

MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS FULL BOARD MEETING
Maricopa County Security Building: 234 North Central, 3rd Floor, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

MINUTES
December 16, 2010

1. Call to Order

Chair Neil Alexander called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call: Quorum

Present

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Tony Abraham (T) | 6. Barbara Gallegos (T) | 11. K. Levandowsky (T) | 16. Karen Poole |
| 2. Neil Alexander | 7. Trish Georgeff | 12. Blair Liddicoat (T) | 17. Paul Sanders |
| 3. Ben Candler (T) | 8. Dillon Holmes (T) | 13. Tony Maldonado | 18. Greta Suda |
| 4. Kathryn Che Collins | 9. Shawn Hutchinson (T) | 14. Kelsie McClendon (T) | 19. Marie Sullivan |
| 5. Shellie Frey (T) | 10. Eric Knott | 15. Rodney Pack (T) | 20. Karen Thorne |
| 21. Chevera Trillo (T) | | | |

Absent / Excused

<i>Jeffery Freeman</i>	<i>Kayong Holston</i>	<i>Rick McCartney</i>	<i>Benjamin Serio</i>	<i>Karissa Brnak</i>
<i>Trevor Gelder</i>	<i>Tina Huff</i>	<i>Bob Neckes</i>	<i>Nancy Welch</i>	<i>Belinda Hanson</i>

Staff and Guests

Kevin Berry, MWC	Kimberly Faust, PWC	Curtis Shaw, MWC
Patrick Burkhart, MWC	Janet Lilly, MWC	Virginia Sturgill, MWC
Kristen Dewey, MWC	Kristen Merser, MWC	Dawn Zimmer, MWC

4. Approval of Minutes (October 28, 2010) – Action Item

Marie Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes from October 28, 2010; Paul Sanders seconded; minutes approved.

5. Chairmen’s Report - Action Item

Neil announced the volunteers for the Two Year Plan Task Force: Kathryn ‘Che’ Collins, Shawn Hutchinson, Randy Kimmens (Youth Council), Tony Maldonado, Kelsie McClendon, and Paul Sanders. Jeffrey Freeman and Nancy Welch have resigned from the Board. The Board was asked to recommend economic development and higher education representatives to join.

6. Advocacy Task Force Report – For Information Only

Greta Suda reported that *Advocacy’s* efforts are to reach out to businesses and share the WIA impact on them. She had the opportunity to speak with Senator McCain’s office. The task force’s primary communication is still the ION (Items of Note) monthly newsletter which is sent to city council members, legislators and staff, the business community, and DOL staff per their request to receive it. The ION is available to anyone who is interested. Advocacy hit the two-year mark as a task force in July, and is now meeting bi-monthly. They are refocusing the target market to engage the employer and target messages that are useful to employers. The ION’s format has been edited to include employer recommendations and job seeker comments. It highlights the impact of WIA funds in the community. It is live on the MWC website ([HERE](#)). Greta welcomed new Board members to join the task force or share *items of note* for the newsletter.

The task force is discussing a possible visit to D.C., and would like to become more engaged with local legislators. Greta suggested that the employer recognition event include inspiring ways for employers to use our services. Eric Knott offered to put the ION link on the SHRA website which has almost 400 members. Neil offered to provide legal content to employers at the event. Neil thanked Greta for her leadership and commended the bi-monthly format.

7. Youth Council Report – For Information Only

Tony Maldonado discussed the PowerPoint slides on the Youth Council. The *Summer Youth Employment Program* (SYEP) consisted of 32% not on public assistance and 68% on public assistance. The population was reach through a random lottery and was diverse with 21% white, 24% African America, 40% Hispanic/Latino, 12% American Indian and 1% Asian. The partnership between MWC and PWC was federally recognized. The program is intended to continue through 2011 and to

adopt new quality measures which exceed federal benchmark requirements. Neil applauded the federal recognition of the Summer Youth Program.

8. Assistant Director's Mid-Year Report – For Discussion

Patrick presented a mid-year status report and highlighted items on the PowerPoint. Center customer visits were almost 10,000 for both centers, which is operation at full capacity. Including affiliates and access points, customer visits were 15,000. Economic reports are being issued by ASU, U of A, and economist Elliott Pollack. Patrick referred to the economic trends slide on foreclosures which highlights the trend of families moving in together. Homeownership down to 39% from a 43% rate. The percentage of adult children (age 25-34) moving in with their parents has increased from 12% to 43%. Retail is improving slowly, but better than forecasts. Manufacturing has been up for 5 consecutive months and may lead the way out of the recession. The state budget will remain in crisis and have significant cuts.

The GDP forecast is 2.5% for 2011. According to a Business Roundtable survey, which consists of 95 of the largest companies in the country, businesses are profitable. However, it is under reported that \$1.93 trillion of cash is sitting in liquid assets. Patrick noted that it amounts to about 13.5% of GDP from 2009 that is sitting idle and under-invested. CEO's said that they are going to hold on to the cash until things improve, which will slow down employment. The survey reported that "50% of surveyed CFO's have no intention of putting their excess cash to work."

The positive news is that employment is growing. Metro Phoenix has been cited as having the second fastest job growth in the country. The economy is functioning at 2005 levels. The economy needs to move at about 5% to absorb the unemployed and new entries into the workforce.

The low cost training concept is moving forward and Patrick has meeting with partners PWC, Rio Salado, AWEE, A New Leaf, and Buckeye Outreach Services.

ARRA concludes spending at the end of 2010 with \$7.87 million spent. SESP will spend \$2.9 million through January 2013 with 991 job seekers expected to be served.

Gilbert Career Center is looking into an expansion to accommodate classes and on-site recruiting opportunities. The center would absorb the vacant space next door to the current center. Patrick estimates remodeling costs to be about \$200,000 and notified the Board that he may propose the Board's support at the next meeting after they ensure they have the fiscal capacity. After receiving approval from the Board, the issue would be presented to DES. Patrick noted that the customer experience begins with orientation and that better services would be provided to job seekers with more space for workshops and on-site recruitments. The lease is coming up for renewal for the Gilbert center (14,700 s/f) which has less than half the space of the West Valley center (32,710 s/f).

Patrick was invited to speak at an APS event where a \$180,000 grant was committed to MWC partner Friendly House to provide renewable energy training. Patrick noted that the goal of the Human Capital Collaborative is to gain support from partnering agencies while one agency takes the lead.

Phoenix and Maricopa Workforces teamed up for an Arizona National Guard Yellow Ribbon event on December 11. The event included a job fair staffed by MWC and PWC volunteers. Fifty employers participated as well as several hundred guardsman and their families. Employers there said they were pleased with the high caliber of candidates.

9. Call to the Public

Patrick introduced members of the MWC staff and noted the high performance and contributions of each. He recognized Kimberly Faust for her 10-years of service at MWC and is now working with Patrick's closest partner at PWC. MWC & PWC's partnership is a model that is being looked at the entire country for high performance levels. Patrick noted that Kimberly created 95% of the processes, measures and tools used in the centers for serving clients. Her teams had high performance even in a difficult economy. Her Q/A team passed audits very successfully. The Contracts Unit developed under Kim's leadership is top performing.

Patrick also thanked Kevin Berry for running the West Valley Career Center, Janet Lilly for creating the "best training unit in the world," Dawn Zimmer for her success exposing MWC through media, Virginia Sturgill for an amazing job as Contracts Coordinator, and Curtis Shaw for managing successful special projects. "The team represents what we do and why we do it so well." He added that MWC has world-class staff in the division and the Human Services department.

10. Adjournment

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.