



MINUTES



Arkansas Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee

December 12, 2024

Meeting Commence

Chairman Kelley Sharp called the meeting to order December 12, 2024, at 12:30 CST.

Roll Call

Present:

Heath Harris

Kelley Sharp

David Stephens

Dr. Cathy Riggins

Bill Roachell

Aaron Chastain

Tracey Chambers

Ed Carrington

ABSENT

Guest In Attendance

Derrick Daniels -OSD

Kimberely Moore- ABC

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by David Stephens and seconded by Heath Harris to approve the minutes as presented from the November 7, 2024, meeting. Motion passed.

Informational Item:

Derrick Daniels shared information that National Apprenticeship Week will be moved from a Fall event to a Spring event. On April 30, 2025, a one-day event will occur. The full week of celebrations will continue in the Spring of 2026.

DOL Report:

Mr. Kuznar was unable to attend the meeting. There was no DOL report presented.

OSD and TA Report:

Derrick Daniels shared the November OSD Budget Report. The report included details concerning the TA & CT balances. Due to the increase in CT requests this year, the CT reimbursement requests have already surpassed the budget allocation. Recommendations for requesting approval are based on the order received. Derrick also shared website upgrades to make the program more user-friendly. In addition, Derrick discussed non-traditional funding concerning program expansion options. An email will be sent out to all operating programs when requests are made for apprenticeship occupations. A discussion occurred concerning the balances of the CTE Trust Fund. Derrick will provide this information at the January meeting. He will also share a full report of the first semester.

CT Application Approval:

Derrick Daniels presented the requested and recommended amounts for CT applications. A motion was made by Dr. Riggins and seconded by Aaron Chastain to approve items 25/53 – 25/65 Motion passed. Members abstaining were as follows:

- Items 25-57 (Bill Roachell)
- Items 25-54 & 25-65 (David Stephens)
- Items 25 - 58 (Ed Carrington)

After discussion concerning the budget balance remaining, a motion was made by David Stephens and seconded by Dr. Riggins to move \$20,474.18 from equipment, \$1,702.78 from Outreach and Education, and \$18,516.31 from Instructor Training to the Curriculum Budget Fund.

Open Discussion:

The following items were discussed by the committee:

- Discussion continued about the concern and need for additional funds to support the growth of apprenticeship programs. Heath Harris shared information about the recent HIRED Grants and inquired about how such funds could be secured to support the growth in programs.
- Arkansas Issue I, which allows scholarship money to be awarded for vocational training was a topic of discussion. The concern was from the recent understanding that this bill does not support individuals entering traditional apprenticeship programs. Additional discussion occurred around what actions need to be taken to support guidelines that will include traditional apprenticeships.

Due to the timing of New Year Day and holiday schedules, a motion was made by Heath Harris and seconded by Bill Roachell to move the January 2nd meeting to January 9th.

The next meeting will be online on January 9, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. The minutes of this meeting will be submitted by Dr. Riggins prior to the next meeting.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Aaron Chastain and seconded by Bill Roachell to adjourn. Motion passed.