

Regular Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, August 17, 2020 11:00 AM Mountain

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

Rebecca Estrada:	Present
Rudy Garcia:	Present
Tomas Garcia:	Present
Vince Howell:	Excused
Carlos Medina:	Present
Sean Medrano:	Absent
Jon Paul Romero:	Present
Rock Ulibarri:	Present
Joseph Weathers:	Present

Present: 7, Absent:2.

**Also in attendance: NALWDB Staff:** Lisa Ortiz - Acting Executive Director/Financial Specialist, Barney Trujillo - Operations Manager, Amber Gomez – Project Specialist/Communications **Guests:** Veronica Alonzo – DWS, Michelle Velarde – DWS, Rick Sandoval– Zlotnick Laws Sandoval PC

#### 1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:02AM by Chairman Joseph Weathers.

#### 2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Roll call was made by NALWDB Project Specialist/Communications, Amber Gomez, who indicated that a quorum was present.

#### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

#### 4. Approve, Amend or Disapprove Prior Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2020.

Motion to approve 8/4/2020 Meeting Minutes. This motion, made by Jon Paul Romero and seconded by Carlos Medina, passed by unanimous vote.

#### 5. Action Items

##### 5.1 Recommendation for new Board Member

Chairman Weathers informed the committee that board member Linda Siegle resigned from the board.

Motion to recommend Jane Clements as a new board member to the full board. This motion, made by Jon Paul Romero and seconded by Carlos Medina, passed by unanimous vote.

Rebecca Estrada asked Chairman Weathers, since there is a vacancy with board member Linda Siegle resigning from the board, should the board be seeking nominations for a replacement under the Higher ED category? Mr. Weathers replied yes. She then asked, is there any

particular region that the board needs representation from to look for individuals in Higher ED, and are there any weaknesses or challenges that perhaps the board needs to be thinking about while seeking nominations for that position?

Chairman Weathers stated, “That’s a great question, and I think when you look at the business partners, we’re pretty equally represented except for the Farmington area. When you look at partners, the partners are from the Rio Grande region.” “Perhaps we could reach out to the Eastern Slope to bring in a Higher ED person from that region. That way, the board continues to be more diverse.” He mentioned that one of the boards institutes, Luna Community College is located in the Eastern region and he was thinking of reaching out to that region.

Rock Ulibarri stated that it would require that the President send a letter of recommendation to the board.

Rebecca Estrada stated that the new interim president at Luna is very active and eager to engage and would be a good source in finding a willing partner and representative from Luna.

Veronica Alonzo recommended reaching out to Frances Bannowsky. Mrs. Estrada then clarified that Francis recommended Jane Clements whom the committee is moving forward with as the Adult ED provider.

Mr. Ulibarri recommended Becky Rallies from SFCC, and Mrs. Estrada agreed that she would be a great choice and that because SFCC is one of our more active partners this decision would be biased. She also acknowledged that it’s important to be equitable in terms of the representation on the board.

Rudy Garcia mentioned that he knows a few potential representatives from that region.

Mrs. Estrada asked if the recommendation needs to come from the HED or can a board member reach out to a potential Higher ED representative.

Mrs. Alonzo reminded the committee that the CEO’s need to be involved in the recruitment. Chairman Weathers replied stating that the committee understands and would like to suggest someone to the CEO’s.

## 6. New Business

### 6.1 Quarterly Report - 4th Quarter

Madam Executive Director gave the committee a brief summary of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter quarterly report. She explained that the report includes ongoing initiatives, our strategic plan, our providers success stories, and performance measures. She informed the committee that the previous provider SER met some performance measures and failed others, she stated that moving forward we need to ensure that our new provider meets all the performance measures.

Veronica Alonzo explained the median wages of the performance and credential measures. She stated that, the median wages have become difficult right now because there isn’t much control of the wage’s individuals entering employment are making. There is however more control under your credential attainment which has fell in both the adult, dislocated worker and youth category. She recommended staff receive training on how to meet that performance and credential. She also mentioned that the ETPL committee should mention the attainment of

those credentials when reviewing and recommending programs to the State and whether or not WIOA pays for that type of training.

Chairman Weathers asked Mrs. Alonzo if there is anything the administrative staff or the current provider HELP NM can do to raise the standards or SER's performance.

Mrs. Alonzo mentioned a few ways the administrative staff and the current provider can raise their performance measures. One way is through monitoring, there should be a position within the administrative staff that monitors the program. Another way is utilizing reports in the workforce connection online system, and also utilizing future works reports to help keep track and help monitor where the current provider is at each quarter. Lastly there should be performance training.

Mrs. Estrada mentioned that Mrs. Alonzo has been attending all the ETPL committee meetings and has been very helpful. She stated that there are a few programs that the committee is currently revisiting to determine what category they fit into in terms of the credential. Mrs. Estrada also mentioned that HELP NM has been attending the ETPL committee meetings which is something the previous provider never did, and she agreed that training would be helpful for everyone to have a better understanding.

Barney Trujillo stated that staff has reviewed the central areas credential rate and reached out to Lloyd to have a better understanding of what they're doing and what we're not doing in terms of best practices. He informed Chairman Weathers that there has been a conversation with HELP NM letting them know that we're in the process of developing an effective strategy in terms of the process needed to attain the credential.

