

**North Central Arkansas
Workforce Development Board
November 13, 2024
Minutes**

The North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board convened at White River Planning and Development District on November 13, 2024 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was conducted in person, with a zoom option, and there was a quorum. Chairman Gayle Cooper presided with the following members present:

Michael Arnold
Stacy Gunderman
Renee' Martin
Gayle Cooper
Janet Hearyman
Garry Lawrence
Karen Palmer
Trish Miller
Marcus Orf
Gina Wells
Jennifer Pike

Others Present:

Staff included: Janet Smith, Bree DeShazo, Chase Shonk, Calvin Wright and Elizabeth Smith.
Guests included: Tom Pittman (AWC), Tracy Watson (AWC), Todd Hunter (AEDC), Dr. Zach Perrine (UACCB).

Members not present:

Wiley Osborn
Christel Taylor
Amie McBride
Amber Neal
Chad Vincent
Jada Washington
Marcus Orf
Dr. Holly Smith

Since there was a quorum, Chairman Cooper asked the Board for approval of the previous minutes from September of 2024. Chairman Cooper asked if there were any discussion that needed to take place before the voting and there was none.

1st Mr. Garry Lawrence 2nd Mrs. Trish Miller All members voted yes for approval of the minutes.

Chairman Cooper welcomed Mr. Calvin Wright and Mr. Chase Shonk to present the financial report. Mr. Wright gave a summary of the organization's financial standing, outlining the use of allocated funds up to this point. He emphasized the progress made in staying on track with spending goals and maintaining adherence to the budget. Mr. Shonk then showed detailed charts depicting how funds had been distributed across different categories, highlighting the areas with the most significant expenses. Mr. Wright and Mr. Shonk both discussed with the Board the fact that WIOA Title I-B had reached it's max of participants due to funding cuts. After their presentation, Chairman Cooper

asked the Board to approve the budget.

1st Mrs. Stacy Gunderman 2nd Mrs. Janet Hearyman All members voted yes for approval of the financial report.

In the absence of One-Stop Manager, Mrs. Jamie Hill, Chairman Cooper invited Ms. Elizabeth Smith to provide an update on the Searcy Workforce Center. Ms. Smith presented the update, which had originally been shared by Mrs. Hill, and discussed the Center's monthly activity report with the Board. Additionally, she highlighted the various outreach initiatives currently underway.

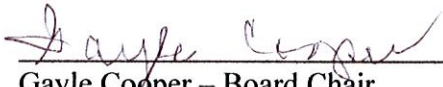
Chairman Cooper invited representatives from the Partner Programs to present their updates. Mrs. Trish Miller from Adult Education offered an overview of recent initiatives, highlighting several promising developments within the program. After her presentation, Mrs. Jennifer Pike from Arkansas Workforce Connections shared an update on activities at the Searcy Workforce Center, reinforcing the details previously provided by Mrs. Jamie Hill's report.

Chairman Cooper invited Mrs. Bree DeShazo to present a WIOA Title I-B report to which Mrs. DeShazo stated that the program currently had 163 participants. Mrs. DeShazo explained that this was a mix of youth and adults. Mrs. DeShazo then presented the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) to the Board as a generic update. Chairman Cooper asked if there were any questions about the ETPL to which there were none.

1st Mrs. Jennifer Pike 2nd Mrs. Stacy Gunderman All members were in favor of accepting the ETPL.

Having no further business Chairman Cooper asked for a motion to adjourn.

1st Mrs. Gina Wells 2nd Mrs. Stacy Gunderman All members were in favor of adjournment.



Gayle Cooper – Board Chair

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