

Western Arkansas Workforce Development Board

Meeting Agenda

March 16, 2021 1:00 PM
Fort Smith Adult Education Center
501 S. 20th St., Fort Smith, AR

Call to order: Chair Cathy Nesbit called the meeting to order.

Board members in attendance: Greg Aleshire, Tom Bonkofsky, Dana Byrum, Nanci Caillouet, John Craig, Debbie Faubus-Kendrick, Rachel Mize, Martha Moore, Cathy Nesbit, Krystal Thrailkill, Erick Wiggins.

Others in attendance: Shirley Mccutchen, Sasha Grist, Ashlie Ross, Dennis Williamson

Approval of 12/15/2020 meeting minutes: Chair Nesbit asked for any corrections. There were no corrections presented. Cathy stated since there are no corrections, that the minutes were approved as distributed.

WIOA Delivery System quarterly report update:

- One-Stop Operator Report: Shirley Mccutchen presented updates on the Google Document she is using to track referrals, the QR code she created to collect surveys on the one-stop, and the Google contact list for partner agencies. She stated in January there was virtual training with partners on COVID stress & self-care and about 20 attended. She said there was a virtual job fair with the WorkSource staff, which they stated 156 jobs were available in the area. Rachel asked what the other reason category on the referral form represented. Shirley told her it was items not listed currently she also said she would get the information on these so the form could be updated if desired. Nanci asked about the open status of the workforce center and Shirley said it is opening more as safety increases related to COVID.
- Title I: Dennis Williamson presented updates on funding expenditures of workforce grants. He shared that career advisors are making connections with GetReal-24, associated with the Fort Smith Crisis Center and the kids aging out of Foster Care, and that the career advisors have put on workshops for work experience youth participants.

New Business:

- The board reviewed five policy changes that were emailed to them. These were P0001-21 follow up, P0002-21 priority of service to veterans, P0003-21 local definition of recent, P0004-21 dislocated worker, and P0005-21 supportive services. John Craig motioned to approve the five policies as written. Nanci Caillouet seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

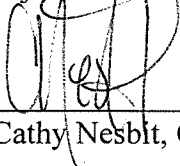
- Chair Nesbit stated the PY19 monitoring report and response was emailed to the board prior to the meeting. She asked if there were any questions. No questions were asked.
- Chair Nesbit stated the 2020 monitoring is in progress.
- Chair Nesbit discussed the upcoming Magazine High School Job Fair and asked board member companies that want to participate should let Dennis know so he can send out updates to them. An example of the student profile was shown to the board and Erick asked that GPA be added.
- Chair Nesbit stated the state monitors mentioned that the language in the local area governance agreement does not clearly indicate the relationship of WAPDD, the CEO's, and the Board. We are asking for the board to approve the following change: "representing the following counties and cities within those counties of Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, and Sebastian" be removed from the first paragraph of the first page so as not to change the condition of the agreement nor duties of each party in the agreement, but only to define the parties of the agreement more clearly. She stated if there is no objection, we will adopt a motion to remove the words from the agreement for clarification so as not to require a new agreement. There were no objections. Cathy stated since there is no objection to removing these words from the agreement for clarification and so as not to require a new agreement the motion is adopted.

Other business:

Debbie Faubus-Kendrick stated the Crawford County Adult Ed center will host another drive through job fair at the end of the month and told board members they can participate or send information on available jobs for people to see. She also told the board that the center will be moving to City Heights this summer.

Dana Byrum offered free classes on disabilities training to any company interested through ARS.

Cathy asked if there was any other business. She stated since there is none the meeting is adjourned.


Cathy Nesbit, Chair

6/22/2021
Date