

Weld County Workforce Development Board

General Board Meeting

Minutes

July 13, 2021

Board Members:

Present: Amanda Ericson, HRx Services, Chair; Cecil Courtney, Denver Pipefitters Local Union 208; Elise Lowe-Vaughn, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE); Gary Matten, Pension Edge Consulting Services; Jeff Sloan, Christian Brothers Automotive; Jill Eaton, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR); Mathew Hortt, High Plains Library District; Michelle Vance, Windsor Chamber of Commerce; Perry Buck, Weld County Board of County Commissioners; Shayna Howell, Aims Community College; Zach Huston, Chevron U.S.A., Inc.

Absent: Cody LeBlanc, GENCO, Inc.; Elizabeth Barber, The Greeley Dream Team; Lisa Taylor Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado (IRCNOCO); Michael Trotter, Front Range Roofing; Peggy Decker, Kaiser Permanente; Rich Werner, Upstate Colorado.

Quorum Present: Yes.

Others Present:

Employment Services of Weld County (ESWC) Workforce Director: Karina Amaya

ESWC Staff: CeCe Moreno, Workforce Deputy Director; Heather Roberts, Support Specialist;

Other: Dan Betts, Office of Congressman Ken Buck; Kelsey Baun, Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce; Lee Wheeler-Berliner; Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC); Tami Grant, Weld County Department of Human Services.

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Chair Amanda Ericson.

II. Changes to the Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

Discussion: Amanda Ericson, board chair, entertained a motion to approve the Workforce Development Board meeting minutes from May 11, 2021 as edited. Perry Buck, Weld County Board of County Commissioners, moved to approve the minutes as edited Matthew Hortt, High Plains Library District, seconded the motion and the motion carried.

III. Consent Agenda

a. High Performing Board Affirmation

Amanda Ericson, HRx Services and board chair, entertained a motion for the board to attest the intent to apply for the High Performing Board Designation. Perry Buck, Weld County Board of County Commissioners, moved that the board apply for the High Performing Board designation. Sylvia Robinson, TOLMAR, seconded the motion and the motion carried.

IV. Unfinished Business

a. Regional/Local Plan Update

ESWC received approval letters from the CWDC that the PY20-23 Regional and Local Plans were approved. Prior to approval, CWDC requested clarification and minor changes to the plans supporting documentation. No changes were requested to the plan.

V. Announcements, Updates, and Celebrations

a. **HB21-1264 and Statewide Initiatives**

Presentation Attached

Executive Director from the CWDC, Lee Wheeler-Berliner presented on the implementation of the Workforce Stimulus funding under HB21-1264. Please see the attached presentation for how the funds will be distributed.

There is an expectation that local boards will compete out a portion of the funding allocated to them to support local organizations through an RFP process. This process and eligibility guidelines have not been determined for Weld. A task group was created with CeCe Moreno, Karina Amaya, Matthew Horts and Sylvia Robinson to determine how to proceed. If you are interested in joining the task group, please contact [CeCe Moreno](#) or [Karina Amaya](#). A process should be in place by September or October.

CWDC is creating a marketing campaign to increase awareness of the grant opportunities targeted to individuals. This campaign is planned to launch in August. The funds allocated to the CWDC for business related initiatives will be determined from the [stakeholder survey](#), which will capture information from local boards on the best use of these funds. The survey closes early August. There is a possibility that a business targeted marketing campaign could arise from the results of the survey.

The grant also provides opportunities for upskilling workers with short term industry recognized credentials for those affected by COVID-19. Funds can be leveraged from other programs for those participants not affected by COVID-19, longer term credentials, including incumbent worker programs where a participant is upskilled for the purpose of their current position opening for new hires.

b. **PY20 Preliminary Q4 Dashboard**

The Q4 dashboard does not contain budget information for June 2021. Once this information is available, the dashboard will be updated. As a reminder, the increase in available funding due to the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the normal funding spending. ESWC is confident that funding spending requirements have been met for PY20. In the event that an area remains a concern after the dashboard is updated, the board will be informed.

c. **Weld Food Bank Engagement Opportunity**

On June 8, 2021, several members of the board supported the Weld Food Bank by preparing bags of corn to be distributed to the community.

d. **Youth Committee**

The May meeting was held in-person and virtually. The Weld Works 4 Youth (WW4Y) program has placed 80 participants in work-experiences throughout the county. The program frequently receives applicants from the same families as new generations age into the program. The Life Skills workshops are well attended. The committee continues to explore creating a similar option to the YES Project grant, which they did not receive an award but would like to continue the initiative. Two ESWC Youth Team staff changes



Veterans and eligible spouses are entitled to priority access to Department of Labor funded programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for Relay Services. Employment Services of Weld County is an equal opportunity program and employer.

were announced: Greg Cordova has accepted the promotion of the Youth Employment and Training Supervisor and Nay Williams, Youth Employment and Training Case Manager has resigned and is taking on a new employment opportunity with the SWAP program. As this program serves disabled youth, Nay will continue to participate on the Youth Committee.

