

**MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS
FULL BOARD MEETING
Maricopa County Human Services Department
West Valley Career Center
1840 North 95th Avenue, Ste 160
Phoenix, Arizona 85037
Minutes
June 24, 2010**

1. Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call: Quorum

Present:	Absent/Excused:	Staff Present:
1. Tony Abraham	Adda Alexander	Kristen Merser
2. Neil Alexander	Judy Blanchard	Dawn Zimmer
3. Karissa Brnak	Richard Burrell	Kimberly Faust
4. Ben Candler (P)	Che Collins	Kevin Berry
5. Barbara Gallegos (P)	Jeff Freeman	Arleen Schenk
6. Trish Georgeff	Danny Guido	Diana Shepherd
7. Belinda Hanson	Tina Huff	Patrick Burkhart
8. Dillon Holmes (P)	Blair Liddicoat	
9. Kayong Holston	Tony Maldonado	
10. Katharine Levandowsky (P)	Lisa Marra	
11. Gabe Loyola	Velia McMillan	
12. Rick McCartney (P)	Bob Neckes	
13. Kelsie McClendon (P)	Paul Sanders	
14. Rodney Pack	Shannon Scheidt	
15. Karen Poole (P)	Nancy Welch	
16. Ben Serio		
17. Greta Suda		
18. Marie Sullivan (P)		
19. Karen Thorne		
20. Chevera Trillo (P)		
21. Dean Wine		

3. Approval of Minutes (April 22, 2010)– Action Item

Gabe Joyola made a motion to approve the April 22, 2010 Board Minutes. Kayong Holston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Assistant Director’s Report: MWC Board member Expirations, Renewals and Nominations

Chair Alexander provided an overview of Board member term expirations and non-renewals.

MWC Board Member Term Expirations – Non-Renewals: Adda Alexander, Judy Blanchard, Richard Burrell, Danny Guido, Gabe Loyola, Lisa Marra, Velicia McMillan, Shannon Scheidt and Dean Wine. Patrick offered personal thanks to present non-renewing board members Gabe Joyola and Dean Wine for their dedicated service. Patrick also expressed his appreciation to Dean for finding a replacement for his seat. MWC Board member Term Expirations – Renewals to 06/30/2012: Tony Abraham, Ben Candler, Che Collins, Belinda Hanson, Kayong Holston, Katherine Levandowski, Blair Liddicoat, Kelsie McClendon, Bob Neckes, Greta Suda and Trish Georgeff.

Chair Alexander called for a motion to accept in block the term expirations, non-renewals and renewals. Gabe Loyola made a motion, Dean Wine seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MWC Board Member Nominations for a two-year term ending 06/30/12: Shellie Frey, Sunwest Employer Services; Eric Knott, Cox Communications and Shawn Hutchinson, President IBEW. Kelsie McClendon nominated Ms. Frey. Kelsie shared that Ms. Frey is very connected in the community and active in government affairs and the human resources industry, noting these as reasons for nominating her “without hesitation.” Kelsie informed the group that Mr. Knott is the 2nd past president of Valley of the Sun Human Resource Association and that he served as president of the Eller School and is active in the local Chamber; a good tie to the local business community. Neil added that Mr. Knott is the highest HR professional at Cox here in Arizona.

Dean Wine nominated Shawn Hutchison, president, IBEW, to continue representation of the Apprenticeship program in his stead. Neil asked Mr. Hutchison to stand and be recognized for attending the meeting. Dean highlighted Shawn’s experience and dedication to the apprenticeship and his involvement in the community. Shawn was encouraged to say a few words. He shared that he appreciated the opportunity to serve on the Board and looking forward to working with the Board to represent all trades.

Kelsie made a motion to accept new Board nominations. Rodney Pack seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Neil noted that these nominations added 2 private and one partner organization to the Board composition. Patrick then provided an overview of the Board composition noting as of 06/24/12 the Board would have 14 private sector members and 14 partner and NGO members. He expressed that Board composition must be 51% private sector. At the August MWC Board meeting a minimum of two additional private sector nominations will be presented. One private sector person is interested but could not bring the nomination forward at this meeting. This nomination will be presented at the August meeting.

