



TO: WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB) MEMBERS

FROM: ARTHUR ECKSTROM, DIRECTOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur Eckstrom", is positioned below the printed name.

SUBJECT: **Meeting Summary – November 8, 2013**

Members Present:

Hank Atha - Pima County
Jacob Bernal - Tucson Indian Center
Rose Capono - SW Gas
Vaughn Croft - Office of the Pima County School Superintendent
Peggy Feenan - DES Employment Administration
Michael Guymon - TREO
Chris Hazen-Molina - Heartfelt Workforce
Gregg Johnson - University of Phoenix
Doug Jones - Sabino Electric, Inc.
Dorothy Kret - DK Advocates, Inc.
Zara Larsen - The Larsen Group: Architects of Change
Sharon Mikrut - Rehabilitation Services Administration
Charles Monroe - Lutheran Social Services
Kim Murray - Universal Avionics Systems Corp
Noreen Nelson - Retired Aerospace and Defense
Jill Pearson - Self-Management System Corporation
Lea Márquez Peterson - Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Carld Rosborough - Fred Acosta Job Corps
Paul Roughton - New Horizons Computer Learning Center
Alan Storm - Pima County Joint Technological Education District
Pamela Sutherland – Connecting the Dots
Frank Watts, Jr. - U.S. Federal Government/Military

A public/private partnership to improve Pima County's workforce

Members Absent:

Linda Arzoumanian - Office of Pima County Superintendent
Steven Banzhaf, Retired Lawyer/Bank Executive
Johnson Bia - Pima Community College
Duane Bock – Retired Utilities Consultant
Clarence Boykins - Tucson So AZ Black Chamber of Commerce
Judy Clinco - Catalina In-Home Services, Inc.
Wilette Diggs - Raytheon Missile Systems
Deborah Embry, Tucson Urban League
Clayton Hamilton - Outside Input LLC
Peg Harmon - Catholic Community Services of Southern AZ
Kari Hogan - Portable, Practical Education Preparation, Inc.
Lydia Kennedy - ReActivate, New & Used Activewear
Suzanne Lawder - Goodwill Industries
Rita Martinez-Purson - University of Arizona
Arnold Palacios -Tucson Youth Development, Inc.
Beverly Price - HealthTrio, LLC
Regina Romero – Tucson City Government
Mike Verbout - IBEW Local 570
James Zarling - Excel Mechanical, Inc.

Staff & Guests Present:

Charles Casey
Ben Barela
Mike Espinosa
Ramona Garcia
Diane Luber
Chris Webb
Art Eckstrom
BJ Smith
Bev Paul
Evelyn Wright
Eddie Saaavedra
Charlotte Fugett
Ann Gasker
Scott Essex

Stan Steinmen
TJ Rizzuti
Nils Urman
Gerri Brunson
Camila Bekat
Bob McGill
Art Burrola
Michelle Simon
Veronica Boone
David Balderrama
Tonia Smith
Diana Rhoades
Ris  Hart

- I. **Call to Order** – Gregg Johnson, Chair, opened the discussions at 7:39 a.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – All
- III. **Roll Call** – Vaughn Croft conducted the roll call.
- IV. **Staff Report** – *Charles Casey*
Casey gave a summary on the Pima County One Stop System Plan. Plan timeline: draft submitted on November 8, the 30-day comment period closes December 9, plan to be on the Pima County Board of Supervisors December 17 meeting agenda for approval, submitted to the state by December 31 and final plan approved by June 30, 2014. Plan is required in order for Pima County to receive Workforce Investment Act funds. An Executive Summary of the Plan was provided in the WIB meeting packet.

Action Item: Approve the WIA Draft Plan and give the Executive Committee authority to make adjustments to the Plan based on comments during the 30-day comment period before placing it on the December 17 Board of Supervisor agenda. Postponed due to lack of quorum.

V. **Action Item:** Approve the October meeting minutes. Postponed due to lack of quorum.

VI. **Comments from the Chair**

Gregg reported that the Planning Committee provided feedback for the Plan. Gregg asked the members to review the Plan and provide comments to Casey. The WIB will vote on the Plan at the December WIB meeting. Gregg announced two events: 1) Workforce Arizona Council on November 14, 1:00 p.m. at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort and 2) December 13 WIB event will be held at the Holiday Inn and will feature a panel discussing entrepreneurship. Gregg distributed a flyer "How to Get Your Dream Job" a free 12-week workshop at the University of Phoenix. Gregg, Frank Watts, and Dot Kret attended the tour at Fred Acosta Job Corps and said it was a very informative tour. Gregg thanked Carl Rosborough for hosting the event. Michael Guymon suggested conducting tours at businesses.

