

## Workforce Development Board Meeting

Thursday – June 4, 2020

Via Zoom

11:00 a.m. **Welcome/Call to Order**

Peter Hancock, [PEG Colorado](#), [WDB Chair](#)

11:05 a.m. **WDB Member Announcements**

Tanya Muniz, [A/D Works!](#)

- Bill Dowling- We are asking for an additional \$2 million and should have an answer in the next few weeks.
- Thomas Hartman- CWDC website has been updated. <https://cwdc.colorado.gov/>  
<https://www.mycoloradojourney.com/journey/tools/careers>. New career pathway in behavioral health will be released on MCJ later this month!
- VA Hayman- just started summer session which is looking good. Preparing for the fall semester.
- John Paul- 24/7 InTouch- continuing to grow and offer positions, approximately 1500 positions per week. People can apply at <https://24-7intouch.com/>
- Heidi McDonald- still doing online training; enrollments have increased significantly. Working with employer partners to get students jobs.
- Amy Sherman- we're back open. She's happy to have developed stronger partnerships with Douglas County and ADW!
- Comm. Laydon- low number of COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations. Gyms, retail, restaurants, and churches, variances submitted and approved by the state. Nine additional variances were submitted for other areas. Hosted meetings with industry and Tri-County Health. We do have a suppression plan with the area hospitals. Thankful for ADW! and Tanya Muniz.
- Andrea Amonick- City of Aurora is considering an additional grant program funded by CARES Act to help businesses reopen and recover.
- Jennifer- one of our biggest challenges for students is the work-based learning. The transportation sector will be launching a sector partnership, initial meeting June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Andrew Bercich- National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) in-person conference was changed to virtual due to COVID-19; seeing a significant increase now that it's hosted virtually. All of the sessions will be recorded and available for a year after.
- Randy Berner- have been able to maintain business; have been testing employees and haven't had any cases.
- Delta Donohue- all of our programming is up and running.
- Chris Shapard- We had been doing personal outreach to employers and got good feedback. Starting in July, we'll be doing follow-up to see if anything has changed (i.e. employment numbers, if revenue is up or down).
- Eric Dunker- We are going after as many grants as possible.
- Archie Shinde- able to go back to licensing capacity, but have to continue following the sanitizing protocols.
- Bob Prevost- saw a 365% increase in applications in April, but now things are getting back to normal. 248 people started working from home after the stay home order was issued, it was pretty seamless due to protocols that they had in place due to the 2013 floods.
- Kelsi Little- US Bank hiring has slowed down. US Bank is headquartered in Minneapolis.
- Mame Fuhrman- We're gearing up to hire quite a few contact investigators and contact tracers.
- Scott Van Ramshorst- I sold my previous company and started BAH Investments- investing in small to medium-sized company.
- Judy Emery- We are constantly looking at new funding opportunities. Finalizing one with CWDC to deliver regional virtual trainings to jobseekers and businesses. The team has been starting new apprenticeships and expanding others during this time.
- Joy Griffin- Our focus is on what the fall will look like. We started a taskforce.
- Sandra Wagner- We are still closed for a while.

11:20 a.m. **Local Plan & WDB Recertification**

Patrick Holwell, **A/D Works!**

- ADW! is in the process of compiling and submitting the four-year local plan, which includes the local plan narrative, recertifying our Workforce Development Board, Compliance Report and assisting with the regional four year plan.
- We have never really 'shut down' our economy before, so it is difficult to predict the duration of recovery.
- The unemployment rate is increasing and the labor force participation rate is decreasing throughout the State and Metro Denver.
- There are presently 99,289 registrants in Colorado in Greater Metro Denver. The top registrants by occupational family in Metro Denver are Sales and Related, Office and Administrative Support, Management, Food Preparation and Serving Related, and Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media.
- New Unemployment Insurance Claims continue to decrease.
- Continued unemployment insurance claims decreased 1,744 during the week ending 5/16/2020.
- In the month of April 2020, the unemployment rate for the Denver Metro area is at 12.1% and Douglas County is at 9.9%.
- The system has a built-in, fail-safe regarding individuals who are receiving the \$600 boost in UI payments who refuse to return to work. If people are called back to work and refuse, the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) ends. PUA is also scheduled to end on July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- We have seen an increase in customers coming into ADW! Most want Unemployment Insurance help, but others want supportive services.
- You can go to <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/businesses-employers> to report calling back workers.

Menti Question/Results: What concerns does your organization have while dealing with COVID-19 recovery?

