



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Employer Connection Committee

Thursday, October 5, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

County Administration Building  
301 W. Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (Room 250-05)  
Phoenix, Arizona  
or

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

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

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**Members Present:** Gregg Ghelfi, Ismial Rangel, Julie Stiak, Konrad Robichaud, Matt Clark, Noelle Trinder  
(Note: All members present attended in-person or via GoTo meeting)

**Members Absent:** Dominique Prettyman, Jacob Evenson, Marcia Veidmark

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MEETING

**Call to Order.**

MCWDB Executive Director Steve Clark called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. and requested a roll call.

**Roll Call.**

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

**Welcome and Opening Remarks.**

Mr. Clark welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted former MCWDB Employer Connection Committee Chair Subhash Chandra's recent resignation from the Board. Mr. Clark also noted that the MCWDB Employer Connection Committee Chair position was available and to please let him know if anyone on the Committee might be interested in filling the seat.

Due to the start of the new fiscal year and the addition of new committee members, Mr. Clark opened the meeting to introductions for the Committee members and MCWDB staff.

**Consent Agenda.**

Meeting Minutes: May 11, 2023

**MOTION:**

Mr. Clark asked for a motion to approve the MCWDB Employer Connection Committee May 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes. Gregg Ghelfi made a motion; Noelle Trinder seconded the motion.

Mr. Clark called for an all-in-favor vote:

**In Favor:** Gregg Ghelfi, Ismial Rangel, Julie Stiak, Konrad Robichaud, Matt Clark, Noelle Trinder

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion passed.

**Chair Report.**

No report.

**Information/Discussion Only.**

Business Success Story

Maricopa County Workforce Development Division Business Service Representative Kathy Allyn shared a Business Success Story with the Committee.

WDD Business Services update/In-Demand Industries Progress Report

Maricopa County Workforce Development Division Assistant Director Jared Beard provided a presentation on the WDD Business Services update/In-Demand Industries Progress Report. Below are the highlights of his presentation.

<b>Business Services Provided</b>			
<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>Total</b>
New Employer Meetings	22	83	105
In-Demand Count	6	76	82
Employer Check-Ins	39	86	125
Job Orders Placed	6	148	154
Placements above \$17/hr	4	7	11

**WARN Activity**

2022: 7 WARN Notices/Impacting 679 Employees

	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Total</b>
WARN Notices	4	7	4	1	4	5	1	26
Impacted Employees	505	508	352	80	319	1221	71	3056

**Industry Growth**

	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>August 2023</b>
Construction	193,300	203,300
Manufacturing	195,400	193,200
Transportation	148,100	145,500
IT	234,900	232,200
Finance/Insurance	190,200	188,300
Health/Social	425,300	433,100

The following Committee questions and comments were discussed.

<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
How many business services staff are dedicated to reaching out to employers? With the increase in WARN notices and rapid response resources being at both the local and state levels, have you reached out for state resources?	- West Valley Center: 2 staff - East Valley Center: 2 staff (3 <sup>rd</sup> person forthcoming) Yes. However, they have concentrated most on the local level, as the state has expressed capacity issues. At the local level, they also integrate Maricopa County Services (non- WIOA services).

Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Beard for his presentation.

Strategic Plan Goal Review/Committee Goal Discussion

MCWDB Executive Director provided a presentation on the Strategic Plan Goal Review/Committee Goal Discussion. Below are the highlights from this presentation.

**Where we left Off**

- (May 11, 2023 Meeting)
- Continue to build capacity w/business partners
  - Analyze the talent pipeline
  - Recommend ways to leverage resources – connect businesses w/workforce services
  - Evaluate in-demand industries performance
  - Evaluate research for current in-demand industries and recommend changes to industry selection
  - Recommend industry-led workforce solutions
  - Continue to be a workforce innovation leader

**WIOA Functions of the Board**

- (2) Workforce Research and Regional Labor Market Analysis
- (4) Employer Engagement – lead efforts to engage with a diverse range of employers
- (5) Career Pathways Development

**Strategic Plan Connection to Committee**

**IMPACT**

Goal #5: Increase participation of individual job seekers and businesses served across all Maricopa County Workforce Development Board title partners program

**Committee Schedule Review**

**Discussion**

- The following discussion points we made.
- 3-4 Goals Ideal
  - Be adaptable to the changing markets (being able to get the laid-off workers into training/positions quickly)
  - Favored: Analyze the talent pipeline, including CTE pipeline
  - Favored: Continue to be a workforce innovation leader

**Discussion Summary**

- 3 Goals
- Continue to be a workforce innovation leader
- Adaptable to Market Changes
- Analyze the talent pipeline, including CTE pipeline

Current Outreach Examples

MCWDB Careers Pathway and Apprenticeship Strategist Jordan Dodeward provided a presentation on the Outreach Opportunities. Below are the presentation highlights.

**Employer Outreach Guide**

**Current Activity Examples**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| - WESTMARC  | - PipelineAZ                          |
| - Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED) | - Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW) |
| - AZNext  | - Apprenticeships                     |

**Upcoming Events & Opportunities**

**Workforce Events**

**Workforce Weekly Job Blasts**

**ARIZONA@WORK Engagement Guide**

**How to Engage with ARIZONA@WORK**

**Job Fairs & Hiring Events**

**Referrals**

**Additional Resources**

**Discussion (Visual/Verbal Formal/Verbal Informal**

The following Committee questions and comments were discussed.

Question/Comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of finding ways to continue to fund apprenticeships</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How are the state and county working together on the apprenticeship programs?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Build-It-AZ (state-organized group) is collectively working to address a series of issues, including the apprenticeship challenges.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WIOA identifies funding each year for apprenticeships, correct?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes, each year the WIOA has funding ear-marked for apprenticeships. Unrelated to the \$12 million in ARPA funding (federal one-time funding). Expecting a continued reduction in WIOA funding next year.</li> </ul>

Mr. Clark thanked Jordan for her presentation.

MCWDB Committee Member Forum: Community Involvement

Mr. Clark shared the addition of this regular agenda item to be applied at each Committee meeting with a new topic for sharing. Mr. Clark then opened the floor for Committee members to share best practice for community involvement.

**Recommended Future Presentations**

- PipelineAZ (Youth to Career Success)
- ElevateEdAZ (Youth to Career Success)
- Possible joint Employer Connection/Youth Committee meeting for PipelineAZ & ElevateEdAZ presentations.
- Greater Phoenix Chamber

Call to the Public.

Mr. Clark made a call for public comment. No one spoke.

Adjourn.

Mr. Clark adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

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