



Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) Business Meeting February 20, 2020, Department of Labor and Workforce Development Job Center 3301 Eagle Street, STE. 104 Anchorage, Alaska
 Teleconference Number 1-888-354-0094 Conference ID 4461969111#

Thursday February 20, 2020

Board members and Designees in attendance

Kevin Meyer	Lt. Gov.	telephonic
Corey Baxter	Organized Labor	x
Bruce Bustamante	Private Sector	absent
Tamika Ledbetter	DOLWD Commissioner	telephonic
Duane Mayes	DOLWD Designee	x
Larry Bell	Business/Industry	absent
Meg Nordale	Business/Industry	x
Kathy Craft	Prof Dev Disabilities	telephonic
Anthony Ladd	Organized Labor	x
Brenda Pacarro	Business/Industry	x
Arth Brown III	Native E/T Organization	x
Karen Melin	DEED Designee	x
Amy Demboski	DCCED Designee	x
Doniel Wolfe	DHHS Designee	x
Julie Anderson	DCCED Commissioner	x
Cheryl Edenshaw	Post Sec Ed/Voc/Ind	x
Peter Frank	Private Sector	x
Carin Smolin	Secondary Vocational Ed	x
Greg Campbell	Business/Industry	x
Malyn Smith	Adult Basic Ed	x
Marcus Trivette	Private Sector	x
Daniel Domke	Public Education	telephonic
James Hastings	Veteran	x
Patrick Rose	Business Development Manager	x
Polly Smith	Prof. Dev. Disabilities	x
Ryan Andrew	Organized Labor	x
Bert Cottle	Non-Voting Member	absent

Ethan	Berkowitz	Non-Voting Member	absent
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AWIB Staff in attendance

Greg Cashen, Assistant Director
 Ron Goertz, Program Coordinator
 Mary Rowland, Grants Administrator
 Rut Ocasio-Lopez, Grants Administrator
 Xavien Phillips, Program Coordinator
 Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator
 Charmaine Ramos, Project Assistant
 Anne Velardi, Program Coordinator
 Leslie Vines, Program Coordinator

DOLWD Staff in attendance

Nelson San Juan, DOLWD/Deputy Commissioner
 Neal Fried, Economist, DOLWD/Research and Analysis
 Cathy LeCompte, Director, AVTEC
 Patsy Westcott, Director, DETS
 Gerald Pierce, DOLWD/Assistant Commissioner
 Kyla Pomrenke, DOLWD/Special Assistant

8:30 Introduction

Call to Order..... AWIB Vice Chair Meg Nordale

Vice Chair Meg Nordale called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM

Roll Call..... Louise Dean, AWIB Executive Director
 Executive Director Dean called roll. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Welcome Vice Chair Meg Nordale
 Vice Chair Nordale thanked the board members for participating in the meeting and appreciates their time as she knows everyone has busy schedules. She reminded board members that there are members participating via teleconference and to please do their best to speak near the mic or the phone. Also, she thanked the Department of Labor and Workforce Development staff for joining the meeting. As a final note, she mentioned as they hear from presenters and discuss items to please keep an ear out for issues they may want the board to further examine or to talk to her, the board staff, or to their committee chair with their ideas.

Agenda Approval Vice Chair Meg Nordale
 MOTION to approve the agenda by Marcus Trivette
 Seconded by Corey Baxter
 Vote taken
 MOTION carries

Welcome DOLWD Commissioner Dr. Tamika Ledbetter
Commissioner Ledbetter welcomed all board members to the meeting. She indicated AWIB is not just an advisory board, it's a working board. She set a challenge to every board member to engage at a greater level, to read the statutes and to familiarize themselves with the body of the work.

She mentioned a few items of interest which are:

- The Governor requested the board to work on Alaska Hire Incentive;
- The National Association of State Workforce Agency appointed her as the chair the Employment and Training Committee; and
- Vocational Rehabilitation marks it's 100 year anniversary

She reported on the At -Risk Youth Initiative and indicated we need to do something to help our youth so they can have an opportunity to engage in the workforce now rather than later.

8:45 DOLWD Research and Analysis Economic UpdateNeal Fried, Economist, Research and Analysis

Neal Fried provided a statewide economic update. He indicated the Mat-Su Valley is gaining population and 62 percent of all jobs came out from there. The Alaska workforce is about the same size as 2010 but we are seeing growth now. Payroll grew in 2018 and again in 2019. It grew because the oil and gas and construction industries recovered.

