

# Minutes

## Workforce Development Board Meeting

**Thursday – October 1, 2015 • 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.**

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

### FIRST RELEASE

#### In Attendance

##### Members

Evan Abbott, Andrea Amonick, Andrew Bercich, Leah Bullinger, William Dowling, Judy Emery, Josh Evans, John Fleck, Mame Fuhrman, Peter Hancock, Mimi Leonard, Douglas Melphy, Dr. Betsy Oudenhoven, Mary Riebe, Mimi Leonard, Judy Taylor, Sandra Wagner, Ashley Walker

##### Guests

Hillary Prag, Mary Beth Sharp,

##### Staff

Joe Barela, Kelly Folks, Darcy Kennedy, Sasha Easton, Ron Perea, Patrick Holwell, Tanya Muniz, Alisha Romero

##### Excused

Kimberly Ardo-Eisenbeis, Commissioner Nancy Jackson, Don Klemme, Kynn timer Martin, Lynn Myers, Susan Rogers, Tony Smith, Fannie Stokes, Cheryl Ternes, Commissioner Dave Weaver

##### Absent

Jennifer Bellmire, Jennifer Carleton, Matt Cohrs, Dr. Diana Doyle, Kevin Hougen, Cathy Kohl, Rahim Saafir, Jason Wardrip, Chase Dinkler, Fannie Stokes, Cathy Kohl, Scott Van Ramshorst, Stephanie Veck, Jason Wardrip, Che Yi

9:30 a.m. **Welcome/Call to Order** Andrew Bercich, [WDB Chair](#), [Comcast](#)  
Andrew: We are still funded and not shut down.

Joe: Government shut down delayed until December 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

Mary Riebe: Kaiser Permanente is currently recruiting for computer science/engineering. We will be posting internships. Please contact me for more information.

Andrew Bercich: Comcast has an Internet Essentials Program that provides discounts and free computers to school age children. Colorado and Illinois are launching a new program to college level students who would benefit from those services. We are partnering with community colleges to provide those services.

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

Arapahoe Commissioner Jackson  
Douglas Commissioner Weaver

Joe on behalf of Commissioner Jackson: County Commissioners are currently approving the budgets – we are looking at performance increases for staff and looking at healthcare packages. There will be no increase of benefit costs to employees, but will increase for those who have family members by 6%.

Commissioner Weaver: Not present.

10:00 a.m. **Directors Report**  
Financial/Budget Update

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

- Unemployment rates: 5.2% nationally, 3.8% Colorado, 3.2% Douglas County, 4.6% Arapahoe County. There is a shortage of workers as we move into this new cycle. We had a healthcare/allied healthcare hiring event and had zero attendance. We had a steamboat hiring event and only 18 job seekers came through. We are in full employment and have been relaying that information to employers. We still have companies struggling to fill higher skilled positions, so we are continuing to work with our education partners to see how we can improve job seekers' skills, to get them looking at those positions.
  - William Dowling: Attachment to employment is a lot quicker. By the time they get their first unemployment payment, they have probably already started their new position.
- We are actively recruiting for members from oil, gas and engineering. We try to keep membership small enough to be effective, but big enough to be impactful to our community.
- We are operating under interim regulations; actual law will probably be out sometime next year.
- About 180 Workforce Board Members, State Operators, Managers, CDLE and Colorado Workforce Council staff/members will be attending the WIOA Convening to look at geography, population and resources.
- We are outgrowing our Castle Rock Library location and are losing the space, so we are on the search for a full-service workforce center in Douglas County. We are going to look for a place where we can assist businesses and serve a wider customer base.
- October 13<sup>th</sup> we will be at the Parker Taskforce Center, assisting those who need assistance from us as well as Human Services.
- Evan Abbott: We are working on a methodology referred to as Human Centered Design, which are resources based on the need of customer. We are working with an online curriculum right now.

Financial Report:

- We are spending out our WIA Funds.
- LVER/DVOP Funds ended yesterday.
- The single audit was completed and finalized and ADW! had no compliance issues or findings.

11:30 a.m. **Information Items:**

Joe Barela, [ADW!](#)

WIOA Priority of Service Policy: Handout

Regional Planning-Central Region:

Requirement in state of Colorado that governor designated planning regions. In vail we will start to work on those things that we can work on quickly and then focus on the items that need a little more work/time. How do we get eight other boards and their partners to work together? We are trying to make sure that it is bipartisan and universal. This will help so that customers don't feel like they need to shop around or that they are being treated differently.

Mary Beth Sharpe: How does that work with Denver? I cannot wrap my head around that.

Joe: Operators choice. There are a lot of unknowns about what is an operator, who is an operator? If you have any questions, please ask. Send your questions or thoughts on this to Tanya Muniz or Bill Dowling.

We have seen projections that some boards are spending a lot towards private procurement, which cuts into costs of budget. July 1, 2017 is a target date.

Designed a plan to dedicate \$100,000.000 to our incarcerated customers and work with Arapahoe County Jails.

10:30 a.m. **WDB Taskforce Updates:**

[Veterans Engagement Taskforce](#)

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

Ron Perea: Virtual hiring event planned for mid-October. A lot of good response from our veterans and employers. Networking events picking up as well. Looking at some of our partners during our taskforce meeting. First networking group in Douglas County was held yesterday and it was turned out well.

Andrew: We are seeing a drop of veteran unemployment rate. What are their barriers today?

Ron: Some have been incarcerated, physical impairment, economic areas, lack of transportation. The barriers model what we are seeing with the general population.

Joe: We me with the National Guard last week to work with them on those who do not fall in the priority of service since they are currently active status.

William Dowling: Another area to look at are the veterans in the 18-24 year old range, as that is the highest rate of unemployment, other than the incarcerated population. What are their transferable skills, especially since most only came in with a GED?

Ron Perea: We are involved with TAFT and other organizations to assist with us. Outreach continues and the State just hired a DVOP who came out of the Navy.

Joe: We will have a different priority of service to a different population – It will be for TANF/public assistance customers, if we get to a priority of service list.

Healthcare/**GMDHP** Taskforce

Next Meeting: August 12, 2015 8:00am-9:30am  
Aurora Chamber 14305 E Alameda Avenue

Jean Capel-Jones: Looking at raising the scope of responsibility for entry level and elevate the position to be of more importance in the healthcare industry. Kaiser is looking at hosting an apprenticeship program. Medical lab is restructuring – starting dialogue to see more of a clinical On-the-Job Training. We had a regional hiring event in August with 400 job seekers, and many businesses.

Opportunity Works! Taskforce

Next Meeting: November 5, 2015 9:30am-11:00am  
Arapahoe Board Room 6954 S. Lima Street

Najwa: We have had 52 placements with a \$13.86 average wage. Earn opportunities were in accounting, managers and we are working with Kaiser for 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort. There were eight direct placements with Sprint, six placements with Arapahoe County and one placement for \$60,000.00. We also have flagging and OSHA certification and have placed some in \$14.00/hour positions. The On-the-Job Trainings have been a huge success. Working with a Food Stamp Recipient who is in final stages of being hired for a really good position.

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

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

Upcoming Items:

- New career pathways/sectors. There will be new graphics.
- We will be highlighting Douglas County in December and have the WDB Bylaws as an action item.
- Arapahoe County will be highlighted in February.

**Next WDB Meeting: December 3, 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.