VII. **Committee Reports**

- Board Development – *Dot Kret*
The tour at Fred Acosta Job Corps was very educational. A tour sign-up sheet for the next tour at Kino Veterans' Workforce Center on November 22 was distributed at the meeting.
- Youth Council – *Vaughn Croft*
Biotechnology Youth Career Expo Participant Demographic report was distributed. There were 103 youth and approximately 40 adults who attended the event. There were 30 schools/programs that participated in the event. The next expo will be about logistics career opportunities and held in April 2014.

VIII. **Employment/Services for Veterans**

The panelists introduced themselves:

Michael Espinosa, Director U.S. Department of Labor/Veterans Employment/Training Service

Mike oversees approximately \$6 million of funds available for Arizona veterans and eligible spouses from various grants - Job for Veterans' State grant, five homeless veterans grants, and the Veterans Workforce Investment grant. He is also responsible for managing the Transition Assistance Programs and administering/investigating the Uniformed Services Employment/Re-employment Rights Act complaints.

Questions: Are you prepared to deal with the large number of veterans that will need civilian employment - Yes and plans are to use the skill sets they possess in the military to make the transition easier.

Are you getting the names of the veterans that will be coming back to the U.S. – Currently that information is not available but they try to get that information through the Transition Assistance Program. They are also working with partnering with the Arizona Department of Veteran Services to see how to get this information.

Do you have direct contact with a Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and Fort Huachuca – Yes, but currently they do not have a method for getting names and contacts information. They are working on this issue.

Define eligible spouse criteria – missing in action, held by hostile forces over 90 days, married to a service member who is 100% service connected and unemployable, or who died from a service connected disability.

T.J. Rizzuti, Employer Specialist Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital
T.J. assists veterans and their dependents in obtaining federal benefits from the VA and state. He acts as an intermediary between the veteran or their dependent and the VA to assist in the application process. He also informs veterans about the various resources within the community.

Art Burrola, Pima County One Stop Program Co-Coordinator
Art summarized the various programs at the Kino Veterans' Workforce Center which include: peer support, career counseling/job search assistance, résumé writing, interview techniques, skill/aptitude assessments, benefits counseling/claims assistance, assistance with housing/other basic needs, occupational skills training, adult education, behavioral health services/recovery, business recruitment/workforce training assistance, and career exploration workshops.

Question: How do you handle any difficulties for veterans after they are hired – They can come back to the Kino Veterans Workforce Center for additional assistance with any difficulties that arise during their employment.

Bob McGill, Chief Financial Officer HDS
Bob stated that HDS is headquartered in Tucson and it is a diversified transported company with 450+ employees.

Questions: How do you hire veterans in your industry – There is a driver shortage, turnover is a big issue and they hire 10-15 people weekly. This is a large industry for employment. They hire a lot of veterans due to their qualifications such as good soft skills.

What strengths do veterans bring to the industry which civilians do not have – Requirements for professional truck drivers are: able to cope with being away from their family, long hours, stressful, dedicated, good physical shape, mission orientation, respect, excellent communication, teamwork mentality, and being on time. Veterans are above average in these skills.

Scott Essex, Employment Transition Coordinator for Heroes to Hired (H2H)
This is a national program that addresses the large unemployment situation for veterans. H2H website: <https://h2h.jobs>. The website has a military skills translator which converts military occupational skills to civilian occupational skills. There is also a social network competent on the website.

IX. Board Member Announcements/Call to the Public

- Lea Márquez Peterson – DATOS Tucson luncheon on November 21 and the opportunity to list a business in the upcoming Arizona Sonora Business Resource Guide. Staff will forward detailed information about these two events to members.

- Dot Ket – February 14 WIB meeting will be at Universal Avionics and plans are to have a tour at Davis–Monthan Air Force Base in spring.
- Carl Rosborough – Thanked the members that went on the tour at Job Corps and invited members to visit Job Corps any time.

X. Next Meeting: Friday, December 13, Holiday Inn & Suites

XI. Adjournment – 9:00 a.m.