9:15 Committee Reports..... Committee Chairs

Executive Vice Chair Meg Nordale
The Executive Committee, or ExCo, consists of AWIB committee Chairs Corey Baxter, Daniel Domke, Marcus Trivette, Chair Bell and myself. She reported since the last October board meeting the ExCo has convened two times. At each meeting an agenda item was update on the WIOA State Plan which is an action item on today's agenda. The committee reviewed and made recommendations to the Commissioner to approve the Request for Grant Applications (RGAs) for the State Training Employment Program (STEP) and the WIOA Youth program. Also, the committee reviewed and approved the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) report. She indicated there is an action item in the agenda for RESOLUTION 20-01 In Support of TVEP.

Vice Chair Nordale thanked the committee members for all their time and effort.

Workforce Readiness & Employment Placement Marcus Trivette
The committee members include, Bruce Bustamante, Cheryl Edenshaw, Deborah Riddle, Greg Campbell and James Hastings. Chair Trivette reported since the last board meeting, the WREP committee reviewed the RGAs for the STEP and WIOA Youth programs. After the review the committee forwarded their recommendations to the executive committee for review and approval.

Assessment and Evaluation Daniel Domke
Chair Domke thanked the current committee members Arth Brown III, Anthony Ladd, Ryan Andrew and Peter Frank. He reported since the last board meeting, the committee reviewed

the RGAs for the STEP and WIOA Youth programs. After the review the committee forwarded their recommendations to the executive committee for review and approval.

Legislative ED Dean
Executive Director Dean reported the legislative committee meets at the call of the chair, and has not met since the last board meeting.

Policy and Planning..... Corey Baxter
Chair Baxter thanked the following committee members Meg Nordale, and Carin (pronounced Karen) Smolin, Malyn Smith, Patrick Rose and Polly Smith. He reported the policy and planning committee, which is charged with creating policies, as necessary, regarding the Board’s operations and increasing AWIB awareness in our state, met once since the last board meeting in October. The committee reviewed and approved the RGAs for STEP and the WIOA Youth programs. These documents were submitted to the executive committee for review and approval.

AWIB Update ED Dean
Executive Director Dean reported the AWIB and the entire Department of Labor are working on the WIOA State plan and it’s out for public comment. She introduced Anne Velardi, Program Coordinator overseeing the Apprenticeship program, Charmaine Ramos, Project Assistant working on the Apprenticeship program and Leslie Vines, Program Coordinator for the At-Risk Youth program.

9:30 Statewide Vocational Rehabilitation Committee Update..... Kathy Craft
Kathy Craft reported the committee met twice since the last meeting. The committees focus is on Assistant Technology. They were given a tour of the technology.

Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education Update..... Arth Brown III
Arth Brown III provided an update on the Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education. He indicated the Alaska CAN conference will be held February 27-28, 2020 at the Anchorage Marriott downtown. The theme of the Conference will be Educational Equity.

9:45 DOLWD Budget Update Hannah Lager, Administrative Services Director
Director Lager provided an overview of the DOLWD budget. She indicated the Departments budget is a proposed budget and it’s not finalized. The House Finance just wrapped things up and now it’s headed to the Senate Finance. The Technical Vocational Education Program is up for reauthorization and the overall program will increase by 1.3 million.

10:00 DOLWD Legislative Update..... Cathy Muñoz, Deputy Commissioner
Deputy Muñoz reported on three bills and the mechanical inspection regulatory package. CSHB86 is the Division merger of Labor Standards and Safety and Workers’ Compensation. This bill was amended in the House to include HB 57, child labor provisions, repel work permit requirements for 16 year olds, extend summer working hours to 10 p.m., and repel work permits requirements for youth employed in a business owned by a grandparent. SB 156/ HB 215 is the employer’s unemployment rate and HB 235 is the reauthorization of TVEP.

In regards to the Mechanical Inspection regulatory package, Deputy Muñoz reported the Department receive over 300 comments from the public which closed on January 1, 2020. The Department pulled back the training provisions from the package and will conduct a public workshop meeting on March 16, 2020.

10:15 DOLWD AVTEC Update.....Cathy LeCompte, AVTEC Division Director
Cathy LeCompte provided an update of AVTEC. She indicated February is National CTE month and AVTEC recently ranked in the top ten percent of colleges nationwide for student return on investment.

