



STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Draft Meeting Minutes Pending Board Approval
GENERAL BOARD MEETING

DATE: Thursday, April 4, 2024
TIME: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Utah Electrical Training Alliance
7466 S Redwood Road, West Jordan, UT 84084
Google Meet: meet.google.com/enu-ixea-vko
Phone: (US) +1 516-268-6796
PIN: 240 363 432#

**MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Casey Cameron
Deanna Hopkins
Greg Paras
James Jackson III
Jared Haines
Jeremy Haslam
Jordan Leonard
Kendall Thomas
Lauren Navidomskis
Megen Ralphs
Michael Lanoue
Sara Jones
Sarah Brenna
Shawn Milne
Stacey Taylor
Stephanie Patton
Tannen Ellis Graham
Tonya Hales

EXCUSED:

Bruce Rigby
Dan Walker
Gary Harter
Joey Gilbert
Matt Loo

ABSENT:

Cory Maloy
David Gray
Jeff Worthington
Matt Loo
Nikki Walker
Shawn Newell
Wayne Cederholm

QUORUM:

Yes

**MEMBERS
PRESENT
(VIRTUAL):**

Dale Curtis
Debra Fiori
Jennifer Saunders
Sherry Stevens
Spencer Loveless



**BOARD
STAFF:**

Elizabeth Carver
Aaron Thompson
Amira Mijic
Heather Mousley
Kimberley Bartel
Lindsay Cropper
Natalie Garrett
Stacie Smith

OTHER ATTENDEES (VIRTUAL)

David Busk
Leah Lobato

**OTHER
ATTENDEES:**

Allison Keller
Helen Hanson
John Talcott
Tashina Williams
(ITEC)
Weston Miller
Zac Whitwell

1. Welcome and Opening Business

Megen Ralphs

- a. Acknowledgments and Introductions
 - i. Meeting called to order 1:03 PM
 - ii. Introductions of new board members:
 - 1. Kendall Thomas, Tooele County Commissioner
 - 2. Jordan Leonard, Emery County Commissioner
 - 3. Lauren Navidomskis, Executive Director of Lantern House in Ogden
 - iii. Introduction of Scott Romney, Commissioner of Apprenticeships. .
 - iv. If members of the board do not know whom to contact in the Department of Workforce Services, please contact Administrative Assistant Natalie Garrett at ngarrett@utah.gov.
- b. Approval of January 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes
 - i. No discussion
 - ii. Motion to approve: Tannen Ellis Graham
 - iii. Second: Jeremy Haslam
 - iv. In Favor: All
 - v. Opposed: None

2. Department Update

Casey Cameron, DWS Executive Director

- a. Provided an update regarding housing and information about the funding that will be coming to the department for the housing and community development division of the department due to the most recent legislative session.
- b. Department has been busy with the unwinding the pandemic funding that was received. Medicaid and Childcare programs received additional funding to support families and that is winding down as well as recertifying all medicaid cases in the Eligibility Services Division
- c. The Department is hiring staff across the state, particularly in rural Utah in support of Governor Cox's initiatives.
- d. Provided an update on the Office of the Legislature General Audit that will be conducted as a normal business process audit over the next eight to twelve months.

3. Legislative Update

Kevin Burt, DWS Deputy Director

- a. DWS Deputy Director Kevin Burt presented an overview of the 2023 Legislative Session as well as the most recent Legislative Session. The slide show will be shared with the board members.
 - i. Question from Tannen Ellis Graham regarding HB460 and who proposed and wrote the law for the Government Employee Conscience Program.
 - 1. An employer would have to reasonably accommodate an employee. It was clarified that this particular bill applies to government employees.
 - 2. An example was given that if an employee does not want to drive to work because of environmental reasons, an employer may have the option to provide a bus pass.



3. Group discussion regarding employee and employer interpretation of undue hardship, and conscience. Kevin clarified that this particular law applies to employees of government agencies.

4. One Stop Certifications

a. Provo Employment Center

- i. Jared Haines, Wayne Cederholm, Nikki Walker, Jeff Worthington
- ii. Jared Haines provided an update of the experience with the Provo Employment Center staff and their knowledge of the resources available in their area.
- iii. Need some appropriations for a better sign- difficult to find the office
- iv. Motion to approve recertify the provo center
 1. Motion Jared Haines
 2. Second: Shawn Milne
 3. All in favor: Yes
 4. Opposed: None
 5. John Talcott expressed appreciation for the board members to spend time volunteering in the center and providing feedback to their staff.

