



Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) Business Meeting
February 24, 2022
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting
Teleconference Number 907-202-7104 Conference ID 856 174 312#

Thursday, February 24, 2022

Board members and Designees in attendance

Kevin	Meyer	Lt. Gov.	X
Tamika	Ledbetter	DOLWD Commissioner	X
Duane	Mayes	DOLWD Designee/ DVR Director	X
Deb	Riddle	DEED Designee	X
Christine	Marasigan	DHSS Designee	Absent
Randi	Baker	DCCED Designee	X
Karla	Head	Post Sector Ed/Cov. Ind.	X
Patricia	Zugg	Mat-Su Borough School District	X
Malyn	Smith	Adult Basic Education	X
Alison	Nielsen-Bryant	Prof. Dev. Disabilities	X
Brenda	Pacarro	Business/ Industry	Absent
Larry	Bell	Business/ Industry	Absent
Lucille	Sands	Business/ Industry	X
Mari	Selle	Business/ Industry	X
Peter	Frank	Privet Sector	X
Patrick	Rose	Privet Sector	X
James	Hastings	Veteran	Absent
Marcus	Trivette	Private Sector	X
Sharon	Jackson	Private Sector	X
Scott	Eickholt	Organized Labor	X
Corey	Baxter	Organized Labor	X
Ryan	Andrew	Organized Labor	Absent
Anthony	Ladd	Organized Labor	Absent



AWIB Staff in attendance

Jerry Pierce, Assistant Commissioner DOLWD
Nelson San Juan, Deputy Commissioner DOLWD
Kathy Muñoz, Deputy Commissioner DOLWD
Kyla Pomrenke, Executive Director
Greg Cashen, Assistant Director
Anne Velardi, Program Coordinator
Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator
Leslie Vines, Program Coordinator
Xavien Phillips, Program Coordinator
David Grosshuesch, Administrative Assistant

DOLWD Staff in attendance

Dan Robinson, Chief, DOLWD/ Research and Analysis
Cathy LeCompte, Director, Alaska Vocational Education Center (AVTEC)
Dan DeBartolo, Director, ASD

Guests in attendance

Brad Billings, EED
Amanda Sivertsen, DOL
Jeannie Monk, Public Testimony

8:30 Introduction

Call to Order **Vice Chair Mari Selle**
Vice Chair Selle called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM.

Roll Call **Executive Director Pomrenke**
Executive Director Pomrenke called roll. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Welcome..... **Vice Chair Mari Selle**
Vice Chair Selle thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She introduced new members of the board, Christine Marasigan, Micaela Fowler, and Carla Head provided a brief synopsis about themselves.

Agenda Approval **Vice Chair Mari Selle**
MOTION to approve the agenda by Lucille Sands
Second By Corey Baxter
Discussion – none
Vote taken
MOTION carries

Welcome **Commissioner Tamika Ledbetter**
Commissioner Ledbetter welcomed AWIB Board Members and thanked them for their time. She recognized Lieutenant Governor Meyer on his retirement and Director Kyla Pomrenke on her new appointment of Executive Director for AWIB.



8:45 DOLWD Research and Analysis Dan Robinson, Chief Research and Analysis

Dan Robinson provided an economic update for Alaska. He demonstrated where Alaska is at with the job numbers compared to other states due to COVID and how long it will take to recover. He demonstrated how the pandemic affected Alaska workers for the last two years. He gave a comprehensive presentation on Alaska's economy and how it will be affected two years after the pandemic hit.

9:30 Committee Reports Committee Chairs

Executive Committee Vice Chair Mari Selle

Vice Chair Selle thanked Corey Baxter, Anthony Ladd, and Marcus Trivette for their time and effort. She reported the ExCo met four times since the last board meeting. In November the Committee approved the full board meeting and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Annual Report. They reviewed and approved the State Training Employment Program (STEP) request for Grant Application (RGA) and WIOA Youth Program TRA revisions in December. In January they met to discuss the draft agenda and provided suggestions for today's meeting and reviewed and approved the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) report. In February, the committee approved the agenda for today's meeting and the Alaska Training Program Performance Report (TPPR).

Workforce Readiness & Employment Placement Marcus Trivette

Chair Trivette indicated the committee consists of Deborah Riddle and James Hastings and two new committee members, Alison Nielsen-Bryant and Scott Eickholt. Since the last board meeting, the committee reviewed the RGA for STEP and WIOAY. They forwarded the RGAs to the Executive Board for review and approval.