10:30 Break

10:45 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Update..... Duane Mayes, Vocational Rehabilitation Division Director
Director Mayes introduced himself to the board and provided an update of the Vocational Rehabilitation division (DVR). He indicated this year marks the 100th anniversary of the first federally funded program to assist people with disabilities. Also, he reported on what's next for DVR in 2020. Some of the items are the Senior Employment Initiative, At-Risk Youth Initiative, improve their business relationship with employers, provisional hire and re-entry efforts with Alaskans who have been incarcerated.

11:00 Industry and Regional Updates: Group One (*Carin Smolin, Marcus Trivette, Meg Nordale, Ryan Andrew, Gennifer-Moreau-Johnson, Anthony Ladd, Peter Frank*)
Board members provided updates from their industries and regions.

11:15 AWIB Grants Unit Update.....Greg Cashen, AWIB Assistant Director
Assistant Director Greg Cashen provided an updated on the AWIB grants unit. He indicated the grants unit moved to AWIB in 2019. The unit administers State Training and Employment Program (STEP), Alaska Construction Academy (ACA), Technical Vocational Employment Program (TVEP), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth, WIOA Statewide Projects, and the apprenticeship programs. He reported the request for grant applications are out for both STEP and WIOA Youth.

11:30 Lunch – On Your Own

1:00 Public Testimony

Vince Beltrami the President the Alaska AFL-CIO testified on the regulations package the Department of Labor put out. He encouraged the board to engage in these regulations and to make sure they are in the process. He thanked the board for all the work they do on behalf of the workforce.

Josh Lamb a Journeyman plumber testified on the regulations package and would like to see the AWIB heavily involved with the regulations process. He's a lifelong Alaskan and participated in the plumbers registered apprenticeship program.

After public testimony Arth Brown III requested to add the regulations package to the agenda. MOTION to approve the Apprenticeship Regulation request by Arth Brown III
Seconded by Marcus Trivette

Discussion
VOTE taken
MOTION carries

Greg Campbell proposed an amendment to the discussion of the regulations package pertaining specifically to the apprenticeship regulations.

MOTION to approve the Apprenticeship Regulation request by Greg Campbell
Seconded by Ryan Andrews

Discussion
VOTE taken
MOTION carries

1:15 Industry and Regional Updates: Group Two (*Arth Brown III, James Hastings, Amy Demboski, Karen Merlin for Deborah Riddle, Greg Campbell, Malyn Smith*)
Board members provided updates from their industries and regions.

1:30 Division of Employment Training Services UpdatePatsy Westcott, Employment and Training Services Division Director
Director Westcott reported on the division’s activities and the accomplishments for July 1, 2019 December 31, 2019 for the following programs: Wager Peyser, Mature Alaskans Seeking Skills Training Program, Alaska Adult Education, Veterans Program, Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grant, National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to address the opioid crisis, Unemployment Insurance, and the systems replacement project. She also introduced Demetria Veasy.

1:45 Job Center Presentation/Tour..... Demetria Veasy, Mid Town Job Center Manager
Demetria Veasy provided an overview of the Job Centers and gave a tour of the Mid Town Job Center.

2:15 Break

2:30 Action Item(s) AWIB Staff
WIOA Alaska Combined Plan 2020Staff
Executive Director Dean provided an update on the WIOA Alaska Combined Plan. She indicated the plan was sent to the board members for review and it’s currently out for public comment until February 24, 2020.

This action item is postponed until February 24, 2020 as the board members requested more time in reviewing and will send their approvals via email to the Executive Director.

RESOLUTION 20-01 In Support of the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP)..... Staff

Assistant Director Cashen indicated TVEP is currently under review for reauthorization. The program is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2020. The AWIB traditionally supports the program through a resolution which is included in the packet.

MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 20-01 request by Meg Nordale
Seconded by Arth Brown III

Discussion

VOTE taken

MOTION carries

Discussion Items

Apprenticeship Regulatory PackageED Dean
Executive Director Dean indicated Deputy Commissioner Muñoz provided an email summary of the regulatory package pieces that are moving forward. In the summary it indicated all of the training pieces that were previously included were pulled back for further discussion.

The members discussed and encouraged the Commissioner to include the board in these types of regulations.

3:30 Industry and Regional Updates: Group Three (*Corey Baxter, Patrick Rose, Kathy Craft, Daniel Domke, Cheryl Edenshaw, Polly Smith, Brenda Pacarro*)

Board members provided updates from their industries and regions.

4:00 Wrap Up and Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn by Arth Brown III

Seconded by Patrick Rose

Discussion

Vote taken

MOTION carries

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM