

FULL BOARD • Maricopa Workforce Connections

MWC West Valley Career Center, Event Room
1840 N. 95th Avenue, Suite 160, Phoenix, AZ 85037

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Neil Alexander called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

2. Roll Call: Quorum (18)

Present: Neil Alexander, Karissa Brnak, Kathryn "Che" Collins, Shellie Frey (T), Barbara Gallegos (T), Trish Georgeff, Belinda Hanson, Dillon Holmes (T), Kayong Holston (T), Tina Huff, Shawn Hutchinson, Katharine Levandowsky (T), Tony Maldonado, Rick McCartney (T), Kelsie McClendon (T), Bob Neckes (T), Rodney Pack (T), Marie Sullivan; **Absent/Excused:** Tony Abraham, Ben Candler, Trevor Gelder, Eric Knott, Blair Liddicoat, Karen Poole, Paul Sanders, Benjamin Serio, Greta Suda, Karen Thorne

Staff/Guests: Cruz Armendariz, Melanie Benitez, Kevin Berry, Bianca Betalowe, Patrick Burkhart, Jerry Carlton, Ben Chavez (DES), Burnis Engram, Stacey Faulkner, Peggy Feenan (DES), Trina Jenkins, Michelle Lee (AZ Republic), Janet Lilly, Paul Magallanez, Keri March, Derrick Martin, Kristen Merser, Bill O'Brien, Curtis Shaw, Sheila Shedd, Jessica Starr (Manpower), Virginia Sturgill, Bonnie Thoi, Dawn Zimmer

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

Trish Georgeff made a motion to approve the minutes from December 16; Tina Huff seconded; approved.

4. Chairmen's Report – For Information Only

Chair Alexander introduced Jim Apperson, new Assistant Director of DES with some brief background information. Jim introduced his attending associate Peggy Feenan and spoke about the new DES Director Clarence Carter from the Washington DC Human Services Department. Jim noted his positive outlook of partnering with Mr. Carter to continue Pat Harrington's mission to improve lives and human well-being in addition to services provided.

Jim stated that:

- Former Assistant Director Pat Harrington did an exceptional job over the years and Jim noted accepting his position with a heavy heart.
- He would like to enhance the relationship with the private industry and encouraged the private members of the Board to contact him to discuss ideas and needs.
- Organizations will be needed to sustain the economic recovery by providing a talented and well-trained workforce.
- Unemployment benefit recipients have declined from 175,000 to 130,000 and the current maximum benefit term is 99 weeks.
- Jerry Colangelo is the co-chair of the Arizona Commerce Authority, effective on July 1st. Jim encouraged members to track their growth noting that the purpose of the entity is to help businesses grow and expand.
- The Governor and legislature are currently negotiating a budget so Board members were encouraged to be engaged in budget issues that may adversely affect their business. Workforce area region boundaries are being redrawn this year and Jim expects a status report from the Governor at the April 24th meeting. He suggested members pay close attention to the number of regions the state will be divided into.
- Strategic Planning is important and the economy has greatly changed in the past two years, so MWC's efforts to review and update the Two-Year Plan this year were applauded.

Patrick spoke about meeting two weeks ago with Jim and the representative delegation of directors around the state, noting that local areas have had a good partnership with DES. Patrick commended Jim on his commitment to the workforce partnership system and to the sense of mission that Pat Harrington worked to build. He described it as a genuine outreach that values mutual success as much as individual success. Patrick thanked Jim for attending.

Jim's current private industry outreach engages the chambers of commerce and private industry associations. Neil suggested he reach out to Board members for private industry representation noting their representation of the human resources industry and several trades.

5. Board Nominations – Action Item

Neil introduced economic development representative Paul Magallanez and pointed members to his bio on page two of the handout. Paul said that he is honored for the opportunity to contribute and participate in the Board. Tina moved to accept his nomination; Tony seconded the motion, no comments, member adopted.

Neil noted that Board members with terms expiring in June 2011 will be contacted for renewal.

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|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Neil Alexander | 6. Benjamin Serio |
| 2. Dillon Holmes | 7. Chevera Trillo |
| 3. Tina Huff | 8. Karissa Brnak |
| 4. Rick McCartney | 9. Barbara Gallegos |
| 5. Paul Sanders | 10. Tony Maldonado |

6. **Advocacy Task Force Report – For Information Only**

Tina Huff explained the purpose of the Advocacy Task Force and urged members to respond to Greta's email call to advocacy by reaching out to senators to explain the importance of the workforce system. Bill HR 1 was rejected by the senate which would have eliminated WIA funding. She believes a compromise bill will come out of those efforts. She noted that:

- Participation levels have increased by 234% although funding has remained stagnant.
- Advocacy's Employer Recognition Event will let key employers know what services are available to them.
- Several news sources have covered MWC.
- One-fifth of youth ages 16-24 are unemployed.
- A trip to DC may be planned this year, but Patrick said that local advocacy may be more effective.

7. **Two Year Plan Task Force Report – For Information Only**

Kelsie presented PowerPoint slides 8–12 and highlighted MWC goals, metrics, and performance models. The task force has met three times since January and plans to meet again to finalize the draft of the plan.

- Need to pay more attention on how to get apprentice hopefuls up to speed on math and reading skills.
- Would like to create an online option to reach more job seekers and offer more services to employers.
- Outreach to new employers and implement Maricopa Human Capital Collaborative metrics into the plan.
- Apply system effectiveness model into each sector to measure and continuously improve.
- Next steps: review by Youth Council, Standing Partners and Full Board at June Meeting. Next, a 30-day public comment opportunity followed by final review at the August Full Board meeting. Final version will go before the Board of Supervisors for final approval and transferred on to the state.

Patrick talked about Federal Grant Competitions. The Career Pathways Grant is partnered by Phoenix and Rio Salado Colleges. One requirement is that the content of what is developed must be developed into a digital format and made available online for free. That will pave the first steps toward measurable progress in the electronic delivery goal of the plan. Patrick thanked the members of the task force for their efforts.

8. **Assistant Director's Report – For Discussion**

▪ **Maricopa Human Capital Collaborative Update**

MHCC has an initiative where partners align and agree on which agency best serves a grant and all partners support the agency in that process. MHCC has launched a [LinkedIn Group](#) (select "Cancel" when dialog box appears at link).

▪ **DOL Site Review Findings**

DOL visited MWC in September and recognized the organization for the proactive regional approach to serving the needs of the community. Patrick was pleased that DOL focused on partnership with PWC.

Findings:

- (1) Need to expand sub-recipient financial monitoring (reporting/cash management) to youth providers.
- (2) Need to re-add citation language to intergovernmental agreements. Will need BOS approval.
- (3) Need to revise personnel time allocation policy to real-time rather than prospective. Awaiting guidance model from DOL, but staff are basing time allocation on Outlook calendars in the interim.
- (4) Insufficient documentation on 2 purchases:
 - a. \$23.15 book used for the Strategic Planning Task Force
 - b. Trip to Las Vegas for a conference hosted by DES and attended by DOL. MWC was urged to attend and the conference was necessary to satisfy state and federal requirements.

9. **Call to the public** - No public present

- Gilbert expansion should be cleared by Facilities Management today then move on to BOS. No event or recruiting space is currently available at Gilbert.
- The next meeting will be in June – the April meeting is cancelled.

10. **Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.