Rick Sandoval stated, "Looking at the very first one under Dislocated Worker employed in quarter II rate, the actual was 63% , negotiated was 71% ,and the percentage of that was 88.9. And my question is, when you look at the one below it does the rates and the wages have the same percentages, or is each one different? Veronica's response to Mr. Sandoval's question was, all of the negotiated measures have a different percentage that needs to be met.

Mr. Sandoval gave the committee a brief summarization of the projections shown in the finance portion of the report.

Chairman Weathers asked Mrs. Alonzo how the state plans to reach out to dislocated workers with COVID-19.

Mrs. Alonzo informed the committee that their department received a dislocated worker grant and a portion of that money is being used to support contact tracing with the department of environmental services, and another portion is going towards a project that will assist the Central Board. The remainder is business as usual, referring to the Dislocated Worker funds. She stated that there should be a strategic plan to use that funding, with the boards new service provider. How do they plan on outreaching those individuals who are on unemployment? What does their outreach strategy look like for all categories of dislocated workers? She mentioned that she shared through the Dislocated Worker forum and other means of technical assistance, that not all categories are being served. We tend to just focus

on those who are unemployed and are on unemployment insurance, but there are a few other categories that definitely need to be looked at: veterans, spouses of veterans, transitioning service members, and displaced homemakers. Due to COVID there are thousands of individuals who are on unemployment in the northern region. What does that outreach look like? What is your service provider, your one stop operator and Title I, Title II, and Title III all doing to work together?

Mrs. Alonzo informed Mr. Sandoval that there's a needs related payment section of \$999 in FY19 under Dislocated Worker. She mentioned that this was brought up to SER. She stated that there should be no amount in the needs related payments because the needs related payments are very specific, and they haven't been utilized. She suggested going back and looking at that \$999 and make sure that it's in the right line item. It's probably supportive services and it needs to fall under the supportive service expenditures.

Mrs. Ortiz stated that most of those funds were already adjusted to service and assured Mrs. Alonzo that her and Mr. Sandoval will go back and look to see which month that was.

Chairman Weathers asked Mrs. Alonzo if it's an incorrect assumption to assume that the central board gets more assistance from the state when it comes to identifying the needs of the central than the other three boards?

Mrs. Alonzo stated that it would be an incorrect assumption. She mentioned that, it's based on what projects boards have, what they're planning, what's in the pipeline and communicating that to the state to be able to partner with those types of projects. The central board has a project that they've been working on and it falls in line with this Dislocated Worker grant. Mrs. Alonzo stated that Yolanda mentioned during their monthly calls that if the boards have a project, they're working on they can talk to the state about it to see how they can support them.

Michelle Velarde expanded on the project that the central is working on. She stated, before she took on the Field Operator Director role, she was an area manager for the Albuquerque workforce connection office. Her team was working very closely with those individuals coming out of incarceration. Some of the pilot programs they were working on included forming relationships and partnerships. The grant they are using deals with those individuals who were incarcerated or judicially challenged, through the Metropolitan Detention Center MDC. Some of the groundwork was already in the works way before COVID. It just so happens that when Yolanda asked if there was a program or project going on in the central area, they jumped on board with something they were continuously working on. She stated that she just wanted to lay down that framework or that groundwork just a bit because she can definitely see how central continuously always comes up in conversation. She assured Chairman Weathers that by no means is it anything like favoritism, every board deserves an equal opportunity to receive money and Yolanda is very much aware of that. This is just one of the programs or the ideas that was pitched to her that fell under the parameters.

Chairman Weathers clarified that he didn't say that there's favoritism, it just seems that because there is a higher population more attention is given to the central board. He

mentioned that he would like the northern board to be made aware of any of those opportunities because there are prisons in the northern region that perhaps the board could institute a similar program for folks that are getting out on parole.

#### 7. Old Business

Rebecca Estrada informed the committee that the expected Local Area Designation presentation never took place. She stated that her along with the team of board members assigned to present attended the Special State Workforce Board Meeting, and then gave a brief summary of what was discussed during that meeting.

Chairman Weathers asked Mrs. Alonzo if there has been any discussion at the State level regarding the NALWDB oversight.

Mrs. Alonzo stated that there hasn't been an official conversation at the state level, and the discussion would be much broader than weather the Board/Staff compled each of the items on the TAP.

Chairman Weathers mentioned some of improvements that have been made since the Board entered oversight and suggested that there be a conversation between Mrs. Alonzo, Mr. Aragon, and Deputy Secretary Yolanda Montoya-Cordova to consider removing the Board from oversight.

Mrs. Alonzo agreed that there has been a lot of improvements and accomplishments. She assured Mr. Weathers that she would have that conversation with Mr. Aragon and Deputy Secretary Yolanda Montoya-Cordova.

#### 8. Informational Reports

Mrs. Ortiz informed the committee that she reached out to Patty Lundstrom with Greater Gallup and there was conversation with her staff regarding the closure of the oil refinery and the 230 employees who will be unemployed. Mrs. Ortiz mentioned that there is a follow up meeting scheduled this week to introduce HELP NM and have a further discussion.

Rudy Garcia informed Madam Executive Director that the hospital in Gallup may need assistance in employment.

#### 9. Next Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### 10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 12:04PM. This motion, made by Rudy Garcia and seconded by Rebecca Estrada, passed by unanimous vote.