

**Arkansas Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee
July 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 12:30 pm on July 8th, by Chairwoman Breashears (via GoToMeeting)

Roll Call:

Present: Greg Aleshire, Karen Breashears, Nanci Caillouet, Kathy Fulks, Bill Roachell, and Kelley Sharp

Absent: David Stephens

Guest: Donna Lyon, Tondra Love, Brittany Edelbuttel, Sandy Anderson, Reuben Gage, David Wallace, Randy Prather, Rocky Mantooth, Sheri Overstreet, Patricia Sanderson, and Director Waits

Previous Month's Meeting Minutes:

-There was a motion by Kathy Fulks and a 2nd by Nanci Caillouet to approve the minutes from the June meeting as presented. Motion passed. Bill Roachell voted not to approve the previous meeting minutes due to there not being any mention of his remark regarding the "30-30" rule in the June meeting. He did not want the minutes amended, only his no vote to be recorded.

New Business:

-There was a discussion regarding the FY21-22 Funding Guidelines. The final version of the Funding Guidelines has been attached to these minutes. The items approved, updated, and or changed are as follows:

Page 3 of 7 Item 11. There was a motion by Kelley Sharp and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve as presented by the OSD, the addition of the last sentence. On the attached copy it will be italicized. Motion Passed.

Pages 3 and 4 of 7. There was a motion by Kathy Fulks and a 2nd by Nanci Caillouet to approve as presented by the OSD, the entire section under the heading Virtual Training. Motion Passed.

Page 4 of 7. There was a motion by Kathy Fulks and a 2nd by Kelley Sharp to approve as presented by the OSD, the last two sentences of the first paragraph under the Construction Training Fund heading. Motion Passed.

Pages 4 and 5 of 7. There was a motion by Kelley Sharp and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve as presented by the OSD, the budget, funding priorities and allocations percentages and dollar amounts based on a three-year average as follows.

Budget for grant disbursement for FY22 \$673,864.00

1. Outreach and Education: 2.5% = \$16,846.20
2. Curriculum: 80% = \$539,091.20
3. Equipment: 10% = \$67,386.40
4. Instructor Training: 7.5% = \$50,539.80

Motion Passed.

Page 6 of 7. There was a motion by Greg Aleshire and a 2nd by Nanci Caillouet to approve as presented by the OSD, raising the maximum reimbursement rate of \$110.00 per electrical codebook to \$120.00. Motion Passed.

-There was a discussion regarding the make-up of the AACSC committee moving forward. Still, to be continued....

Mark McManus Report:

Mr. McManus was out of the office today, Mr. David Wallace stated that the OSD is continuing to focus on expansion of apprenticeship through new occupations with advanced manufacturing and health care leading the way.

Director Waits discussed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also called the Covid-19 Stimulus Package, or American Rescue Plan and how it could have a very positive effect on apprenticeship in Arkansas. In the coming weeks he will send out more information and an FAQ regarding this Act.

Mr. Wallace reported that the grant application that has been talked about in previous meetings, had been denied. Director Waits listed possible reasons why the application being denied as “past performance of the State”. More time will be needed to dissect the entire reasoning behind the denial.

State Apprenticeship Office (SAO): Mr. Mantooth reported:

Traditional Apprenticeship Funds for FY21/22 \$1,611,456.00
CT Funds for FY21/22 \$673,864.00

Program training will be held July 28th at ABC’s office in North Little Rock. This year’s training will be in-person, through Event-Bright, and virtual.

-The OSD is hopeful to begin testing their new database system in early August. If things go well, they hope to then add additional programs in January of 2022, with all programs coming onboard in August of 2022.

US DOL Office of Apprenticeship, Mr. Prather reported:

- Programs are adding occupations and apprenticeship is growing throughout the country. 59,000 new apprentices have been added this year.
- There has been an uptick in the number of apprentices calling the national office to report employers not following the wage progression scale.

Active Programs- 119
Apprentices- 6921
New Apprentices- 1779
Suspended- 6
Cancellations- 902
Completed Apprentices- 440
Employers- 707

These numbers are based on October 1st start date

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:19pm

As all of these meetings are recorded, anyone wanting to review this or any of this board's previous meetings, in their entirety, just contact Rocky at rocky.mantooth@arkansas.gov

Printouts of the FY21/22 Traditional Apprenticeship Funding Guidelines and the MOU between the AACSC and the ICC, for plumbing codebooks, are attached to these minutes.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 5th @ 12:30pm (Location to be determined)

Sincerely,

Greg Aleshire
Secretary, AACSC