



## MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Thursday, April 20, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/MaricopaCountyWDB>

Phone: +1 (872) 240-3212; Access Code/Meeting ID: 167-097-701

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**Members Present:** Bonnie Schirato, Che Collins, Darcy Renfro, Elizabeth Valdez, Gregg Ghelfi, Grenee Martacho, Jason Walker, Konrad Robichaud, Leah Hill, Loren Granger, Marcia Veidmark, Noelle Trinder, Shawn Hutchinson, Steve Navis

**Members Absent:** Angela Creedon, Ismial Rangel, Joe Veres, Jacob Evenson, Matt Clark, Scott Sudhalter, Scott Holman, Subhash Chandra, Tina Drews

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### MEETING

#### **Call to Order.**

Chair Leah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. and requested a roll call.

#### **Roll Call.**

MCWDB Board Liaison Deseret Romero took the roll call. A quorum was present.

#### **Welcome and Opening Remarks.**

Chair Hill welcomed everyone and read the MCWDB's vision, values, and goals.

#### **Consent Agenda.**

- a. Meeting Minutes: February 16, 2023
- b. Fiscal Reports
- c. Executive Director's Report
- d. Monthly Careers Pathway Strategist Report
- e. Title IA Governance Monitoring – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

**MOTION:** Chair Hill asked for a motion to approve consent agenda items. Shawn Hutchinson made a motion; Marcia Veidmark the motion.

#### **All in favor vote held:**

**In favor:** Bonnie Schirato, Che Collins, Darcy Renfro, Elizabeth Valdez, Gregg Ghelfi, Grenee Martacho, Jason Walker, Konrad Robichaud, Leah Hill, Loren Granger, Marcia Veidmark, Shawn Hutchinson, Steve Navis

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion passed.

#### **Chair Report.**

No report.

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## Community Impact Statements.

### a. MCWDB Business Success Story

Workforce Development Division Youth Career Advisor Nancy Dang shared the MCWDB success story.

Chair Hill thanked Ms. Dang for the impactful success story.

## Information/Discussion Only.

### a. Service Provider Update

Jared Beard, Workforce Development Division Workforce Assistant Director provided a Service Provider Update to the Board. Below are the highlights from his presentation.

- Workforce Development Division (WDD) Staffing Update
  - Staffing is near completion, with one position left to be filled.
- Operating Budget
  - Working on the operational budget, with the expectation of a reduction in next year's allocation.
- Youth Services
  - Looking to bring 8 current vendor services in-house next year. Will be identifying focused management of services and tacking the outcome of services, in addition to saving \$350,000 annually.
- Financial Literacy
  - In partnership with the Maricopa County Community Services department, WDD will be launching financial empowerment workshops starting in May.
- Apprenticeship Program
  - WDD apprenticeship program is now fully staffed and is working with the state apprenticeship office on the apprenticeship accelerator events and working with businesses to provide assistance with apprenticeship guidance.
- ARPA Funding Contracts
  - Employer Services Initiative, Job Seeker Initiative, and Community Credential Initiative awards are coming to a close in June and July. WDD will be working with those awarded to identify next steps.

### b. Unemployment Insurance for Apprenticeships

Arizona Department of Economic Security Senior Workforce Policy Manager Nancy Meeden provided a presentation on the Unemployment Insurance for Apprenticeships. Below are the highlights of Ms. Meeden's presentation.

- Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) Employer Responsibilities
- Unemployment Insurance Employer Responsibilities
- Unemployment Insurance Eligibility

MCWDB Second Vice Chair Shawn Hutchinson shared his experience with the challenges apprenticeship students and businesses face. Mr. Hutchinson inquired if there were assistance for apprentices who were unemployed during the industry downturn? Noting that while as an apprentice they are not able to seek other employment means.

Ms. Meeden noted that the state apprenticeship office would be able to connect with apprenticeship employers to come up with some ideas for providing assistance to the apprentices. (i.e. possible policy revisions, etc...)

MCWDB Member Marcia Veidmark shared the construction industry's private sector interest in the apprenticeship programs but noted a difference between private vs union with regard to planning for advancement and the discussed restrictions. Ms. Veidmark noted that her experience in the private sector

did not share the same restrictions for apprentices and that long-term planning for apprentices is a focal point. Their long-term employment planning has enabled them to retain their apprentices. Ms. Veidmark also inquired as to the apprenticeship office contact information for further information.

- c. MCWDB Information Technology (IT) Emerging Changes and 2023 Projected Workforce Landscape Report  
MCWDB Healthcare Career Pathways Strategist provided a report on the MCWDB Information Technology (IT) Emerging changes and 2023 Projected Workforce Landscape. Below are the following highlights from Ms. Dodeward's report.

- US Layoffs
  - 70,000 tech workers laid off last year in US
  - 154,000 tech jobs cut for both public and private tech companies in 2022
  - Tech layoffs were up 649% in 2022 compared to previous year
- Layoff Reasoning
  - Renormalization from over hiring, post-COVID
  - Rising interest rates
- Phoenix Market
  - Carvana laying off 4,000
  - GoDaddy laying off 530
  - Phoenix remains hot tech market (examples: TSMC and CorePower)

MCWDB Member Noelle Trinder share a recent engagement with WESTMEC and their new tech program at their northwest campus.

- d. 2023 Arizona Workforce Summit  
MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark provided a brief update on the planning of the 2023 Arizona Workforce Summit, sharing the draft agenda for both day 1 and day 2 of the Summit. Mr. Clark encouraged MCWDB Board Members to attend, noting that the Summit would replace the MCWDB Retreat this year.

- e. 2023 NAWB Forum Highlights  
MCWDB members and staff who attended the 2023 NAWB Forum (March 25-28, 2023) shared highlights from the Forum. Below is a summary of comments both attendees.

- Focus on apprenticeships
- Disconnect between youth and employment and how to connect the two.
- Possible for MCWDB to present at next NAWB Forum
- New ideas from other workforce boards
- Alternative pathways for youth
- Arizona leadership support, where not all states have this support
- Private/Public partnerships showing middle school students the different career paths that align with their personalities
- Emphasis on ages 55 and above upskilling services
- Career pathway opportunities/programs
- Better understanding of the Board's role and helping job seekers
- Focus on upskilling
- Great learning opportunity

- f. MCWDB Committee Updates

- i. Executive Committee

Chair Hill provided a brief summary of the March Executive Committee meeting, including the discussion of the recommended in-demand industries.

ii. Marketing and Outreach Committee

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark noted that the MCWDB Full Board would be discussing the future of the Marketing and Outreach Committee at the upcoming June meeting while considering the FY24 MCWDB Committees.

iii. Employer Connection Committee

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark noted that the Employer Connection Committee would be meeting on May 11, 2023, to further discuss the in-demand industries recommendation for MCWDB Full Board consideration.

iv. Youth Committee

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark noted that the Youth Committee would be meeting on May 11, 2023, to discuss what we learned from the NAWB on how we can better serve our youth population.

**Call to the Public.**

Chair Hill made a call for public comment. No one spoke.

**Adjourn.**

Chair Hill adjourned the MCWDB meeting at 10:55 a.m.

*\*For additional information, contact MCWDB staff at: [MCWDB@maricopa.gov](mailto:MCWDB@maricopa.gov)*