- Economic recovery and uncertainty of the timing of recovery.
- Health and safety of the public, workers, students, and employees (mentally and physically)
- Length of recovery
- Being able to have in-classroom training again where people feel safe in a classroom of over 10 or more
- Employers might be reluctant to hire people with disabilities
- How can we help push individuals that are in the hardest hit sectors that will not have jobs to retraining opportunities in IT or manufacturing?
- Budget cuts due to grants being cut
- Tax base recovery for our local governments
- Cleaning supplies
- Clarity around capacity for classrooms/event spaces. Concerned about decreased state funding for the foreseeable future.
- How to continue innovation and team building in this environment?
- Impacts to revenue and potential of further shut downs.

Menti Question/Results: Are there any positions you are having a hard time filling right now?

- Hiring for the most part is currently on hold.
- Skilled trade (mechanics, machinists), IT- Programmers, System Admins, Civil Engineers, and Soil Testers
- Stock Clerks
- Respiratory Therapists
- Front Desk positions
- Chair and faculty roles, we are not seeing a large volume of applicants.

11:35 a.m. **Business Recovery Taskforce Update**

Stephanie Mufic, **ADWI**

- We created two task forces focused on speeding the recovery for Arapahoe and Douglas Counties; we are recording the top issues for those taskforces and creating SME's by sharing resources and communicating through Slack channels within the Denver South Business Resource Partnership.
- Arapahoe County Business Recovery Task Force meets every other Monday at 2:00 p.m.
- Douglas County Business Recovery Task Force meets every other Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
- There will be a Virtual Career Fair with the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce on 6/23/2020 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 27 employers have signed up thus far. Students and job seekers can learn more [here](#) and register to attend [here](#).
- We have setup weekly business roundtables with Tri-County Health through the month of June. The first one was yester and we had 41 businesses attend.
- The Virtual Business Conference is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>. The topics include remote work, PPP update and guidance, safely reopening, and the future of work.
- We are working with Arapahoe County on three business recovery projects: Business Interruption Grants, Innovative Competition, and Training/Retraining.
- Arapahoe County, in partnership with the Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Development Board COVID-19 Recovery Taskforce will support the Arapahoe County Business Community in 3 business impact areas: Advance Arapahoe County, Project Protect Arapahoe County, and Retrain Arapahoe County.

Menti Question/Results: Are there any other issues you are hearing from the business community.

- When they can have larger than 19 people in a group.
- Mixed messages – the message changes daily.
- Getting students into the industry and figuring out how they can get hands on experience in this pandemic, especially in healthcare.
- City of Aurora variances seem to be moving slowly.
- Varying information from county to county.
- Lack of PPE
- Childcare and school in the fall is currently a big variable.
- Differences between counties and the state.
- Available IT inventory to maintain work from home and onsite operations.
- Many small businesses have lacked expertise (financial, accounting) to access government loans (such as PPP).

Menti Question/Results: Are there any short-term training you think would be good to apply to during COVID-19 recovery?

- Human Resources Topics to help small businesses understand the current employment issues.
- Any new rules/regulations from the Department of Labor,
- Remote work best practices around collaboration and coordination of work, which is a key aspect of effective remote work.
- There are some programs that could be helpful for things around remote work and improving skills around Microsoft tools. Also, time management and organization in a pandemic.
- Different types of interaction and engagement in an online education environment.
- Work from home ergonomics.
- Customer service and de-escalation training.

12:00 p.m. **County Updates**

Arapahoe-Commissioner Jackson  
Douglas-Commissioner Laydon

12:25 p.m. **Director's Report**

Informational Items: Talent Development Supportive Services Attachment A, WIOA Eligibility Determination and Documentation, Universal Stipend Payments, Young Adult Needs Assistance and OSO extension. (Approved via online voting).

Kelly Folks, **A/D Works!**

12:40 p.m. **Administrative Services Update**

- Please view the [handout](#) for the fiscal dashboard

Kelly Folks, **A/D Works!**

Menti Question/Results: What presentation topics would you like to see at future board meetings?

- Innovative training programs
- How industry is adapting to a post COVID-19 world.
- Success stories from business opening and programs,
- Continue trend on employment post COVID-19.
- More on what is happening with commercial real estate and the future of the workplace.
- Continue to share who is hiring throughout these times.
- Building equity into our programs and services.
- Internships and partnerships with industry employers.

12:50 p.m. **WDB Taskforce/Subcommittee Updates:**

Veterans Engagement Taskforce – Kevin Hougen

Next Meeting: TBD  
Virtual

Opportunity Works! & Young Adult Subcommittee – Nancy Jackson

Next Meeting: TBD  
Virtual

Arapahoe County & Douglas County Business Recovery Taskforces

Next Meeting: Calendar Invite Sent  
Virtual

1:00 p.m. **Meeting Adjournment**

Peter Hancock, **PEG Colorado, WDB Chair**

**Next WDB Meeting: August 6, 2020 • 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Arapahoe Board Room 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.