

Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 1, 2022 1:30 PM
Mountain

Zoom
525 Camino De Los Marquez
Suite 250
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Floyd Archuleta	Present
Rebecca Estrada:	Present
Vince Howell:	Present
Sean Medrano:	Present
Jolene Nelson	Present
David Romero	Present
Jon Paul Romero:	Present
Joseph Weathers:	Present

Present:8, Absent:0.

Also in attendance: NALWDB Staff: Lisa Ortiz – Executive Director, Barney Trujillo – Operations Manager, Kevin Boyar – Program Monitor, Brittany Valencia – Program Specialist, Amber Gomez – Project Specialist/Communications **Guests:** Margarito Aragon – DWS, Veronica Alonzo - DWS, Cindy Gallegos – DWS, Eric Vasquez – One-Stop Operator, Teresa Quintana – HELP NM, Evangeline Touchine – HELP NM, Ericka Van Eckhoutte –HELP NM, Irene Panlilio – HELP NM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Weathers at 1:39PM

2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Roll Call was done by NALWDB Project Specialist/Communications, Amber Gomez who announced that a quorum was present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with the amendment of adding executive session between items 7.1 and 7.2 to discuss the State Oversight. This motion was made by Jon Paul Romero, seconded by Sean Medrano, and passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the June 29, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. This motion, was made by Jon Paul Romero, seconded by Vince Howell, and passed unanimously.

6. Action Item

6.1 Letter of Support

Jon Paul Romero gave a brief explanation about the letter of support for the charging stations. He stated, the New Mexico Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway

Administration has a grant to install EV charging stations to benefit economic development, tourists, and get people back to work in New Mexico. He added that individuals that are eligible include corporate, nonprofit organizations, public school districts, state governments, tribal governments, metropolitan, and public transportation organizations. He mentioned placing these stations at 6 of our office locations: Mora, Santa Fe, Grants, Farmington, Farmington, and Las Vegas.

David Romero mentioned that the City of Las Vegas did submit a grant for the charging stations through the northern cog. However, if there's another opportunity where they can be placed at one of the workforce facilities, he stated that he's in full support.

Motion to approve the letter of support for the Charging stations. This motion was made by Sean Medrano, seconded by Vince Howell, and passed unanimously.

Madam Executive Director mentioned that we have two other letters of support, one for San Juan Collage for an alliance for Digital Opportunities and Broadband Equity (ADOBE) to strengthen community colleges application. The second letter is for Higher Plains Community School Program.

Madam Executive Director made asked for the committees support and approval of the two letters.

Motion to approve the San Juan College and Higher Plains letters of support. This motion was made by Jon Paul Romero, seconded by Rebeca Estrada, and passed unanimously.

7. Discussion Items

7.1 State Oversight Discussion

Margarito Aragon gave a brief overview of the State Oversight. He stated, when oversight began, the State identified 15 areas that needed to be strengthened and updated before oversight could be lifted, and the Northern Board could start operating independently. He informed the board that during the last few years they have been able to close 12 of the 15 items identified. One of the items that's currently pending is a review of the Boards policies. He added, they will request a form and once the Executive Director provides an updated policy spreadsheet they can review and have a discussion with the staff at the Board and inform them of anything that needs to be updated. Another item on the list that needs to be updated is the shared liability agreement between the CEOs.

Chairman Weathers asked that the committee enter executive session with Mr. Aragon, Veronica Alonzo, Cindy Gallegos, and the Board Staff.

Motion to enter executive session to discuss the state oversight at 1:56pm. This motion was made by Floyd Archuleta, seconded by Vince Howell, and passed unanimously by rollcall vote 8 Yays.

Motion to come out of executive session with no actions taken at 2:55pm. This motion made by Vince Howell, seconded by Sean Medrano, passed unanimously by rollcall vote 7 Yays. Amber Gomez announced that Rebecca Estrada had to leave the meeting.

7.2 Budget/Expenditure

Chairman Weathers informed the committee that the reason he wanted this item on the agenda is because of the report HELP NM gave during the last Full Board Meeting. He then expressed his concern that we are only entering the second month of the new fiscal year and we're almost fully obligated.

Madam Executive Director stated that currently HELP NM has obligated \$344,000 of the Youth budget with a goal of \$300,000. For Dislocated Worker, their goal is \$500,000 and they've currently obligated \$165,000. For Adult, their goal is \$700,000 and they're obligated \$365,000.

Teresa explained that majority of the youth program is carryover. They didn't expend all of their funds in the last fiscal year, because a lot of those participants didn't finish by June 30th, therefore they moved over to the new fiscal year.

Barney Trujillo asked for clarification on their process and how the funds are assigned to participants and how the whole budget has been obligated so early in the new fiscal year.

Teresa gave an example and explained that once a participant enters the program, they have to allot them a certain number of hours. However, they can't de-obligate that money until the participant they don't want to participate in the program anymore. She explained, this is why their budgets fluctuate. Another reason a participant may leave the program is because they were hired at their worksite.

Jon Paul Romero asked if there are any other ways we can allocate and recover these funds.

Teresa stated that they could possibly budget at the at the minimum hours that they think that individual will need. However, by doing so she has concerns of overenrolling and not having funds available.

Jon Paul Romero expressed that he understands, however he would rather the money be spent and request a transfer than have money leftover that was anticipated to be spent.

