



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**May 23, 2017
Video Conference Locations**

**Department of Labor and Workforce Development
3301 Eagle Street, Room 104, Anchorage**

**Department of Labor and Workforce Development
675 7th Avenue, Station M, Fairbanks**

**Department of Labor and Workforce Development
1111 W. 8th Avenue, Room 308, Juneau**

Teleconference Number 1-888-354-0094 Conference ID 4461969111

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Board members and Designees in attendance

Gerad	Godfrey	Lt.Gov. Designee	
Corey	Baxter	Organized Labor	x
Bruce	Bustamante	Private Sector	x
Heidi	Drygas	DOLWD Commissioner	
Greg	Cashen	DOLWD Designee	x
Meg	Nordale	Business/Industry	x
Kathy	Craft	Prof Dev Disabilities	x
Doug	Tansy	Organized Labor	x
Kurt	Kuhne	Private Sector	x
David	Alexander	Adult Basic Education	x
Corey	Hester	Private Sector	x
Deborah	Riddle	DEED Designee	x
Kevin	Pomeroy	Organized Labor	x
Ethan	Tyler	DCCED Designee	x
Karen	Forrest	DHHS Designee	x
Cheryl	Edenshaw	Post Sec Ed/Voc/Ind	
Carin	Smolin	Sec/Vocational Ed	x
Tabitha	Gregory	Business/Industry	x
Fred	Villa	U of A Designee	x
Mike	Tucker	Native E/T	
Marcus	Trivette	Private Sector	x
Brenda	Paccaro	Business/Industry	x
Dan	Domke	Public Education	x
Corey	Hester	Private Sector	x
James	Hastings	Veteran	Absent
Gary	Dixon	Organized Labor	x

Jobs Are Alaska's Future

AWIB Staff in attendance

Allison Biastock, Executive Direct, AWIB
Louise Dean, Program Coordinator, AWIB
Kim Weaver, Administrative Assistant, AWIIB

DOLWD Staff in attendance

Paloma Harbour, Director, DOLWD/Administrative Services Division
Debbie Banaszak, Legislative Liaison, DOLWD/Commissioner's Office
Cathy LeCompte, Director, AVTEC
John Cannon, Director, DOLWD/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Dan Robinson, Chief, DOLWD/Research and Analysis
Yuancie Lee, Economist, DOLWD/Research and Analysis
Shawna Harper, Acting Assistant Director, DOLWD/Division of Employment Training Services
Lisa Mielke, Acting Assistant Director, DOLWD/Division of Employment Training Services

Guests

Ruth Schoenleben, Nine Star
Jeff Logan
Paul Carpenter, Northern Industrial Training
Ronald Raymond- Langley, Independent Policy Analyst

Chair Larry Bell called call to Order – The meeting to order at 8:40

Roll Call- Allison Biastock – Executive Director Biastock called roll and advised Chair Bell there was a quorum present for the meeting.

Opening Remarks – Larry Bell – Chair Bell welcomed guests and members and thanked the committees for the work they do.

Welcome – Deputy Commissioner Greg Cashen – Deputy Commissioner Cashen welcomed the board members to the meeting, noting that he and Commissioner Drygas appreciate everyone taking the time to participate.

Agenda Approval

MOTION to approve agenda by Doug Tansy
Seconded by Kevin Pomeroy
Vote taken
MOTION carries

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Budget Update – Paloma Harbour – Director, DOLWD, Administrative Services provided an overview of the current version of the DOLWD budget. Director Harbour noted that if the Legislature does not pass a budget by June 30, there will be a government shutdown on July 1, 2017.

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Legislative Update – Debbie Banaszak – Ms. Banaszak reported on HB 141 TVEP Reauthorization. TVEP has been extended for three years, until June 30, 2010. The legislature requested the AWIB review the performance measures for the TVEP program and report on their progress in the next legislative session. HB 142, which raises the maximum weekly benefit amount for unemployment insurance was considered by the House Labor and Commerce Committee and will be taken up again next legislative session.

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Economic Update and Alaska's 2005 HS Graduates – 10 Years Later – Dan Robinson and Yuancie Lee provided an industry economic overview from 2016 and an employment forecast for 2017. Yuancie Lee provided an overview of 2005 Alaska HS graduates ten years later covering what they were doing and what types and levels of postsecondary education they had attained.

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Update – John Cannon, Director. Director Cannon reported that UDSOL's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) has had a significant impact on DVR services. WIOA strengthened client services by improving alignment with other programs, and focusing on integrated employment, particularly for youth with disabilities. DVR's Pre-Employment Training Services will provide over 600 students with disabilities pre-employment transition services to help them prepare for the workplace.

AVTEC Update – Cathy LeCompte, Director, AVTEC, – Director LeCompte reported that AVTEC is partnering with the University for training programs in maritime, heavy diesel, welding, and information technology. There have also been partnerships with employers and industries for apprenticeship opportunities. AVTEC has been engaged in strategic planning, and is using data collected to examine and prioritize organizational goals, objectives, and action items by October of this year.

Committee Reports

Larry Bell - Executive Committee – Chair Bell reported the Executive Committee has met monthly to discuss ongoing administrative needs of the board and to consider several resolutions and policies coming out of other committees.

Kevin Pomeroy – Legislative Committee – Chair Pomeroy reported the committee met on May 23 to consider resolution 17-04. The resolution in support of career and technical education (CTE), is in response to a statewide initiative, “Alaska’s Education Challenge,” championed by the Governor and the Department of Education and Early Development. A copy of the resolution will be shared with the education challenge participants, and with policy makers. Chair Pomeroy indicated there was robust discussion of the resolution in committee.

Corey Baxter – Policy and Planning Committee – Chair Baxter reported that his committee met on March 23 and reviewed Policy 100-2017 that establishes guidelines for certifying job centers. The committee met again on March 30 to approve revisions to the draft policy, and then forwarded the policy to the Assessment and Evaluation committee for their consideration. The policy is an action item later today.

Doug Tansy – Assessment and Evaluation – Chair Tansy thanked his fellow committee members for their efforts and participation, and welcomed new board member Brenda Paccaro. The committee met one time in May to review Policy 100-2017; the committee made some revisions based on discussion, and forwarded the policy to the ExCo for their consideration.

Marcus Trivette – Workforce Readiness, Employment and Placement Committee – Chair Trivette thanked fellow committee members and staff. The WREP committee has met twice since the last board meeting, working primarily on the barriers to employment issue. The committee heard from the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission’s barriers to re-entry working group on their efforts in this arena, and determined to ask AWIB members to engage in some employer outreach on this issue. Chair Trivette noted that members should feel free to share any topics they would like to have the WREP committee take on with himself or E.D. Biastock.

Public testimony

Ronald Raymond-Langley – Mr. Langley testified in support of economic strategies for workforce development in Alaska, particularly in the maritime field, citing its importance for development of the Arctic.

Other Commission/Board Updates

Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education

Kurt Kuhne – AWIB representative on Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education. The Commission met most recently on April 6, 2017, at that meeting they passed a resolution in support of the maintaining Alaska's performance scholarship, as there is currently legislation to change the scholarship program.

Alaska State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee

Kathy Kraft - AWIB representative on the state's Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. The committee has released its 2016 Annual Report, which was distributed in the meeting packet. The council meets quarterly. Dave Berube and Bonnie Lucas have been elected Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

Discussion Items

Barriers to Employment

Marcus Trivette, Chair, Workforce Readiness, Employment and Placement Committee gave an update on the committee's efforts on the barriers to employment faced by those with prior criminal convictions. The Chair reminded the board that at the February 2017 AWIB meeting, members were supportive of the WREP committee moving ahead with activities including considering a "ban the box" initiative, considering SOA occupational licensing system reforms, and developing and distributing educational materials for employers. At WREP's march meeting, a representative of the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Barriers to Reentry Working Group – which is currently examining policies like "ban the box," and supporting SOA regulatory revisions on barriers crimes as they pertain to certain state occupational licenses – provided an overview of that group's efforts. Chair Trivette shared that ACJC has yet to take a position on a "ban the box" policy, and that the revised regulations related to occupational licensure are in technical review with the Department of Law; he also noted that the WREP committee will continue to monitor the Commission's efforts. The WREP committee determined that of the three avenues presented to the full board in February, the best place to start is with outreach to employers. Chair Trivette requested that AWIB members, using the outreach materials developed by WREP and shared in the board packet, engage with at least two employers on this issue and report back to AWIB staff any information that will help inform the board's efforts. Chair Trivette urged members to participate in this outreach exercise.

AVTEC Letter

Chair Bell gave an overview of the letter to AVTEC delegating authority. This letter is something that is required by AVTEC accreditors, the Council on Occupational Education (COE), to allow the institution to make programmatic changes. This letter replaces a similar prior version.

One Stop Job Center Competitive Selection Process

Executive Director Biastock indicated the WIOA required procurement for the One Stop Job Centers operators is a process the board has been following for quite some time. In October of last year, AWIB decided to issue a Request for Interest (RFI) as the first step in the process. The RFI was issued in February 2017. The Division of Employment and Training Services (DETS) was one of the RFI respondents, because DETS is a division within the department this led to the question of a conflict of interest. Following consultation with the Department of Law's senior ethics officer, it was determined that the Alaska Department of Administration's Division of General Services (DGS) should handle the procurement process. After compiling all related documentation, including the results of the RFI, DOLWD sent a request to the DGS asking them to review the materials, conduct a cost analysis for a formal solicitation process, and make a recommendation of the course of action. DGS responded with a

determination that it is in the best interest of the state to contract directly with DETS. At this time, that determination has been shared with USDOL with a request that they review it, and we are awaiting their response, which will be shared with the board once received. If USDOL agrees with DGS's determination, the next step will be to start drafting an MOU with the Job Center partners, using WIOA guidance. Marcus Trivette asked if there would be any interruption of services associated with the procurement process, to which E.D. Biastock responded no.

TVEP Reporting Requirements

Executive Director Biastock reported there would be a review process for looking at TVEP reporting. The Executive Committee, which meets monthly, will review the program's reporting requirements, and associated statutes and regulations, as well as prior reporting, and consider recommendations for improvement. The committee will update the AWIB on their progress at the October 2017 board meeting, and will update the Legislature in January 2018.

Gas Line Workforce Development Plan Overview

Mike Andrews, former director of the Division of Employment Training Services, along with Deputy Commissioner Cashen gave an overview of the Gasline Workforce Development Plan. The State of Alaska is advancing two natural gas pipeline options to bring North Slope natural gas to Alaska and world markets: the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline (Alaska LNG) and the Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP). The estimated labor demand for a gasline project is between 8,000-12,000 workers, plus legacy jobs for operation and maintenance. The indirect job multiplier is 0.5, meaning a gasline project could add one new nonpipeline job for every two pipeline jobs.

Action Items get talking points

Policy 100-2017 – One Stop Certification Criteria Policy. Chair Bell introduced the policy, noting it had been reviewed and approved by the Policy & Planning, Assessment and Evaluation Committees – each of which made revisions to the policy - and was approved by the Executive Committees prior to coming before the full board. The Policy establishes the process and procedure for evaluation and certifying one-stop sites under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This new AWIB policy both captures the WIOA required criteria updates, and reflects the new requirements per the frequency of certifications. The policy will need to be reviewed by the AWIB every two years.

MOTION to approve Policy 100-2017 by Ethan Tyler

Seconded by Doug Tansy

Discussion – Fred Villa asked about how we assess the quality of services being provided at affiliate and comprehensive job centers, particularly services provided electronically. Member Villa noted that he recognizes customer service is also a criteria. E.D. Biastock responded that the policy equally applies affiliate and comprehensive centers, and that while many sites offer services electronically, it would be up to the job center operator to report on how services are supplied and the quality of those services.

Vote taken

MOTION carries

RESOLUTION 17-04 IN SUPPORT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION – Kevin Pomeroy, Chair, Legislative Committee, discussed Resolution 17-04, which was approved by the Legislative Committee. Chair Pomeroy notes that the AWIB has long been a supporter of Career and Technical Education, and its important role in preparing Alaskans for our workforce. E.D. Biastock noted that the State of Alaska recently kicked off “Alaska’s Education Challenge,” which is a process to conduct a comprehensive analysis of our public education system. The resolution asks participants in the Education Challenge, as well as state policy makers, to support CTE, and to support the expansion of CTE availability and opportunities in Alaska.

MOTION to support RESOLUTION 17-04 by Meg Nordale

Seconded by Ethan Tyler
Vote taken
MOTION carries

Regional and Industry Updates from all AWIB members – Board members gave updates from their regions and industries.

DOLWD Training Updates and WIOA Activities – Shawna Harper and Lisa Mielke, Division of Employment and Training Services (DETS) Acting Assistant Directors, provided an overview of WIOA, and the division's implementation activities to date, as well as next steps. The DETS team also discussed some of the division's employment and training services, highlighting Veteran's Services, which have served over 2,200 vets through Alaska's Job Centers, and the Disability Employment Initiative that projects to provide 200 students with career exploration, work readiness training, and other skills in 2017.

ADJOURN

MOTION to adjourn by Doug Tansy
Seconded by Ethan Tyler
Seconded by
VOTE taken
MOTION carries

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.