



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

*Alaska Workforce Investment Board Meeting*

February 15, 2018

Video Conference

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

Thursday, February 15, 2018

***Board members and Designees in attendance***

Heather	Parker	Lt.Gov. Designee	x
Corey	Baxter	Organized Labor	absent
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	absent
Corey	Hester	Private Sector	x
Deborah	Riddle	DEED Designee	x BjornWolter
Kevin	Pomeroy	Organized Labor	x
Brittney	Cioni-Haywood	DCCED Designee	x
Karen	Forrest	DHHS Designee	x
Cheryl	Edenshaw	Post Sec Ed/Voc/Ind	x
Carin	Smolin	Secondary VocationalEd	x
Tabitha	Gregory	Business/Industry	x
Fred	Villa	University of Alaska Designee	x
Mike	Tucker	Native E/T	x
Marcus	Trivette	Private Sector	x
Brenda	Pacarro	Business/Industry	x
Dan	Domke	Public Education	x
William	Huber	Veteran	x
Gary	Dixon	Organized Labor	x
Bryan	Zak	Non Voting Member	x
Ethan	Burkowitz	Non Voting Member	x

***AWIB Staff in attendance***

Allison Biastock, Executive Direct, AWIB

Louise Dean, Program Coordinator, AWIB

**DOLWD Staff in attendance**

Ed Flanagan, Director, DOLWD/Division of Employment and Training Services (DETS)  
Heather Beaty, Special Assistant, DOLWD/Commissioner’s Office  
Paloma Harbour, Director, DOLWD/Administrative Services Division  
Dan Robinson, Chief, DOLWD/Research and Analysis  
Shawna Harper, Assistant Director, DOLWD/DETS  
James Harvey, Assistant Director, DETS  
Cathy LeCompte, Director, AVTEC  
John Cannon, Director, DOLWD/DVR

**Introduction**

**Call to Order** ..... AWIB Vice Chair Brenda Pacarro  
Vice Chair Brenda Pacarro called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**Roll Call**..... AWIB Executive Director Allison Biastock  
Executive Director Biastock called roll. A quorum was present for the meeting.

**Welcome** ..... Vice Chair Brenda Pacarro  
Vice Chair Pacarro thanked the DOLWD staff for joining the meeting. She introduced new board members Heather Parker, Lt. Governor’s designee and non voting members Mayor Bryan Zak of Homer and Mayor Ethan Berkowitz of Anchorage. She indicated the addition of the mayors to the board was in response to a request form the US Department of Labor relating to our statutes as a single area state.

**Agenda Approval**..... Vice Chair Brenda Pacarro  
MOTION to approve the agenda by Bill Huber  
Seconded by Mike Tucker  
Vote taken  
MOTION carries

**Welcome** .....DOLWD Deputy Commissioner Greg Cashen  
Deputy Commissioner Cashen thanked AWIB members for attending the meeting. He shared the department’s accomplishments and efforts to develop Alaska’s workforce and to support local hire and economic development.

**DOLWD Research and Analysis Economic Update**

**Employment Forecast, Non Resident Hire** .....Dan Robinson, Chief, Research and Analysis. Mr. Robinson provided a presentation reviewing the jobs forecast in 2018. The report highlighted Anchorage; Fairbanks and Southeast. The industries with job growth are manufacturing; educational and health services and health care. The number of nonresident workers dropped slightly in 2016 at 21.5%. The nonresident wages also dropped slightly that year.

**Committee Reports**..... Committee Chairs  
The committee chairs gave an update for their committee activities since the October 2017 board meeting. The reports are as follows:

**Executive** ..... Brenda Pacarro  
Vice Chair Pacarro reported the executive committee has convened four times. At each meeting, an agenda item was the ongoing review of the Technical and Vocational Education Program, or TVEP's, reporting requirements. The committee also approved RESOLUTION 17-08 Supporting the Repeal of 8AAC 15.120 Minimum wage exemption for persons with disabilities. This resolution was proposed and discussed with the full board during our October 2017 business meeting. A copy of that resolution was sent to board members following ExCo's approval. The executive committee approved the David G. Stone Award recipients, RESOLUTION 18-01 Support of Early Care and Learning In Alaska, and RESOLUTION 18-02 to Endorse the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

**Legislative** ..... Kevin Pomeroy  
The legislative committee has not met since the last meeting.

**Policy and Planning** ..... Allison Biastock  
Executive Director Biastock reported for Chair Baxter. The policy and planning committee reviewed and Approved RESOLUTION 18-02 To Endorse the Alaska Performance Scholarship. This resolution is an action item on the agenda for our consideration this afternoon.

**Assessment and Evaluation** ..... Doug Tansy  
Chair Tansy reported at the last meeting, the committee reviewed the nominations for the David G. Stone Awards for excellence in career and technical education. The committee forwarded recommendations to the executive for approval. The recipients will be announced during discussion items.

**Workforce Readiness & Employment Placement** ..... Marcus Trivette  
At the November, 2017 meeting, the committee discussed early care and learning in Alaska. We heard from Dept. of Education and Early Development's Anji Gallanos, and Juneau Economic Development Corporation's Executive Director, Brian Holst. The committee looked at this topic and how it relates to workforce development.

At the January, 2018 meeting, the committee reviewed draft RESOLUTION 18-01 in Support of Early Care and Learning in Alaska. The committee approved the resolution to be forwarded to the executive committee for approval.

**Statewide Vocational Rehabilitation Committee Update** ..... Kathy Craft  
Ms. Craft reported there were various handouts in the board meeting packet. There is a copy of a letter to Senator Murkowski from David Berub, Chair SVRC regarding tax refort. The business reconition awards went to Sea Mart in Sikta (small employer) and Fred Meyer in Juneau (large employer).

**Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education Update** ..... Kurt Kuhne  
Mr. Kuhne reported he did not attend the last meeting. The commission oversees the student loan corporation.

**Industry and Regional Updates: Group One** (*David Alexander, Mayor Ethan Berkowitz, Bruce Bustamante, Britteny Cioni- Haywood, Kathy Craft, Gary Dixon, Dan Domke*) Board members provided industry and regional updates.

**DOLWD Budget Update** ..... Paloma Harbour, Administrative Services Director  
Director Harbour provided an update on the DOLWD budget. Ms. Harbour highlighted the accomplishments of the department such as provided career and training services to over 98,000 Alaskans through the Alaska Job Center Network; expanding apprenticeship opportunities including increasing the number of health care apprenticesies from 32 to 220; providing over 1,000 youth with disabilities with employment training; providing pre-employment transition servides to over 800 students with disabilities and assisting inmates at Alaskan correctional facilities prior to reentry.

**DOLWD Legislative Update** ..... Tally Teal, DOLWD Legislative Liaison  
Ms. Teal provided a legislative update to the AWIB. The current DOLWD legislation includes HB79 (SB40) Workers' Comp Efficiencies; HB 69 (SB29) WCAC Repeal; HB 114 Boiler/Pressure Vessel Reports; HB 121 Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Penalties; HB 142 Raise UI Maximum Weekly Benefit; HB 255 Certificate of Fitness Enforcement; and HB 303/SB 156 Reemployment Benefits Reform.

### **Discussion Items**

**David G. Stone Awards**..... Doug Tansy  
Assessment and Evaluation Committee Chair Tansy provided information to the board regarding the David G. Stone awards. He indicated the nominations period was announced via a press release and email following the October AWIB meeting and closed January 5, 2018. The committee received several outstanding nominations and sent recommendations to the executive committee. The winners of the awards are: K-12 Educator/Administrator: Matthew "Taw" Lindsey, Metlakatla HS; Postsecondary Educator/Administrator: Xiomara Owens, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) Program Manager; Employer: Tanana Chiefs Conference – Fairbanks, Alaska

**TVEP Reporting Requirements Review Update**..... Allison Biastock  
Executive Director Biastock reported the executive committee is leading the review and meeting with DOLWD staff monthly. The committee has reviewed and discussed TVEP's: statute; administrative code; recognized reporting challenges; prior reporting; DOLWD grant administration processes and program recipient responses to a survey about TVEP and its reporting. The executive committee is requesting the assessment and evaluation committee review their draft recommendations. It is intended for the full board to consider the recommendations at the May 2018 AWIB meeting. The department updated the legislature on the review process in January 2018.

**Career and Technical Education Plan Addendum Update**..... Allison Biastock  
Executive Director Biastock reported the CTE Plan Addendum workgroup meets monthly. The group has developed online surveys (general, business and industry); reviewed elements of the addendum and existing strategy implementation.

**One-Stop Job Centers MOU Update** ..... Allison Biastock  
Executive Director Biastock reported the One Stop Job Centers MOU is being executed in two phases: Phase One – operational elements fo the MOU and Phase Two – required infrastructure cost sharing. A signature draft of Phase One of the MOU has been transmitted to partners and signatures are coming in. We are actively engaging with collocated partners on Phase Two of the MOU.

