

Arkansas Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee September 2021 Meeting Minutes

The recording of this meeting will be referenced in several areas of these minutes.

I have attached the audio recording of the meeting to these minutes.

Meeting called to order at 12:31 pm on September 2nd, by Chairwoman Breashears (via Zoom)

Roll Call:

Present: Greg Aleshire, Karen Breashears, Nanci Caillouet, Kathy Fulks, Bill Roachell, and David Stephens

Absent: Kelley Sharp

Guest: Tondra Love, Katrina Stevens, Sharon Cantrell, Voniece French, Kristi Turner, Michele Hildreth, Pam Castleberry, Reuben Gage, Stephanie Isaacs, BJ Black, AJ Hart, David Wallace, Randy Prather, Rocky Mantooth, Sheri Overstreet, Patricia Sanderson, Dr. Hamby, and Director Waits

Previous Month's Meeting Minutes:

-There was a motion by Bill Roachell and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve the minutes from the August meeting as presented. Motion passed.

-USDOL-OA Report:

2:15 minute mark on the recording of the meeting.

-Mr. Randy Praither stated that programs are doing a very good job with their overdue apprentices.

-Two new programs have been added. One is for a CDL and the other is a tool and die.

-Apprentices that transfer into and out of programs need to have their entrance and exit wage rates filled in.

-National Apprenticeship Week will be November 15th-19th, go to the website and register your events.

Active Programs- 122
Apprentices- 7402
New Apprentices- 2571
Suspended- 6
Cancellations- 1043
Completed Apprentices- 515
Employers- 708

****These numbers are based on an October 1st 2020 start date****

OSD- Mark McManus Reported:

- Mr. McManus was unavailable for the meeting today.
- Rocky reported that Mr. McManus was currently working with Multi-Craft Contractors, on the videos mentioned in last month's meeting.
- Director Waits stated that they are creating a regional list of contacts of employers for outreach in the state. Currently in Northeast Arkansas.

OSD-OA: Mr. Mantoath reported:

- TA and CT Grant reports will start at next month's meeting
- New dates to remember will be sent out ASAP
- Tax credit forms for employers with instructions. OSD is working with DF&A and hopefully they will be in attendance at next month's meeting to answer questions. If you have any questions for DF&A, regarding this tax credit, please send them to Rocky in advance of next month's meeting.

Latest version of the Apprenticeship Tax Credit flier is attached.

New Business:

23:00 minute mark of the recording of the meeting.

-There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve the OSD recommended amount of \$37 per hour for instructor.

OSD provided Instructor Funding Worksheet #2 2021-22A is attached.

-CT-22-20172; There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Nanci Caillouet to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed.

-CT-22-20173; There was a motion by Kathy Fulks and a 2nd by David Stephens to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed.

-CT-22-20174; There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Greg Aleshire to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed. Bill Roachell abstained.

-CT-22-20175; There was a motion by Greg Aleshire and a 2nd by David Stephens to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed.

-CT-22-20176; There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed. Bill Roachell abstained.

-CT-22-20177; There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Greg Aleshire to approve in the OSD recommended amount. Motion passed. Bill Roachell abstained.

-CT-22-20178; There was a motion by David Stephens and a 2nd by Kathy Fulks to approve in the OSD recommended amounts. Motion passed. Bill Roachell abstained.

40:30 minute mark of the recording of the meeting.

-TA, Plumbing, and Electrical Rule and Regulation proposed changes. Director Waits went through proposed changes. Discussion continued.

Rules and Regulations, with proposed changes marked, is attached. OSD will soon be sending out revisions showing changes from this meeting.

1:11:00 minute mark of the recording of the meeting.

-Nanci Caillouet asked what was the next step in the process for these changes. Director Waits stated that they would need to be presented to the Career Education Workforce Development Board and their next meeting is September 14th.

-Nanci Caillouet asked if by bringing these changes before the AACSC was he looking for recommendations or is there something the AACSC needs to approve before they can be presented to the Career Education Workforce Development Board. Director Waits stated that ultimately, he did not know that there was a requirement that the AACSC approve these changes before they were presented to his board, but he wanted the AACSC to weigh in, provide feed-back or support to the changes that are being made. He stated that if the CEWDB does not support the changes, he would like to be able to say that the AACSC supports the changes.

-Nanci Caillouet asked if the AACSC will have time to review the changes before the September 14th meeting, as she had not received the email with the proposed changes. Director Waits replied one hundred percent.

-Employer List for OSD; Director Waits stated that Act 647 of 2021 requires programs to send OSD a list of their employers. OSD will be sending out a letter/email to programs with a spreadsheet for the programs to fill out.

-USDOL vs SAA discussion; Director Waits went through a list of written questions that board members had turned in to OSD.

List of written questions for OSD is attached.

-Q1 begins at the 1:18:20 minute mark. There was a thirty-minute discussion regarding this question. Several AACSC members asked follow up questions.

-Q2 begins at the 1:46:20 minute mark. Director Waits responded that OSD no, but the Governor's Office could issue an Executive Order, based on input from other SAA states.

-Q3 begins at the 1:48:23 minute mark. Director Waits responded that was not necessary, programs would still be under US-DOL. Registration goes through the state, but the name on the standards would be the only change. BLR would be looking over and double checking.

-Q4 begins at the 1:50:14 minute mark. Director Waits stated that 4-D-3, the state can recognize programs not recognized by US-DOL based on labor and demand. Chairwoman Breashears asked if OSD knew what it takes to get an occupation added to the list. Discussion followed.

-Q5 begins at the 1:55:30 minute mark. Director Waits stated through 2026 with federal opportunities act grants. OSD also has funds available for years into the future.

-Q6 begins at the 1:57:30 minute mark. Director Waits stated that Arkansas would need to work that out with other states and that this is something that still needs to be looked into.

-Q7 begins at the 2:00:30 minute mark. Director Waits stated that there should not be a cost involved.

-Q8 begins at the 2:05:05 minute mark. Director Waits stated that we have been having conversations for a long time.

-Chairwoman Breashears asked what led OSD to want this change. Director Waits stated there were a number of reasons that he had outlined today. SAA have better hands-on approach and there is value in local control.

-Chairwoman Breashears asked if this was employer led. Director Waits stated a number of employers have stated they would like to work with the state and not the feds, but stated that no survey of employers or apprentices has been taken.

-Q9 begins at the 2:08:10 minute mark. Director Waits stated that he currently had no answer.

-Q10 begins at the 2:08:40 minute mark. Director Waits stated this would not change much.

-Director Waits stated that OSD would be looking into any questions unanswered during today's meeting and any follow up questions for the October meeting of the AACSC.

-David Stephens asked is there something specific on the horizon that the state can do as an SAA and not US-DOL. Director Waits replied that the simple answer is no, there is not any one thing, not this one big thing. There are a lot of little things and some scenarios that we can prevent.

-Nanci Caillouet requested if there are any more questions, OSD please present the answers to the AACSC before our meetings in writing so members can better absorb the responses. Director Waits replied absolutely, please send any additional questions to the new email address for info at OSD.

-David Stephens asked about the committee make-up moving forward. Director Waits stated that Boards and Commissions was supposed to be emailing each current member asking the members to reapply to the committee. Once that application is in OSD will go about reappointing each member. Until that time the AACSC will continue to operate under the current structure.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm

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

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7th @ 12:30pm (via Zoom)

Sincerely,

Greg Aleshire
Secretary, AACSC