

## Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, February 11, 2022  
 Location: MS Teams

### Attendance

*Legend: Y=Present; P=Proxy present; R=Regrets/Excused; N=Absent*

Yes	No		<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Category &amp; Industry</u>
	N	1	Jon Alvino, SMART Local 9	Labor
	N	2	Robert Andrews, CommunityWorks	Workforce Partner
Y		3	Maggie Bolden, Palace Construction (CHAIR)	Business - Construction
	N	4	Lynda Campbell, Five Senses Hospitality	Business – Hospitality
Y		5	Skip Carlson, Rego Consulting	Business – IT/Prof. Services
Y		6	Chris Carman, Center for Work Ethic Development	Business – Prof. Services
Y		7	Cecil Courtney, Pipefitters #208	Labor
Y		8	Sarah Diamond, BOA Technology	Business-Manufacturing
Y		9	Joseph Fiorini, CDLE Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	Vocational Rehabilitation
Y		10	Jennie Gonzales, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 108	Labor
Y		11	Daniel Grady, Hercules Industries	Business-Manufacturing
Y		12	Valerie Greenhagen – Center for Employment Opportunity	Workforce Partner
Y		13	Kelli Kelly, Kiewit	Business – Construction
Y		14	Elise Lowe-Vaughn, CO Department of Labor & Employment (Brad Roller)	Workforce Partner
Y		15	Turid Nagel-Casebolt, Denver EDO - Business Development	Economic Development
Y		16	Fabiana Nardi, Green Hat Web Solutions (Matthew Thomas)	Business – IT/Prof. Services
Y		17	Sarah Secrist, The Learning Source	Local Adult Education
Y		18	Matthew Sweeney, CCD	Local Adult Education
Y		19	Cecil Velázquez, A Precious Child	Workforce Partner
Y		20	Dan Weinstein, Aon Hewitt	Business – Prof. Services
Y		21	Michael Williams, U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement	Business – Government Services
18	3	21	<u>86</u> % of the Voting Members (VM) attended	QUORUM: Yes

### Agenda Items

#### 1. Call to Order & Welcome

- Denver Workforce Development Board (WDB) Vice Chair Kelli Kelly, called the meeting to order at about 11:32 A.M.
- Guests in the meeting included: Elliott Abbott (DEDO), Tony Anderson (DEDO), Aimee Callahan (The Learning Source), Chris Berthiaume (DEDO), Christine Dewhurst (Kavod Senior Life), Londell Jackson (Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain), Kathleen McCleary (DEDO), Emily McGrew (DEDO), Liz Mulei (DEDO), Todd Nielsen (DEDO), Bret Walker (DEDO), Dana Williams (DEDO)

## 2. Workforce Development Board Business

- Approval of Minutes.

- Action Taken:

There were no minutes to approve during the meeting.

## 3. Introductions:

Introductions given by each attendee using the PowerPoint.

- Jon Alvino absent
- Welcome: Logann Grasteit, Jon Alvino, Sarah Diamond, Daniel Grady, and Matthew Sweeny.

## 4. Workforce 22 Preview

- Wagner-Peyser

Tony Anderson explained

- Federal legislation determines that 50% of the funding for Workforce Services comes from WIOA and 50% comes from Wagner Peyser.
- When Wagner Peyser was first passed, it allowed three states (including Colorado) to be demonstration states, meaning they could tailor their services to meet the needs of the local areas by operating under local control.
- The last administration changed the legislation allowing all 50 states to offer services using the demonstration state model. The new administration rescinded the decision and determined that all states will offer services at the state level without any demonstration state status.
- This is a concern at the state and local level.
  - Elise Low-Vaughn explained that while being a demonstration state, the State of Colorado has exceeded performance metrics the entire time. The State of Colorado has been advocating for reauthorization as a demonstration state. They have worked with Senator Hickenlooper, Michigan, and Massachusetts. If needed, the State will file a multi-state waiver. She also identified several national partners who are willing to advocate for demonstrations status, as well.
  - Londell Jackson: noted that the CWDC is hosting a town hall meeting re: this issue on the 15<sup>th</sup> and Public Comment can be submitted here: <https://cwdc.colorado.gov/get-involved/public-comment>
  - Elise Low-Vaughn reported on staffing updates at the State level. Kelly Folks is the new director of training and employment.

- DWS Youth Programs

Tony Anderson explained,

- i. OSY Youth
- ii. Younger Youth
  - OSY and Younger Youth programs look different. At least 25% of current WIOA allocations fund Younger Youth programs. Denver Public Schools (DPS) has been a strong partner for the in-school youth program.
  - DPS will offer one more traditional summer program. It is a two-month experience with 120 hours of work experience for those who live in low-income households.

- Future programming will provide a 12-month program anchored in a work experience. During the 12 mo. the youth may participate in career exploration, job shadowing, and/or career pathways.
- WIOA AD/DW/OSY
  - Tony Anderson explained,
    - WIOA is currently operating in the third year of its contract. An RFP was put out by DWS. There was only one submission. Due to only having one submission, DWS, the City Contract Office, and the City Attorney's Office determined to withdraw the RFP. Eckard will assume responsibility for the OSY program.
    - An RFP will be put out in the fall of 2022 for WIOA DW and OSY.
    - DWS will continue to diversify the funding streams that fund local programs which may include funds from DHS.
      - Londell Jackson asked about the number of applicants for RFP, what the programs would look like, and outcomes that DWS is using to measure success.
        - Tony explained that the programs are built on evidence-based practices and measurable skill attainment and skill gain. Tony explained that DWS put this RFP out six years ago, there were zero local applicants. DWS formally worked with ResCare and now works with Eckard to disperse WIOA funds. The funding may be unattractive to local partners.
      - Londell Jackson encouraged DWS to think about what will be achieved and how success will be measured and then build a program around the thoughts from those discussions.
        - Tony invited Londell, those serving on the youth committee, and those attending the meeting to provide input around program success and program outcomes.
- Good Jobs Challenge
  - Tony Anderson reviewed the content on the slides and explained:
    - Tony came across the grant application for the Good Jobs Challenge. He contacted the State to see if they wanted to pursue the grant. The State informed Tony that they would not be pursuing the grant but would support his submission for the grant. The State asked that he include more industries in his submission.
    - Tony reviewed the current industries that are receiving funding or have recently received funding from other grants. A need was identified within the healthcare, aerospace, and aviation industries. Over the course of four months, Tony and team reviewed data and met with many partners and employers including local healthcare providers, Denver International Airport, Rocky Mountain Regional Airport, and Centennial Airport. It was determined that the grant would focus on the healthcare industry, the aerospace industry, and the aviation industry.

- The grant would fund sector (sectorial) partnerships and would help create opportunities for priority populations. DWS currently provides services using the model outlined in the grant.
- Ultimately, if the grant is awarded to DWS, it would be split amongst four different counties who would own the dispersion of the funding they receive.
- DWS did an RFQ to select partners for the potential grant. They specifically looked for providers with a pay for performance approach. Seven proposals were submitted to DWS. Upon review, Cross Purpose and Activate Work were the two partners that were selected by DWS. Ultimately, Cross Purpose would focus on the healthcare and aviation industries outlined in the grant and Activate Work would focus on the tech positions related to aerospace.
- Grant awardees will find out in late March or early April if they were selected to receive the funding. At the end of the four-month application process, new partnerships were established and old partnerships were rejuvenated.
- PY22 Contract Negotiations
  - Tony Anderson showed the slide listing all the current contractors with DWS and explained:
    - Funding for contractors comes from the WIOA, State stimulus, and CDGB dollars.
    - Contractors have up to a three-year term that is reviewed annually. Upon review, their contract may be renewed or terminated at the end of each single year.
    - Any unspent dollars will be put toward an RFP in late fall/early winter.

## 5. Wrap Up and Adjournment.

Announcements included:

- Bret Walker: Virtual Job Fair March 1
- Tony Anderson & Bret Walker: Through the CARES ACT, DWS was able to secure \$625,000 to purchase laptops. They recently secured additional funding and have purchased more laptops. DWS partnered with the Denver Public Library to create opportunities for individual to check out a laptop and/or hot spot to assist them in their job search. The additional laptops will be given to individuals enrolled in a training program. <https://www.denverlibrary.org/blog/library-news/stacey/chromebooks-and-internet-hotspots-now-available-borrow>
- Tony Anderson: Workforce Wednesday email is a weekly email from DWS that keeps employers and job seekers up-to-date. The members of the board can sign up to receive the email.
- Matthew Sweeney: An ESL for Manufacturing course 2/14 for those interested in manufacturing careers and potential talent. <https://www.ccd.edu/administration/non-academic-departments/foundational-skills-institute/enrollment-form>
- Kelli Kelly: The next committee meeting is March 11, 2022 and the next board meeting is April 11, 2022.
- The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:09 P.M.

*Meeting Handouts:*

[February 11, 2022 Meeting agenda](#), [Workforce 2022 PowerPoint](#), [Denver WDB New Member Introduction](#)