**Workforce Program Reports** ..... Shawna Harper, Assistant Director, DETS  
Ms. Harper updated the board on the workforce program reports. There is a report prepared for the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP). The report focuses on how the program serves

youth and adults; the statewide training infrastructure; operating costs for training centers across the state and graduation rates, employment and earnings, Alaska resident hire and reducing unemployment.

**WIOA Combined Plan Update** ..... Allison Biastock  
Executive Director provided an update on the WIOA Combined Plan. The combined plan includes goals for: preparing an educated and skilled workforce, including preparing youth and individuals with barriers of employment and other populations, and meeting the skilled workforce needs of employers. State strategies in the plan include: engage with industry partners, expand apprenticeship, innovation at Alaska Job Center Network and prioritize target populations.

**Public Testimony – There were no participants for public testimony**

**Industry and Regional Updates: Group Two** (*Cheryl Edenshaw, Karen Forrest, Tabitha Gregory, Corey Hester, Bill Huber, Kurt Kuhne, Meg Nordale, Brenda Pacarro, Heather Parker, Kevin Pomeroy*) Board members provided industry and regional updates.

**DOLWD Training and Workforce Development Update**

**Div. of Employment Training Services Update** .....Ed Flanagan, DETS Director  
Director Flanagan provided information to the board on Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (IOA) required core partners programs. The core partners in the Division of Employment Training Services include: WIOA Title Ib, Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth; Adult Basic Education (ABE) Title II; and Vagner-Peyser Title III.

**Div. of Vocational Rehabilitation Update**.....John Cannon, DVR Director  
Director Cannon thanked the board for their support to repeal the sub-minimum wage regulation. The repeal takes effect on February 16, 2018. The division will participate in a federal monitor review April 23-27.

**DOLWD AVTEC Update**.....Cathy LeCompte, AVTEC Division Director  
Director LeCompte reported in FY17, 97% of AVTEC students enrolled in long term programs completed training. 90% of the class of 2016 were employed in training-related jobs one year later. AVTEC completers who were employed one year after graduation earn 66% more than they did before completing their AVTEC program. There has been ongoing facility challenges – 38 beds are out of service in the new dormitory due to broken pipes.

**Action Items**

**RESOLUTION 18-01 EARLY CARE AND LEARNING IN ALASKA**..... Marcus Trivette  
Marcus Trivette, Workforce Readiness Employment Placement Committee, Chair presented RESOLUTION 18-01 to the board. This resolution acknowledges the connection between early learning and workforce readiness, as well as the necessity of accessible early care services statewide, and the trained workforce to provide them. The resolution also urges the policy and business communities to look for opportunities to expand access to quality early care and learning, and to acknowledge the connection between early care and preparing Alaskans to meet industry needs.

MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 18-01 Early Care and Learning in Alaska by Bill Huber  
Seconded by Cheryl Edenshaw  
Discussion – Mr. Huber thanked Marcus for his leadership.  
Vote taken  
MOTION carries.

**RESOLUTION 18-02 ALASKA PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP .....Carin Smolin**

In absence of Chair Baxter, Carin Smolin introduced RESOLUTION 18-02 – To Endorse the Alaska Performance Scholarship. This resolution was approved by the Policy and Planning committee, and the Executive Committee – and is now before the full board. It recognizes the Alaska Performance Scholarship, or the APS, as a valuable tool the state has to help develop our workforce. High school graduates who qualify for and use the APS for education and job training are more likely to remain in Alaska. In addition, High school graduates who qualify for and use the APS for education and job training are more likely to remain in Alaska. The resolution we are considering today resolves that the AWIB endorses the APS as a valuable tool to prepare the next generation of Alaska’s workforce.

MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 18-02 Alaska Performance Scholarship by Mike Tucker  
Seconded by Heather Parker

Vote taken

MOTION carries.

**Alaska LNG Project Workforce Development Plan Update .....DOLWD**

Mike Andrews discussed the Alaska LNG Project Workforce Development Plan.

**Industry and Regional Updates: Group Three** (*Deborah Riddle, Carin Smolin, Doug Tansy, Marcus Trivette, Mike Tucker, Fred Villa, Mayor Bryan Zak*) Board members provided industry and regional updates.

**Reflections**

**Adjourn**