

Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Board
September 12, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Southwest Arkansas Planning & Development District

Members Present: The Southwest Arkansas Workforce Development Board convened a full Board meeting through electronic means on September 12, 2023. The meeting was conducted in-person and remotely utilizing Teams and teleconference. Whitney Peterson, Board Chair, presided with the following members voicing their presence: Adija Banks (Proxy Norrissa Sharp), Shaun Clark, Ophelia Strickland, Don White, Pam Willis, Barbara Hamilton, Rory Gulick, LaVennier Brown, Cory Walker, Kelly Wilson, Chris Donaldson, Ivory Curry, Voniece French, Phoebe Bailey (Monica Morris), Kevin Smith, Dr. Christine Holt, Lola Smith, and Tracie Lee. Southwest Staff attended: Renee Dycus, Annette Hughey, Lori White, Lisa Stamper, Reese Broadnax, Sherry Bailey, and Shelda Garland; Special Guest: Melanie Anderson, NAWB

Welcome: Board Chair, Whitney Peterson, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Action Item #1 – Approval of June 13, 2023 minutes: Mr. Gulick made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Smith seconded. Via a voice vote, the minutes were approved.

Action Item #2 – Approval of the Grievance Policy revisions: Ms. Garland discussed the revised sections, within the Grievance Policy. She explained how each local area, including the local workforce development board, must have written procedures to address grievance and complaints for allegations concerning WIOA Title I-B services. Revisions were made to the policy after receiving Technical Assistance from the Regional Advisor. All revisions were highlighted in the policy and included some rewording throughout the policy to ensure procedures were clear. Mr. Gulick made a motion to approve the revisions and Mr. Curry seconded. Via a voice vote, the Grievance Policy revisions were approved.

Committee Reports

Mr. Gulick and Ms. Brown gave updates for the One-Stop and Disability committees.

Staff Reports

Ms. Garland, Ms. Bailey, Ms. White, and Ms. Stamper gave updates on the WIOA Program, Financials, Workforce Center activities and updates.

Partner Updates

Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Brown gave updates for Adult Education and Rehabilitation Services.

Other Business

The next meeting date was announced for December 12, 2023; Board Member Orientation by NAWB NAWB Representative, Melanie Anderson.

Adjournment

Chair, Whitney Peterson, called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hamilton made the motion and Mr. Smith seconded. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.


SWAWDB Vice Chair

13 Feb 2024
Date