

MINUTES – MEETING OF THE
CAREER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

December 10, 2019
11:30 a.m.

The Career Education and Workforce Development Board was called to order by Chairman Hugh McDonald. The meeting was held at the Arkansas Economic Development Center, 900 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas.

A record of member attendance is as follows:

PRESENT

Mr. Hugh McDonald, Chair
Mr. Scott Copas
Ms. Stacy Gunderman
Ms. Gina Radke, Vice Chair
Mr. Burton Weis
Mr. Michael Garner
Dr. Jeff Standridge
Dr. Keith Vire
Mr. Troy Keeping
Dr. Adam Arroyos
Mr. Mike Rogers

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Dr. Charisse Childers
Mr. Cody Waits, Ex-Officio Secretary
Ms. Patricia Brown
Ms. Andrea Henderson
Dr. Maria Markham
Mr. Richard Cooper (Ms. Wendy Kelley)
Mr. Johnny Key
Dr. Angela Kremers
Mr. Clint O’Neal (Mr. Mike Preston)
Ms. Cindy Gillespie

ABSENT

Mr. Stephen Percival

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Mr. Larry Crutchfield (Ms. Cindy Gillespie)
Ms. Wendy Kelley
Dr. Richard Abernathy

ACTION ITEM 1 – NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Hugh McDonald introduced our new, reappointed, and ex-officio members. Mr. Mike Rogers of Tyson Foods will be replacing Mr. Jerry Cash as our new voting board member. Mr. Hugh McDonald and Dr. Keith Vire were reappointed voting members. Dr. Angela Kremers and Ms. Patricia Brown are the new ex-officio members.

ACTION ITEM 2 – MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

On a motion by Mr. Jeff Standridge and second by Dr. Keith Vire, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved the minutes from September 10, 2019.

ACTION ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP RULES

Dr. Dawn Hamby, Director of the Office of Apprenticeship, discussed the required updates to the rules in order to comply with Act 369 for Registered Apprenticeships in Arkansas. Majority of the changes to the rules were cleanup to align post-transformation and to include a change in the way funds are disbursed utilizing Location Education Agencies (LEA’s) due to the passage of Act 369 of 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Troy Keeping and second by Mr. Jeff Standridge, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved the updated rules under Act 369 for Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

ACTION ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF ASU NEWPORT SECONDARY TECHNICAL CENTER

ASU Newport has been operating successfully as a Secondary Technical Center Pilot since 2016 under a MOU.

Board members questioned the decreased funding. Ms. Stephanie Isaacs, Associate Director, explained that the pilot programs this year were funded based on enrollment for the first time. Office of Skills Development (OSD) used the tiered funding model as a basis for the enrollment funding.

Chairman McDonald noted that the board continues to request and desire information regarding the outcomes of these programs. There was much discussion about the outcomes of the secondary programs. ASU Newport was unable to provide the information requested by the board.

On a motion by Mr. Keeping and second by Mr. Standridge, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved ASU Newport Career Center to transition from a pilot to a Secondary Technical Career Center, receiving vocational center aid, in the fall of 2020.

ACTION ITEM 5 – APPROVAL OF BLACK RIVER TECHNICAL COLLEGE SECONDARY TECHNICAL CENTER

Ms. Darena Kersey, Director, discussed Black River's program which included information such as a program overview, enrollment, sessions available for each program, maximum number capacity, and programs offered. Director Kersey also gave information around the expanded program request for the next school year.

The board requested more budget information. This information was provided by Ms. Isaacs. The information provided reflected that the short falls in the budget are due to actual goals were not the projected goals.

On a motion by Dr. Keith Vire and second by Mr. Standridge, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved Black River to transition from a pilot to a Secondary Technical Center, receiving vocational center aid, beginning in the fall of 2020.

ACTION ITEM 6 – APPROVAL OF OZARKA COLLEGE SECONDARY TECHNICAL

Ozarka College worked with the Office of Skills Development (OSD) to develop a Secondary Career Center to serve unserved students due to multiple districts in the area.

On a motion by Mr. Keeping and second by Mr. Standridge, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board approved Ozarka College as a Secondary Technical Center beginning in the fall of 2020. Board member Scott Copas abstained.

ACTION ITEM 7 – APPROVAL OF UA RICH MOUNTAIN MT. IDA SATELLITE

UA Rich has been successfully operating as a Secondary Technical Center at Mena. They have requested a Satellite Center at Mount Ida in order to serve the unserved districts.

On a motion by Mr. Scott Copas and second by Dr. Vire, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved UA Rich Mountain as a Secondary Technical Career Center beginning fall of 2020.

ACTION ITEM 8 – APPROVAL OF STC TIERED FUNDING

Stephanie Isaac, Associate Director, provided an overview of the three tiered funding and respective programs from the September 10th board meeting. Ms. Isaac gave rationale for the Office of Skills Development (OSD) placement of programs and the tiers.

Board members had questions about the cost of various programs such as culinary and hospitality. Also, board members expressed much concern about the ultimate impact the tiered funding will have on the centers. The Office of Skills Development (OSD) stated they will provide the impact information after the meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Gina Radke and second by Mr. Standridge, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board made the decision to approve the tiered funding model and reevaluate it next year.

ACTION ITEM 9 – APPROVAL OF REVISED STC RULES

Mr. Waits stated the STC Rules were revised to incorporate tiered funding language post transformation.

On a motion by Mr. Copas and second by Mr. Michael Gardner, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved the revised STC Rules.

ACTION ITEM 10 – APPROVAL OF UPDATED BYLAWS

Chairman McDonald stated that the Bylaws will be moved to the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM 11 – HVAC/MACHINING

Mr. Waits discussed HVAC Sector Reviews and the upcoming Machining Sector Reviews.

Chairman McDonald asked Mr. Waits to talk to the board about the Industry Sector Reviews which were currently going on. Further, he encouraged board member Troy Keeping to begin forming a committee to review Culinary Programs in Arkansas.

INFORMATION ITEM 14-BOARD DISCUSSION

The board members discussed the need for concise data analysis when being asked to vote on action items.

Mr. McDonald stated that the next meeting would be March 10, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McDonald adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Mr. Cody Waits, Director
Office of Skills Development

Mr. Hugh McDonald, Chair
Career Education and Workforce
Development Board