Teresa informed the committee that her team meets with Lisa and Barney every week to discuss finances to have the most current and accurate reports on both sides. She added that as soon as a participant drops out of the program, they de-obligate those funds and use them towards other participants.

Barney expressed that the issue he has is that he doesn't want potential participants turned away because there's not enough funds available. He explained that we can't ask the State for a transfer of funds until the funds have been spent.

Sean Medrano asked if there were any other ways of handling this issue.

Chairman Weathers informed Teresa that the Board is not pleased with the way HELP NM is handling this issue and there needs to be a middle ground.

Floyd Archuleta expressed concern that the needs in the communities aren't being met.

Vince Howell asked, if the funds that were obligated to participants that are not meeting their obligations are being used for the individuals on the waiting list?

Teresa informed Mr. Howell that yes, those funds go back into the pot.

Mr. Howell followed with another question, why are our funds so high if there is a waiting list of over 100 individuals

Teresa explained, because they already have people that are in the program

Madam Executive Director added, the participants that quit halfway through, those funds can go back into the pot immediately. However, for the other participants you have to wait until they complete the program. In other words, we're holding that money and at the same time we don't want to turn people away.

Chairman Weathers HELP NM what is the percentage of the participants who don't complete the program.

Teresa asked Ericka if she had the percentage of how many individuals dropped out of the program last year,

Ericka stated that she didn't have an exact percentage to share with committee however, the number is pretty low. She explained that they have worked very hard to assure that they are providing good customer service and leading participants on a pathway to success. Ericka mentioned that they see more variances in costs than participants dropping from the program and that's primarily with ITA's. She stated that they have been. We have been fairly successful with their ITA's, OJTs, and Basic Career Services. She explained that they don't have as many TJT's as their first year, because there wasn't much success, so they've been working closely with employers to create OJ T's instead which have been very successful.

Chairman Weathers asked HELP NM if they understand the concerns of the Board?

Teresa replied yes

Barney Trujillo asked for guidance on what we should do in the meantime with the 125 participants waiting to receive services.

David Romero thanked Chairman Weathers for asking the question in regard to the percentage of participants that didn't complete the program because he had the same question. He then asked, if the State see that we have used all of the adult budget, then we can request a transfer from dislocated worker?

Madam Executive director stated yes, we can transfer from dislocated worker to adults.

Barney stated there's a bigger need for adults and in the northern region and we've found that there's not enough dislocated workers because of the cost of living. Most individuals need to get back to work immediately and can't afford to learn a trade or go back to school to earn credentials that could make them more money in the long run.

Sean agreed that our population is different from other areas

Chairman Weathers asked the committee if they were comfortable leaving this conversation, having HELP NM have this conversation with the administrative staff, and then reconvening.

David Romero agreed with Chairman Weathers

Chairman Weathers informed Teresa that he's going to close the discussion for this part of the meeting and the discussion can be continued with the board staff.

Teresa stated that they are open to meeting with the board staff to further discuss.

8. Announcements

Madam Executive Director announced that, there will be three closers in the Farmington area, Westmoreland Mining, PNM, and AIMS. All of the individuals affected by these closers will become dislocated workers. She mentioned that the funds for these workers will come from the State. Madam executive director added that, there will be staff from HELP NM in Farmington enrolling these participants.

Chairman Weathers commended Eric for the wonderful event held in Farmington. He also mentioned that he looks forward to the event that will be held in Raton.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments

10. Next Meeting Date TBD

Chairman Weathers stated that the next meeting will be determined by the conversation HELP NM has with the staff.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 3:25PM. This motion was made by Vince Howell, seconded by Sean Medrano, and passed unanimously.

- An Executive Session may be called at any time during the meeting. Pursuant to New Mexico Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1 (H) Subsections; (1) Meetings pertaining g to issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license, except that a hearing at which evidence is offered or rebutted shall be open. All final actions on the issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license shall be taken at an open meeting; (2) Limited personnel matters; provided that for purposes of the Open Meetings Act, "limited personnel matters" means the discussion of hiring, promotion , demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee; provided further that this paragraph is not to be construed as to exempt final actions on personnel from being taken at open public meetings, nor does it preclude an aggrieved public employee from demanding a public hearing. Judicial candidates interviewed by any commission shall have the right to demand an open interview; (3) Deliberations by a public body in connection with an administrative adjudicatory proceedings For purposes of this paragraph, "administrative adjudicatory proceeding" means a proceeding brought by or against a person before a public body in which individual legal rights, duties or privileges are required by law to be determined by the public body after an opportunity for a trial-type hearing. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the actual administrative adjudicatory proceeding at which evidence is offered or rebutted and any final action taken as a result of the proceeding shall occur in an open meeting; (4) The discussion of personally identifiable information about any individual student, unless the student or the student's parent or guardian requests otherwise; (5) Meetings for the discussion of bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations between the policymaking body and a bargaining unit representing the employees of that policymaking body and collective bargaining sessions at which the policymaking body and the representatives of the collective bargaining unit are present; (6) that portion of meetings at which a decision concerning

purchases in an amount exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) that can be made only from one source is discussed and that portion of meetings at which the contents of competitive sealed proposals solicited pursuant to the Procurement Code are discussed during the contract negotiation process. (7) Meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become participant; (8) Meetings for the discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body