

Minutes

Workforce Development Board Meeting

Thursday – August 6, 2015 • 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Arapahoe Board Room 6954 S Lima Street, Centennial, CO 80112

FIRST RELEASE

In Attendance

Members

Andrea Amonick, Kimberly Ardo-Eisenbeis, Andrew Bercich, Jennifer Carlton, Matt Cohrs, Ashley Eagon, Judy Emery, John Fleck, Mame Fuhrman, Kevin Hougen, Commissioner Nancy Jackson, Don Klemme, Cathy Kohl, Mimi Leonard, Kynnie Martin, Douglas Melphy, Lynn Myers, Dr. Betsy Oudenhoven, Mary Riebe, Susan Rogers, Fannie Stokes, Judy Taylor, Scott VanRamshorst, Ashley Walker, Jason Wardrip, Commissioner Dave Weaver, Che Yi

Guests

Lee Wheeler, Rich Wagner, Chase Dinkler, Hillary Prag, Tony Smith, Cheryl Ternes, Gill Thompson

Staff

Kelly Folks, Darcy Kennedy, Najwa Khalaf, Sasha Easton, Ron Perea, Patrick Holwell, Tanya Muniz, Alisha Romero, Yanet Ocampo, Dawn Gardner

Excused

Evan Abbott, Jennifer Bellmire, William Dowling, Sandra Wagner

Absent

Dr. Diana Doyle, Stephanie Steffens, Tim Ryan, Caren Swales, Andrew Watson

9:30 a.m. **Welcome/Call to Order**

Andrew Bercich, [WDB Chair](#), [Comcast](#)

Welcome Joe Barela back from assignment with USDOL.

WDB Member Announcements

Susan Rogers, [WDB Vice Chair](#), [thresholdHR](#)

Susan: Attended conference in Gunnison where WIOA was discussed. There is fluid conversation between businesses, workforce and colleges.

Don: Congressmen Coffman recognized our Workforce Board as number one with our National Association of Workforce Boards Award and this was entered into the Congressional Record.

Kevin: There is a very interesting diversity program that is lived by and worked by those who are in the community around Anschutz Medical Campus, getting the community to live and buy in that area.

Lynn: A startup company located in Centennial, dealing with engineering and working with lasers, will be hiring and pays well. Mountain Man is building a new facility in Arapahoe County.

9:40 a.m. **County Updates**

Arapahoe Commissioner Jackson
Douglas Commissioner Weaver

Commissioner Jackson:

- The Arapahoe County Fair was a great success!
- Several new companies are coming into Arapahoe County – one of them being a data center.
- The liaison with CSU Extension is starting up an entrepreneur program encouraging our craft breweries and offering opportunities to learn more about the industry.
- Joe Barela will be presenting to the Metro Area Commissioners on the 14th to talk about the WIOA changes.

Commissioner Weaver:

- RTD just voted to extend lightrail out to Skyridge.
- The Rodeo is going on this week, so come out.

10:00 a.m. **Presentation: Vocational Rehabilitation in Colorado Transitioning to WIOA Presentation**

Krista Dann, [Colorado Department of Vocational Rehabilitation](#)

Joelle Brouner, [Colorado Department of Vocational Rehabilitation](#)

- The Department Vocational Rehabilitation would like to focus on what the crossovers are and how we can partner together. The purpose of the program is to assist eligible individuals with disabilities to prepare for, obtain, perform and maintain successful employment leading to independence and increased self-sufficiency.
 - DVR is federally funded that is state administered with a 42/43 million dollar budget.
 - Primary funding comes from Federal; a small part of it is from State and other local funding sources. We have a SWAP (School-to-Work Alliance) Program. Through the contribution with their local funding, it allowed us to focus on ages 15 to 25 with mild to moderate needs.
 - Two laws together opened doors; Rehabilitation Act and ADA Act. Some people with disabilities may not see a pathway or an open door that is welcoming to pursue those opportunities. Some of the most important work is done through the community colleges.
 - Presentation (PPT) – Will be posted on site.
- DVR is transitioning to CDLE and working very closely with leadership to make sure that transition is effective and seamless.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Andrew: You have about a quarter of your offices in Workforce Centers. Do you have some way you can track customers and their progress?
 - Krista: Each plan is individualized. As we move forward, there are more opportunities to see where the disconnects are and where we are connected well.

- Joelle: When you think about people with disabilities and you think about the workforce and what are sustainable wages. If you are able to influence those outcomes, maybe you can assist to help with different realities, because one livable wage for one person is not the same as another.
 - Joe: When you pull the waitlist, have the customers already created a plan?
 - Krista: As of now, there are 2% that we are still working on plans with. Caseload sizes are really low; lower than they have ever been.
 - Evan: Do you work with private partnerships?
 - Krista: We have a vast array of partners we work with.

