



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Alaska Workforce Investment Board

Executive Committee

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

February 9, 2021

1-888-354-0094 conference ID 4461969111#

MINUTES

THE VISION for the Alaska Workforce Investment Board is “building connections that put Alaskans into good jobs.”

MISSION: To provide leadership and recommend policy, direction and accountability standards to get Alaskans into jobs.

Call to Order x Brenda Pacarro, AWIB Chair; x Mari Selle, Vice-Chair; x Marcus Trivette, WREP Chair; x , Brenda Pacarro, Legislative Chair; x Anthony Ladd, AE Chair; x Corey Baxter; Policy and Planning Chair

Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

Rut (Root) Ocasio-Lopez called roll; a quorum was present.

Introduction of other participants..... ED Dean

- Louise Dean, Executive Director
- Anne Velardi, Program Coordinator
- Stacy Atkinson, Executive Secretary
- David Grosshuesch, Administrative Assistant
- Mary Rowland, Grants Administrator
- Rut Ocasio-Lopez, Grants Administrator
- Bejean Page, Administrative Officer

Chair Pacarro introduced Mari Selle, AWIB Vice-Chair, and asked Mari to provide some information about herself.

Mari Selle shared that she is the Director of Workforce Development for Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA). They run health workforce programming. They have a Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act – Youth Program (WIOA Y) grant as well as Apprenticeship grants.

Chair Pacarro thanked her for her time and efforts.

Approval of Agenda..... Chair Pacarro

Motion to approve by Marcus Trivette

Second by Mari Selle

Discussion – Chair Pacarro indicated the approval of Training Provider Performance Report needs to be removed from the agenda because the document was approved via email.

Opposition – none
Motion carries

Action Item(s)..... Chair Pacarro

January 12, 2021 AWIB Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve by Anthony Ladd
Second by Marcus Trivette
Discussion – none
Opposition – none
Motion carries

February 25, 2021 AWIB meeting agenda

Motion to approve by Marcus Trivette
Second by Anthony Ladd

Discussion – Executive Director Dean outlined the Research & Analysis presentation. She indicated she reached out to Dan Robinson to see what was pertinent to share. He recommended the nonresident worker report which comes out annually. Also, the COVID-19 and forecasts for the rest of the year.

Marcus Trivette asked if the COVID-19 topic would include employment update in alignment with unemployment.

Executive Director Dean responded yes and provided an example that would impact the tourism industry. Canada recently extended a ban on cruise ships through February 2022, which is expected to block many ships from visiting Alaska this year. Dan Robinson presented to Senate Labor and Commerce Committee in which he discussed the impact of COVID-19 and provided a great overview. The COVID-19 piece will be of value to the board.

Chair Pacarro said the topic is a great idea. She asked if the industry reports from each board member will be received via email. Executive Director Dean said that it could be included in the agenda.

Marcus Trivette asked if there was any written testimony from the Department regarding any legislative updates. Executive Director Dean proposed that Deputy Commissioner Muñoz provide it in writing. She will check with Deputy Commissioner Muñoz to see if she is available to attend the meeting. The Technical Vocational Employment Program (TVEP) is up for reauthorization. Currently, there is not a sponsor for TVEP re-authorization. Also, she mentioned she sent out AWIBs recommendation on the proposed changes for the regulations project and hasn't heard back.

Chair Pacarro and Marcus Trivette said a written report should be fine.

Opposition – none
Motion carries

Discussion Item(s)

Chair Pacarro and Executive Director Dean received a resignation letter from Arth Brown III. He has resigned for personal reasons. He indicated he cannot provide the time and commitment needed to fulfill the board responsibilities. Executive Director Dean and Chair Pacarro thanked him for his work while on the board and told him to notify Boards and Commissions in writing. Once Boards and Commissions will find a replacement after they receive the notification.

Grants Unit Update

Executive Director Dean reported the public notice for State Training and Employment Program (STEP) and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth programs Request for Grant Application (RGA) were disseminated last week. Those RGA's will have technical assistance sessions for potential applicants. The review process will be set up as done in the past.

The STEP Program Coordinator, Xavien Phillips, prepared letters for all current year grantees addressing expenditures to date. In the letter it asks if funds will be fully expended or if they have excess funds to return for redistribution. The letter states it won't count against them during the STEP review process if they return funds now. She indicated she signed the letters that morning. We would rather know now what grantees will not be spending all awarded grant funds so that we may recapture those funds for redistribution. We don't want to find out at the end of the fiscal year. They have until the end of next week to respond.

Other Business

None

Chair Pacarro asked if there were any comments from AWIB staff or anyone else. There were no other comments from the staff or anyone else.

Motion to adjourn by Anthony Ladd

Second by Corey Baxter

Discussion - none

Opposition - none

Motion carries

Adjourn at 1:53PM

Next Meeting –March 9, 2021