Williams asked for a motion to accept the changes to the policies. Garry Lawrence made a motion and Shayne Gaither seconded. With their being no further discussion, the updated policies were accepted as presented.

Tony Garcia gave an Out of School Youth update and also talked about what outreach he has been doing in order to reach that population.

Bree DeShazo updated the board on participant counts, supportive services, and individual training accounts. She discussed how well the welding program, in particular, is doing in helping our participants earn 32 dollars an hour.

Ms. Smith discussed the need to update the WDB committees. The board appointed Pam Williams to remain as Chair and Garry Lawrence as Vice Chair. No others were nominated, and the vote was unanimous. Darline Tucker informed the board she would be stepping down and nominated Tim London as her replacement on the Executive Committee as Secretary. There were no other nominations and the vote was unanimous. Chair Williams appointed Keith McClanahan and Regina Burkett to the Executive Committee. All new board members were encouraged to choose a committee to help with when needed.

With no further business, Shayne Gaither made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angela Ryland seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Pam Williams

Pam Williams, Board Chair

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board