Assessment and Evaluation Director Pomrenke

Director Pomrenke spoke on behalf of Chair Ladd and reported the committee consists of Chair Anthony Ladd, Ryan Andrew and Peter Frank and welcomed two new members, Christine Marasigan, and Patricia (Trish) Zugg. Since the last board meeting the committee reviewed the RGA for the State Training and Employment Program (STEP) and Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth. After reviewing the RGAs were forwarded to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

Policy and Planning Corey Baxter

Chair Baxter stated the current members are Lucille Sands, Mayln Smith, Patrick Rose, Sharon Jackson. Since the previous board meeting, the committee reviewed the RGA for the STEP and WIOAY programs. The RGAs were forwarded to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

AWIB Update Greg Cashen, AWIB Assistant Director

Assistant Director Cashen provided a brief Grants Unit update. The STEP and WIOAY RGAs are open from February 1, 2022, to March 14, 2022. The WIOA State Plan has been posted online and reimbursements are being sent out regularly.

Anne Velardi reported most of the grants for State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity and Innovation (SAEEI) have been signed. There is one agency that will cancel their grant due to



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personnel changes. We let them know they can come back once things are figured out and there's funds available in Job Center. The Construction Occupations Grant is going well and we have been in discussion with different groups to add to the Health Care Apprenticeship. The Viper program is working well as well. Pre-apprenticeship project with rural school districts is still in the work.

10:00 Break

10:15 Industry and Regional Updates

Board members provided updates from their industries and regions.

10:45 Public Testimony

Jeannie Monk of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association joined us for a Public Testimony. Ms. Monk informed us that the ASHNSHA completed an Alaska Healthcare Workforce Analysis in November 2021. They wanted to dig into the data to give us information to possibly inform us of other possible solutions. They worked with a consultant and used the data from DOL, hospitals, and nursing homes and will share this with the board.

https://www.ashnha.com/files/ugd/ab2522_5245b525f9fe41eab2fdac05fe04c588.pdf

11:00

• DOLWD Budget Update Dan DeBartolo, Administrative Service Director

Director Dan introduced himself and gave a brief status update on the budget and admin operations.

• DOLWD Legislative Update Cathy Muñoz, Deputy Commissioner

Deputy Commissioner Muñoz updated the board on the Legislative Affairs. DC Muñoz mentioned the three bills that are in the Senate that will benefit DOLWD; HB 30, HB 132, and HB 108.

• HB 30:

○ An Act relating to notice of workers' compensation death benefits; relating to the payment of workers' compensation benefits in the case of permanent partial impairment; relating to the payment of workers' compensation death benefits payable to a child of an employee when there is no surviving spouse; and providing for an effective date.

▪ <http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/31?Root=HB30>

• HB 132:

○ An Act relating to the Alaska permanent fund; relating to the earnings reserve account; relating to the permanent fund dividend; relating to deposits into the permanent fund; relating to appropriations to the dividend fund and general fund; and providing for an effective date.

▪ <http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/31?Root=HB132>

• HB 108:

○ An Act requiring the establishment of a reading program in school districts for grades kindergarten through three; providing for student retention in grade three; and providing for a report on the reading program and on student retention

▪ <http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/31?Root=HB108>



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- **AVTEC Update** **Cathy LeCompte, Director of AVTEC**
Director LeCompte described how AVTEC works for each student and explained the living conditions. AVTEC is working on expanding their reach by starting “Pop-Up Training” This type of training will bring short courses to those who need it and cannot make it to Seward, Alaska. They second way they are trying to expand is through apprenticeship. AVTEC has began an IT apprenticeship program.

11:45 Action(s) **Greg Cashen, AWIB Assistant Director**

Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Proposed Regulation Changes

Assistant Director Cashen discussed the proposed regulations relating to the recommended improvements to the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) reporting requirements in the regulations of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

MOTION to approve proposed regulation changes related to recommended improvements to the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) reporting requirements in the regulations by Corey Baxter
Second by Peter Frank
Discussion – None
Vote taken
MOTION carries

12:00 Noon Wrap Up and Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn by Patrick Rose
Second by Corey Baxter
Discussion – none
Vote taken
MOTION carries

11:41 Adjourn