



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

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Teams

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**Members Present:** Konrad Robichaud, John Soto, Julie Stiak, Marcia Veidmark, Tim Willenborg  
(Note: All members present attended in-person or via Teams meeting)

**Members Absent:** Gregg Ghelfi, Jacob Evenson, Matt Clark, Noelle Trinder, Tami Martinez

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**MEETING**

**Call to Order.**

Chair Robichaud called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and requested a roll call.

**Roll Call.**

MCWDB Board Liaison Julia Maciel took roll. A quorum was not present.

**Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Meeting Objectives.**

Chair Robichaud welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced new board members Tim Willenborg and Eddie Baldenegro.

Chair Robichaud read the following objectives for the meeting.

1. Discuss how the board can contribute and collaborate in Pipeline AZ initiatives.
2. Provide recommendations on Service Provider progress on Apprenticeships and In-demand Industries.
3. Share initiatives, successes, challenges, and ideas regarding talent acquisition from a committee member's perspective.

**Consent Agenda.**

Meeting Minutes: February 8, 2024

**MOTION:**

No motion was made at this time due to lack of quorum:

For consideration, the December 7, 2023 meeting minutes will be moved to the next MCWDB Employer Connection Committee meeting.

**Chair Report.**

Chair Robichaud provided an overview of the National Workforce Board Conference held in March 2024, in Washington, DC.

**Information/Discussion/Possible Action.**

In-Demand Industries/Occupations Research Presentation

Maricopa Management Analyst Julia Maciel and Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity, Economist, Rachael Tashbook shared their presentation. Below are highlights from the presentation.

- Why In-Demand Industries are Important
- Considerations When Making Selections
- Current In-Demand Industries
- OEO In-Demand Industries Recommendation and Selection Process
- OEO's Considerations in Rankin In-Demand Industries
- Key Questions for the Committee

Mr. Clark recommended the committee review data with a broad perspective today and for future meetings focus on more specific industries.

Committee Reviewed Summary Statistics

- Maricopa (total), 2-Digit NAICS
- Maricopa (total), 3-Digit NAICS
- OEO's Top Ranked Industry Sectors Maricopa (Total)
- 2-Digit Industry Rankings

The following Committee questions and comments were discussed.

Question/Comment	Response
Mr. Clark reviewed the previous board recommendations from last year to unofficially create a top tier of In Demand Industries that included Health Care, Construction, and Manufacturing.	-Ms. Veidmark is in agreement with selections from last year. Construction, Healthcare, Transportation, and Manufacturing should be of high focus this year. -Ms. Stiak reviewed finance and insurance as one of the fastest-growing sectors in the West and East Valleys -Mr. Willenborg agreed with Ms. Veidmark's comments regarding Transportation and Warehousing as important components.
Mr. Clark queried the committee to add or subtract any industries from the list	-Chair Robichaud confirmed the 6 <sup>th</sup> item not shown is IT.
Chair Robichaud asked if the committee would like to add additional industries for discussion	-Ms. Tashbook will acquire custom analysis to break down wholesale trade and professional technical industries.
Mr. Baldenegro questioned how contact centers were captured within this segment of the population	-Ms. Tashbook categorized the call centers that fall under the support of an industry, they will be grouped within that industry. If they are independent, they would be grouped under the information industry.
Mr. Clark summarized the conversation to keep (in no specific order) Manufacturing, Construction, Healthcare, Transportation, Warehousing, Finance, Insurance, and IT. Review additional information on professional technical and wholesale trade to review in the future.	-Chair Robichaud would like to include wholesale trade

Chair Robichaud thanked the group for the presentation and discussion.

Chair Robichaud opened to the committee members to share success stories and/or bring future guests to the committee for presentations.

Ms. Stiak suggested the guest Brian Darby, President of Infrastructure Masons (I Masons), the National Organization of Data Centers.

**Call to Public**

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

**Adjourn.**

Chair Robichaud adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

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