

**MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Maricopa County Security Building  
234 North Central, Ste 3201  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
Minutes  
February 26, 2009**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair John Garza called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m.

**II. Roll Call: Quorum**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused/Absent</b>	<b>Staff/Guests</b>
John Garza	Rodrick Miller	Patrick Burkhart
Don Smith		Tina Schoville
Neil Alexander		

**III. Approval of Minutes—*Action***

**Neil Alexander made a motion to approve minutes from January 22, 2009. Don Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.**

**IV. Assistant Director’s Report—*For information only.***

- **Economic Stimulus Bill**  
Patrick Burkhart reported that the Economic Stimulus Bill has been passed by Congress and that 2.7 billion dollars of formula funding is directed for WIA. The state of Arizona will be receiving 35 million dollars and Maricopa Workforce Connections may be receiving 6.25 million dollars. There is currently some confusion on the date the funds have to be spent. The text of the Legislation states that the funds will be available through June 30, 2010. The report language that accompanies the Legislation says that the funds will be available to the State consistent with program year 2008. The program year for 2008 actually expires June 30 of 2011. The original version of the Legislation drafted by the House set a formula whereas 50% of the funds had to be spent with the first 12 months and the balance in the second 12 months. We have been working internally since December to put together an expenditure plan based on the original House version using the 24 months formula. We may have to scratch this plan and start with a new contingency plan that will distribute the funds in 14 months. The current Legislative plan for the youth dollars is to use all the funds this summer. There are several hurdles that need to be overcome and we are currently working to get amended contracts with the youth providers through Materials Management so we can enroll all eligible youth for summer employment. We are also contacting local cities and towns to absorb the youth in this program. Everything has to be in place by May 1<sup>st</sup> but we are waiting for a guidance letter from the State. This is a ‘use it or lose it’ proposition.
- **Trip to Washington D.C.**  
Neil Alexander reported that Patrick and he made the rounds aggressively to the appointments that were scheduled. They met with knowledgeable staffers and one new Congress member. They introduced themselves and discussed the stimulus bill that was just passed. They informed everyone that Arizona Workforce divisions are collaborating together to apply for grants and will need Legislative support to go after funding, especially for solar.
- **Nomination – Jeff Freeman**  
Patrick informed the group that Pam Ross is stepping off our Board but will continue her role with the Governor’s Workforce Development Council. She recommended Jeff Freeman to take her position on the Board. He is the manager of Business Partnerships for Honeywell.

**V. Call to the public**

No members from the public present.

**VI. Adjournment**

Chair Garza adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.