

**MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
West Valley Career Center  
1840 North 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ste 160  
Phoenix, Arizona 85037  
Minutes  
April 22 , 2010**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Neil Alexander called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**II. Roll Call: Quorum**

| Present        | Excused/Absent | Staff/Guests     |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Neil Alexander |                | Patrick Burkhart |
| Tony Maldonado |                | Dawn Zimmer      |
| Rick McCartney |                |                  |

**III. Approval of Minutes—Action Item**

**Tony Maldonado made a motion to approve minutes from February 25, 2010. Rick McCartney seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.**

**IV. Assistant Director’s Report—For Information Only**

Patrick Burkhart noted that Rick McCartney is a 2010 *Impact* Award Finalist.

Patrick noted that the PowerPoint presentation had been amended since last routing to Committee members. It now includes a number of Board members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2010. He noted staff will start contacting members regarding term renewals. Staff may be reaching out to Mesa to fill the open economic development position as we have longstanding relationships with GPEC in other areas.

MWC Board member Lisa Marra left the Association of General Contractors (ACG) a couple of weeks ago. Patrick has been in contact with ACG’s Dave Martin to solicit continued Board membership with the organization. Lisa by be interested in participating in MWC’s Youth Council once re-employed.

Patrick asked Chair Alexander to stress involvement of MWC Board members in meetings and discussions noting obtaining quorum is vital. Rick McCartney recommended Board members be reminded of their responsibilities as Board members.

Neil noted Adda Alexander has retired from her healthcare position. He feels it is important to solicit involvement from another healthcare decision maker.

Patrick suggested soliciting Board participation from the energy sector. Tony recommended solar companies such as SunTeck. Neil suggested asking Judy at APS about solar staff additions at her organization.

Patrick led a discussion regarding the content of the upcoming Full Board meeting.

1. He first summarized a report titled “\_\_\_\_\_.” Ensuing discussion included the Department of Commerce’s history of not providing added value. GPEC is pushing the Governor to develop something new and long lasting, a new model, which will benefit the local business community. The model GPEC proposed for the state includes leadership by a credible professional not someone in a political seat and puts economic development in the driver seat. The idea is to take the politics out of economic development and run it more like a business. This plan is an attempt to end a ‘war’ in the rural vs. urban provision of services. Of significance to MWC is that the Governor’s Workforce Policy Council would be embedded within the new advisory group. However, the Legislature must pass the change; Gov. Brewer is pushing. Discussion continued regarding other specifics of the proposed change including: provision of labor market research, funding stream, and timeline for implementation. Patrick noted the plan does provide sustenance and many opportunities for MWC to engage. He suspects if the proposal is passed that changes would take place July 1; the beginning of the fiscal year. Neil highlighted page 2 of the proposed act recommending \_\_\_\_\_ and highlighted members of the Governors Council [if you’d please send me the 72 page document I’ll include members’ names in the minutes since they were read] Patrick will e-mail the report to other members of the Executive Committee. It is Patrick’s sense that the

Governor would appoint members of the new hybrid board for this group; some migrating from DoC and other DoC staff would lose their jobs. Neil quoted from the document \_\_\_\_\_ **board members require Senate approval.**

2. Regarding changes to MWC's Two-Year Plan Patrick assured the group that the organization is not declaring limited funds. Two years ago there was no clear definition of what limited and unlimited meant. This was clarified and now, to be in compliance, language in the Plan has been revised. MWC will continue operating as it has.
3. Systems Effectiveness Task Force suggestions are bringing forward to the full Board performance data from major MWC partners; MCCC, DES and Maximus. The purpose of providing this information is to demonstrate system effectiveness not just WIA effectiveness.
4. Another Systems Effectiveness Task Force recommendation is to contract a return-on-investment study. A contract is being executed with ASU to start a study this summer based on PY 08 (the last 'normal' year before the recession). It is hoped that analysis of data will be available in the fall of 2010. Tony Maldonado noted that too many times studies focus on efficiency and not effectiveness. Patrick assured the group that the ROI will focus on effectiveness citing a study conducted in Fla. Using an economic development model which ASU will follow. Discussion followed noting the importance of long-term analysis and the importance of transparency for MWC. Neil noted that it was a great idea to conduct the study and that it must be done; however, he is concerned that the data will show lots of customers served but no jobs. Rick asked when the Fla. study was conducted; Patrick responded noting 2 years ago. The group is very interested in "taking a clean clinical economic look at what we produce" noting the report "will open our own eyes." Patrick added that MWC is one of the few local areas in the country with the temerity to look at ourselves this way.
5. WIA Allocation for Arizona will be discussed at a Governor's Policy Council later today. It is surprising that Congress passed additional funding for Arizona as it has remained flat for the past two years. Department of Labor calculations show Ariz. to be an area of substantial unemployment which resulted in an increase, based on a DoL formula, of \$10 million. Two million of this is anticipated for MWC. The group discussed the allocation of State funds to MWC (40%) and the percentage of customers served statewide (80-85%) and program exits (47%).
6. ARRA Training funds have been slowed to make 70% expenditures by the end of year. Patrick noted that this was a tactical decision given the program had received flat formula funding for several years. With the increase in allocation for the next program year the 'gates' have been opened making training funds more readily available. However, the plan is to maintain a 30% carryover as recommended. Rick likes the model and says it is what needs to be done. Patrick added that the career guidance specialists in the Centers have a hard time understanding why decisions are made to spend at the end of the year though he's tried to explain.

#### **V. Call to the public**

No publics were in attendance.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

Chair Neil Alexander adjourned the meeting at 9:19 a.m.