5. Committee Report Out

Committee Chairs

a. Apprenticeship Committee (Mike Lanoue, Co-Chair)

- i. Welcome to Scott Romney, newly appointed Commissioner of Apprenticeships
- ii. National Youth Apprenticeship Week is the first week of May. The Department of Labor (DOL) is planning a few activities during that week. Mike Lanoue has been invited. Will send an update when they have more information. Pat Miller with the Office of Apprenticeship is leading this initiative.
- iii. The Committee is targeting high schools since the beginning of the year. The Committee has gone to 14 schools and a lot of building trades has been working to get a lot done on pathways and showing them the pathways. Leading into youth apprenticeship week and been pushing a lot of outreach activities. Having an open house at Utah Electrical Training Alliance during the Youth Apprenticeship Week and will be participating in the activities across the state.
- iv. Jared Haines extended congratulations. There are a lot of amazing activities going on with Talent Ready Utah and they are really trying to explore other occupations besides the traditional trades. They will be working on starting some Work Based Learning (WBL) opportunities on an ongoing basis.
 1. Megan Ralphs would like to have Talent Ready Utah come to present at a future board meeting.

b. Career Pathways (Committee Chair Jennifer Saunders, Ph.D.)

- i. Committee has met a couple of times and is working on a work plan that can be useful for the whole state. A consistent theme on how to pay attention to supporting rural Utah and exploring possibilities and some things that are more unique as well as those that are more consistent.
- ii. Employers are more consistently giving feedback that there is opportunity for pathways for handoff to tech colleges or higher education. Also discussed students who go immediately to employment and how to help with them. What are the tools and resources and what is useful?
- iii. Recurring theme is that so much of this work needs to be how to support local schools and local employers. Committee would like to focus on how to be helpful and useful to the entire state and resist any tendency to focus on the Wasatch Front.

c. Youth (Presented by Lindsay Cropper on behalf of Matt Loo)

- i. Focusing on how to increase enrollment in programs
- ii. Partnering with Vocational Rehabilitation and Adult Education and Job Corps to increase education assistance, as well as partnering with those that assist for helping migrant seasonal workers.
- iii. Working on how to increase awareness of these programs and what strategies can be done to improve.



- d. Serving Individuals With Disabilities (Committee Chair Deanna Hopkins)
 - i. Business Relations Team - Actively engaged with employers. Just hosted their employer workshop on March 9th. If you are an employer who has not attended one of those, please attend one of the workshops.
 - 1. Contact a member of the Business Relations Team:
 - a. Leah Lobato: leahlobato@utah.gov
 - b. Ben Baldonado at bjbaldonado@utah.gov
 - c. Joshua Rodeback: jrodeback@utah.gov
 - ii. Provided information on [EPAS](#) (Employment Related Personal Assistance Services) .
 - 1. Individuals with disabilities who are eligible for certain Medicaid Waivers. For more information, please contact epas@utah.gov
 - iii. Golden Key Awards, Disability IN summit will be held Sept 26 at the Zion's Technology building. Honor employers who go above and beyond in hiring individuals with disabilities and also award [scholarships](#). For more information, please email Leah Lobato: leahlobato@utah.gov.
 - e. Operations (Kim Bartel on behalf of Gary Harter)
 - i. Board members are invited to participate in future re-certifications of One-Stop centers.
 - 1. To participate, please email Nycole Tylka at ngtka@utah.gov or Natalie Garrett at ngarrett@utah.gov.
 - 2. Logan: May 22, 2024, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 - 3. Cedar City: June 2024
 - 4. Clearfield: August 2024
 - 5. South County/Taylorsville: September 2024
 - 6. Metro: November 2024
 - 7. May 22 - Logan 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 - ii. This committee is also supporting the WIOA plan and the WIOA partner agreements.
 - iii. Heather Mousley provided a brief update on the Job Seeker and Employer Surveys.
- 6. **Workforce Development Outreach Report** **Helen Hanson**
 - a. Workforce Development Division Service Area Director, Helen Hanson, provided a summary of the Outreach Report.
- 7. **Public Comment** **Megen Ralphs**
 - a. No public comment
 - b. Meeting adjourned at 2:17 PM. A tour of the Utah Electrical Alliance was provided by the staff of the center following the meeting.

UPCOMING SWDB MEETING:

Thursday, July 11, 2024, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Department of Workforce Services, South County Employment Center
5735 South Redwood Road, Taylorsville, UT 84123
jobs.utah.gov/edo/statecouncil/index.html