

## Workforce Development Board Meeting

**Thursday – February 2, 2023**

**In-Person Meeting: Asian Pacific Development Center, 1537 Alton Street, Aurora, CO 80010**

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

Peter Hancock, [PEG](#)

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

Peter Hancock, [PEG](#)

- Tina Castro- the Metro Denver Retail Conference will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Arapahoe County's CentrePoint Plaza. Concessions International increased our minimum wage to \$19/hr.
- James Newby- we wrapped up the first phase of our Work-based Learning (WBL) Incentive Program and awarded about \$2mil. For the next phase, we will be sending out notices to interested employers.
- Shebi Davis- we are working on staffing up our internship program for the summer; we have about 600 positions available.
- Thomas Hartman- we are busy creating sector partnerships and career pathways.
- Sergio Cordova- we started 74 apprentices last June and 30 are scheduled to start the next session.
- Bill Gilmore- we will open a new campus next fall.
- Trista Borrego- Amy Sherman has moved on to a statewide non-profit focusing on literacy and I am the interim director.
- Sarah Mesmer- we're looking into closing schools.
- Danny Reed- we launched Telecom Tech School.
- Kathy Smith- we had been having issues hiring in our weatherization and senior resources divisions, but thanks to A/D Works!, senior resources is staffed up for the first time in long time. Arapahoe County Housing will be going through a 5-year assessment that's required by HUD. The Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan a comprehensive guide to public housing agency policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals.
- Kelsi Little- BMO finally completed the acquisition of Bank of the West. BMO will be providing Bank of the West customers with important information about how the combined bank will serve them.
- Carrie Lohr- Castle Rock Chamber just finished the Tours for Teachers program. Tours for Teachers aims to support workforce readiness, build talent pipelines, and bridge the gap between educators and businesses within Castle Rock and Douglas County. The Tours for Teachers program provides an in-depth discussion and "behind the scenes" tour of local businesses and industries in Douglas County. Allowing educators to collaborate with business leaders to prepare the students to enter the workforce. The next one kick off next fall.
- Heidi McDonald- ACI Learning is listed as a VET TEC Training Provider on the Department of Veterans Affairs website and is approved to receive reimbursement through the VET TEC program! VET TEC is a new tuition program designed to help get veterans employed through short term technology training, without using their GI Bill benefits.



# Arapahoe/Douglas WORKFORCE BOARD C O L O R A D O

- Cheryl Ternes- The temporary additional benefit amounts that were approved by Congress during the COVID-19 pandemic are ending. Coloradans who receive SNAP benefits will see a reduction in their monthly benefit amount after February. More details are available at <http://cdhs.colorado.gov/snap>.
- Aimee Barker- registration is open for our legacy campus, which will open in the fall.
- Chris Shapard- we had a great program this morning at Denver South's Partnership Meeting with Guild Education and Mikron Corporation at the Cherry Creek Innovation Campus (CCIC).
- Randy Berner- we will soon be actively recruiting high school students.
- Abe Laydon- had an interview with CBS 4 this morning.
- Peter Hancock- PEG is moving into a 10,000 square feet space.

11:20 a.m. **Presentation:**  
Talent Pipeline Report

Caitlin McKennie, Talent Pipeline Economist  
**CWDC/CDHE**

12:00p.m. **Lunch Break** (food provided for working lunch)

12:10 p.m. **Colorado ESF Update**

Daniel Chase, Chief of Staff  
Kelly Folks, Director of the Division of  
Employment and Training  
**CDLE**

- Our goal is to keep ESF the same, including current allocations. We hope to remedy its revenue issues.
- If the legislature does not authorize the change, we have a safety clause in our statute, we can interpret the statute the way the federal government interprets it. It gets more technical if we engage the safety clause as it may not be equally implemented across all employers.
- ESF is 30 years old, there is a communication strategy to inform employers of the new changes.
- We should know February 9<sup>th</sup> if the JBC wants to sponsor the bill.
- As far as Wagner-Peyser goes, we probably will not hear anything at the federal level until June. At the state level, we are working on a bill to ultimately have Wagner-Peyser services stay at the local level.

12:25 p.m. **County Updates**

Arapahoe - Commissioner Warren-Gully

- Attended Denver South's Partnership Meeting this morning at CCIC; A/D Works! received a ton of kudos from industry, education partners, etc.
- As a County we are working on tackling affordable and attainable workforce housing. We are 1 of 6 counties in the state that is still restricted by TABOR.

Douglas - Commissioner Laydon

- Douglas County is out of debt and in a great shape.
- We launched a Destination Marketing Organization, which is designed to promote the economic vitality of Douglas County and local business opportunities.
- We actively funded the Sheriff's Office with multiple new FTE's.



- We launched the Douglas County Economic Development Collaborative. The goal of this collaborative is to attract and retain primary employers – those businesses that produce goods and services for a statewide, national, or international market, resulting in new dollars to fuel the local economy. The Collaborative includes the Town of Castle Rock, the City of Castle Pines, the City of Lone Tree, Douglas County, Highlands Ranch Metro District, the Town of Larkspur, and the Town of Parker.
- We partnered with the aerospace industry and funded the Ignite lab with Lockheed Martin. The Ignite Lab is a high-tech space for companies to collaborate on projects and share resources, information, and technical capabilities.
- We are thankful for the Sturm Collaboration Campus. A 19y/o who worked with the campus ended up getting a full-time job at Lockheed Martin.
- We launched the “Handouts Don’t Help” campaign, which encourages residents and businesses to contribute toward local agencies supporting the homeless, rather than giving money directly to panhandlers.

12:45 p.m. **Director’s Report**

Informational Item:

- WIOA Eligibility Requirements

Sasha Easton, **A/D Works!**

- Welcome Carrie Lohr and Marnie Jones to the board.
- Farewell to Mame Fuhrman and Deborah Kerrigan who are leaving the board.

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

Peter Hancock, **PEG**

**Next WDB Meeting: April 6, 2023 • 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
Location To Be Determined

**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.