11:00 a.m. **Directors Report**
Financial/Budget Update

Joe Barela, [A/D Works!](#)
Darcy Kennedy, [CRD – Admin. Services](#)

- Joe: Unemployment Rate has leveled off. Probably will remain stagnant for a little bit. I think we will see an increased percentage with unemployed workers coming to the state. We still see economic growth.
 - We will keep an eye out on manufacturing on the region.
 - We know our Workforce moves up and down the I-25 corridor.
- Our new planning region will include Pikes Peak all the way to the Wyoming border.
 - Regional planning – We will be a part of the Central Planning Region.
 - We will have to have MOU's in place, stating how we are working and collaborating with partners.
 - Board membership – Program Operating Guidance where elected officials will be designating Workforce Board officials.
 - At least two members from the majority have to be small business.
 - As apart of business, you have to be in a position where you can hire employees.
 - We have to make sure that we are in compliance. We will be sending out packets of membership explaining more details.
 - Adult Basic Education needs to be represented. We have Spring Institute, Learning Source, CCA in our area and one out of these four need to be represented on the Board. We will have to figure out who will be taking on that role.
 - Department of Vocational Rehabilitation is a new partner under WIOA. We will look at it from State/business level.
 - The Operator needs to be competitively procured. We have about 18 months to figure out what we need to do.
 - We will be operating under the proposed rules, as we do not have final rules yet. Those should be available in 2016.
 - There are no plans to layoff or change operating structure in regards to Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center.

Financial Report:

- We received Dislocated Worker funds; about \$233,000.00. We are in good shape to go ahead and continue to serve the same amount of customers, if not more.
- The Youth Program is going up to age 24. We will do a lot of concentrated effort to assist in this area.

11:30 a.m. **Action Item:**

Joe Barela, [A/D Works!](#)

Items that need to be reviewed:

- o 2015-2017 Strategic Plan and White Paper
- o WIA/WIOA Policy Revision-Law

Discussion:

Lynn: Can we get more specifics/details on these five?

Joe: They are listed on the back under the tactics. This will be a walking paper.

Kelly: Manufacturing, Construction and Hospitality have been added to the Targeted Industries.

Motion: Jason Wardrip

Second: Evan Abbott

Motion carried.

- o Regional Planning-Central Region

Joe: Refer to the Appendix on last two pages. We will continue to give you information on this. This is the first rendering of that. Refer to jobs in that planning region. It is interesting to see how many people commute to Arapahoe County. If you need more specific information, we can have Pat Holwell get that to you. We have been working with elected officials as we have been moving forward.

10:50 a.m. **WDB Taskforce Updates:**

[Veterans Engagement Taskforce](#)

[Next Meeting: August 6, 2015 11:30am-12:30pm](#)
[Arapahoe Board Room 6954 S. Lima Street](#)

Kevin: We have a meeting right after this Workforce Board Meeting-anyone can attend. We are observing more of a drop of unemployed vets.

[Healthcare/GMDHP Taskforce](#)

[Next Meeting: August 12, 2015 8:00am-9:30am](#)
[Aurora Chamber 14305 E Alameda Avenue](#)

Jeana: Over the last three months, we have revisited top ten healthcare jobs. All critical jobs are changing in today's economy. They are looking at re-examining the scopes of the positions. We were fortunate to put together an industry panel. At the end of this month, we will do the same thing with the Emergency Department and listen to Industry, schools and workforce. The focus is to build those bridges and provide curriculum development.

Opportunity Works! Taskforce

Next Meeting: September 3, 2015 9:30am-11:00am
Arapahoe Board Room 6954 S. Lima Street

Najwa: Continuing to provide industry driven certifications, targeted towards food stamps/welfare recipients, those who have justice involved backgrounds. We trained about 22 OJT's. We have a partnership with Kaiser Permanente for medical coding and billing, receiving \$15.00 per hour. These positions will move towards full-time employment. The customers are low-income, low-skilled workers. We are moving forward with the next cohort.

1:30 p.m. **Meeting Adjournment**

Andrew Bercich, *WDB Chair, Comcast*

Next WDB Meeting: October 1, 2015 • 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Arapahoe/Douglas Works! 6954 S. Lima Street, Centennial, CO 80112

OUR MISSION is to create a best in class regional system that is responsive to business/industry that results in a skilled workforce equipped with a work ethic, academic proficiency, and occupational specific talent that rivals our competition.