Michelle Vance, Windsor Chamber of Commerce, is currently hosting a WW4Y work-experience and is interested in continuing and adding placements after the program ends. Michelle and ESWC staff will explore the option of the Chamber offering work-experiences placed at the chamber being loaned to area business for them to see the benefit of being a worksite and to increase awareness of the program.

The Youth Committee continues to look for members who would like to engage in action-oriented projects. Please contact [Greg Cordova](#) if you are interested in joining the committee. You do not need to be a board member to participate.

e. Awareness Committee

Jill Eaton is the new committee chair. The committee is currently re-establishing its goals. Ideas were discussed which include marketing the board and ESWC programs, and the Job Seeker and Business Services maps. The committee is in need of engaged members, please contact [CeCe Moreno](#) or [Heather Roberts](#) if you are interested in joining the committee. You do not need to be a board member to join.

Matthew Hortt provided an update on the Sync-Up Challenge grant that the High Plains Library district and sector partnerships applied for was not awarded; however, they were provided with information on another opportunity to move forward with the proposed initiative.

VI. Board Focus

a. Community Engagement

Additional opportunities for community engagement and awareness discussed include: Work-Based Learning (WBL) Educational Seminar (Business Engagement/Awareness), Chamber Lunch and Learn, Community engagement booths, funding awareness. Awareness to parents of youth programs, Greeley Tribune advertisements, mail campaign, partner with Free Lunch communications, elementary take home folders. Marketing barriers discussed include lack of ESWC Facebook and LinkedIn.

Gary Matten suggested ideas for future activities to increase community awareness of the Workforce Development Board. These included events where the community congregates like high school athletic events, Colorado Eagles, Greeley Stampede 2022, Dacono Speedway, Windsor Summer Concert Series and Moxi Theater concerts. If you have future ideas for engagement with the community, please contact [CeCe Moreno](#).

b. Job Seeker and Business Services Maps

Attached



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The Job seeker map is not being published publicly and is only for WDB education. The Business Services map needs further refinement and could be used to educate chamber leaders who can raise awareness with chamber members and during outreach work. It could also be put on ESWC's website. Currently there is not a meeting scheduled to continue the discussion. The maps have been included for further review. If you are interested in joining the task group, please contact [Heather Roberts](#).

VII. **Miscellaneous**

VIII. **Action Items**

a. 2022 Meetings, Recruitment, and BOD Opportunities

A proposed schedule for board and committee meetings in 2022 is attached. Please review and let Heather Roberts know if you have any concerns with the schedule.

The board is actively recruiting new members. Please see the board recruitment section below for a list of openings. If you know of someone who would like to be actively engaged in addressing workforce development issues, please send their contact information to [Amanda Ericson](#).

Kyle Majchrowski, board co-chair, has resigned from the Workforce Development Board. If you are interested in a leadership role in 2022 with the board, please contact [Amanda Ericson](#), [Karina Amaya](#), [CeCe Moreno](#) or [Heather Roberts](#).

IX. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Heather Roberts.

Strategic Goals

Continue seeking clarity and improving connections for programs and services between Employment Services and the businesses and individuals in the Weld County Community.

Increase awareness and clarify impact of Weld County's workforce network by attracting organizations and businesses to utilize the available funding provided to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) targeted populations.

Increase Weld County Workforce Development Board (WCWDB) member engagement by involving board members in planning, leadership pipeline development, and committee involvement.

Working with intention by participating and supporting ESWC, sector partnerships and their workgroups to ensure our regional workforce has equitable access to opportunities for quality, life-long education and individual advancement to secure the future of work in Northern Colorado.



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Board Recruitment

The following positions are vacant: Business Representatives for Agriculture, Transportation, Accommodation/Hospitality, Other Services (except Public Administration), and Manufacturing or Health Care. Workforce Representatives for Apprenticeship Training Director and Community Based Organizations who serve individuals with barriers to employment. If you know someone interested in Workforce Initiatives and can fill one of these roles, please direct that person to [Heather Roberts](#) or [CeCe Moreno](#).

Upcoming Events

Youth Committee Meeting: July 27, 2021; 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Awareness Committee Meeting: August 3, 2021; 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Optional Engagement Opportunity: On Break Until October

Required Meeting: September 14, 2021; 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM



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