Assistant Director’s Report: Joint Task Force Groups Report

The group reviewed a chart noting past employment trends following recessions; showing the current recession as the lowest and longest recovery. The tip of the current employment level, though extremely low, appears to have leveled off. He noted that the employment numbers would have leveled out had it not been for the Census. Patrick explained that data showed full employment is not expected, a return to 2007 employment rates until 2013. Manufacturing is the first to recover; Businesses GPEC are bringing in are from the manufacturing industry. Thirty percent of unemployed people have been unemployed for 12 months or more. Regionally the workforce is static even though we are seeing an uptick. Record numbers of individuals are receiving public assistance.

Patrick continued noting political trends: flat federal funding, and DOL Trends; focusing on green, special populations, youth and innovation grants. A question was asked about healthcare not being a focus. Greta Suda added that Jobing.com is seeing an increase in specialized healthcare such as advanced therapy positions which are hard to fill. Karen Poole added that 23% of MCCC students graduating with RN degrees are not finding jobs right away. Patrick summarized noting that the demand in healthcare is for highly specialized positions.

A report from Georgetown University was summarized noting that the center on Education and the Workforce Forecast 2008-2018 projects 907,000 job vacancies (new and retirement replacements); 554,000 will require postsecondary credentials; 231,000 will require high school diploma and that 123,000 will require less than a high school diploma. By 2018 61% of all jobs in Arizona will require post secondary education, compared to 63% nationally. The fastest growth will occur in healthcare professionals, health care support and STEM occupations (17-24%).

Near term targets of opportunity for MWC, as Patrick shared, are: light to medium manufacturing; warehousing, distribution and related transportation; solar manufacturing, installation and repair; and, other green technologies, including weatherization. Potential recommendations for MWC strategic positioning include: concerted collaborative effort to reach the business community (MWC, PWC, DES and Partners). Patrick noted MWC had been much more involved in the past 6 months in this area and will continue. Other suggested positioning areas include: supplement economic development efforts in business attraction, accelerate grant seeking program among regional partners, restructure WIA youth program. It is hoped that the restructure of the WIA youth program will be complete this summer. Neil clarified that the restructure is a refocusing of the Youth Council goals for the program. The last recommended area for strategic positioning shared was high-volume, low-cost services and training. Rodney Pack asked if distance learning was being looked into. This was confirmed. Neil added that “we still need jobs.” Neil encouraged private sector members of the Board to help facilitate connecting hiring employers to MWC Business Services. Ben Candler gave thanks to Patrick for the research done to prepare the joint task force report. Karissa also thanked Patrick and the task force members noting it will be a lot of hard work for the next 2 years but these recommendations will do good for the community.

Greta Suda made a motion to accept the strategic focus as presented. Trish Georger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Patrick thanked participating task force chairs; Ben and Karissa for their participation in preparing the report for the Board noting it was helpful to get the 'ground truth' from the group. Kayong was recognized as participating in the group.

Assistant Director's Report continued.

Patrick provided a summary of customer visits over the past nearly 3 years noting the dip in customer visits at the beginning of the recession followed by a steady increase through July of 2009 as FY 2010 began. Highlights of 2009-2010 included: ARRA Youth (over 1,000 SYEP in 09-10 combined – 600 in '09 and 450 in '10); Adult/Dislocated worker program placed over 550 people in training; and, SESP grant was awarded, positioning to start up in August. Patrick stated MWC is currently exceeding 6 performance measures and meeting 9; ratings above those of PWC and Pima.

Other highlights included receipt of Gates Foundation CLIP grant submission, development of Governor's Workforce Policy Council Strategic Plan (to be completed in July), and MWC recognition as HR industry Leader of the Year and PWC winner of Arizona Association of Economic Developers Leadership Award.

Neil and Patrick recognized and thanked Gabe Loyola as he exited the meeting.

Looking forward, Patrick outlined the following: possible DOL visit in the fall, request of the Board to assist in development of a new Two-Year Plan in the spring, implementation of joint Task Force recommendations, RIO study by ASU should be ready by fall, expanding and supporting Access Points, consider DES Dobson location as a comprehensive One-Stop center (it is currently a satellite center), revamping of youth services program and an upgrade of veterans services. Regarding veterans services Patrick shared that a team of MWC staff who are veterans are developing recommendations to improve veteran services.

A summary of MWC Board meetings for the remainder of the calendar year was provided noting meetings every other month starting in August. Group consensus was to move the December 23rd meeting up a week to December 16.

10. Call to the Public

Karen Thorne shared that DES in Prescott Valley and Yavapai County are expanding and are looking at their budget to see how to serve more people in more areas. A person has been hired in Winslow; location for site has not been determined. These efforts were commended.

11. Adjournment

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.