

STATE PLUMBING APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE (SPAC)

MINUTES

February 6, 2025

Call to Order: 9:33 AM

The SPAC meeting was held via Zoom. Chairman, Kelley Sharp, presided over the meeting.

Members present:

Kelley Sharp, Chairman, Master Plumber, Congressional District 3
Ronald Jarrell, Master Plumber, Congressional District 4
Karen Breashears, Citizen Member, Congressional District 4

Member(s) absent:

James Corser, Master Plumber, Congressional District 2

Ex-Officio Member(s) Present:

Derrick Daniels – Program Advisor OSD

Guests in Attendance:

Renee Doty, OSD
Michelle Hildreth, OSD

US DOL / ADH:

Ric Mayhan, AR Health Dept
John Kuznar, USDOL

Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2025:

- Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Breashears to approve the minutes as submitted; Jarrell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Election of Officers
 - Breashears made a motion that Kelley remains chair of committee and Jarrell becomes Vice Chair, Jarrell seconded motion. There was no discussion. Motion carried.
- Mission Statement Review and Approval

- The Committee reviewed the mission statement. Jarrell made a motion to keep the statement as is Breshears seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion carried.
- SPAC members stipend action
 - Brashears made a motion to allow for a stipend to Committee members and Jarrell seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried.
- 2025 Arkansas Legislative Session
 - Discussion was held legislative action that would potentially impact apprenticeship or OSD. Daniels reported the rule for Issue 1 is being finalized. It is not completed, and OSD is looking forward to reviewing the document.
 - Brashears informed members of SB 50 and mention that the word “apprenticeship” is not included.
 - Discussion was held on the federal administration transition. OSD has been told by representatives that they are settling in with the new administration. John Kuznar with USDOL reported that a new Labor Secretary has not been confirmed He is not able to comment on any policy or programing at DOL until a new Secretary is in place.

Experience Credit:

- Gavin Spurlock is requesting six months of experience credit. Discussion was held on his application. Jarrell made a motion to accept his application, Sharp seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Kaden Kirk is requesting for six months of experience credit. The Coard discussed his application. Jarrell made a motion to grant his application request and Sharp seconded. Motion carried.

OSD Report:

- Daniels reported the current numbers sent by Rick Mayhan which are: 1,616 apprentices, 1,603 journeymen, and 1,668 masters.
- Discussion was held on the exhaustion of CT funds. Daniels is asking that people continue to send applications so that OSD will be able to identify funding level that would meet current needs.
- Daniels mentioned that Issue 1 passing could potentially alleviate the funding issue.
- Michelle was introduced to the Committee as the new Apprenticeship Team members.

USDOL Report:

John Kuznar mentioned that there is not a new Secretary of Labor in place. Current programs and staff are going through an evaluation period and the agency direction will be provided when the new Secretary is in office.

Next Meeting:

- The next meeting March 6, 2025
- Via Zoom

Adjourn:

- Jarrell made a motion to adjourn Sharp seconded the motion.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM.