

AGENDA



February 3, 2025

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AWDB STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Call to Order & Roll CallKaren Breashears, Chairperson
Committee Chair Comments.....Karen Breashears, Chairperson

Agenda Item 1: ACTION

Minutes from January 13, 2025, Committee MeetingKaren Breashears, Chairperson

Agenda Item 2: Workshop Part I

Purpose and goals of the Implementation Plan.....NGA Staff

Agenda Item 3: Workshop Part II

The structure and roles of the Implementation Plan and the next steps.....NGA Staff

Announcements

Adjournment

Location:
ACOM



Minutes
Arkansas Workforce Development Board
Strategic Planning Committee
January 13, 2025

A teleconference meeting of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board (AWDB) Strategic Planning Committee convened on January 13, 2025. Karen Breashears presided with the following members voicing their presence: Ms. Rebecca Ives, Ms. Latanyua Robinson, Dr. Cassondra Williams-Stokes, and Mr. Randy Henderson. Arkansas Workforce Connection staff members were also in attendance.

Mr. Brian Marsh was unable to attend.

A quorum was established. Recognizing a quorum, Committee Chairperson, Karen Breashears called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Chairperson Comments: Committee Chairperson, Karen Breashears welcomed the board.

Agenda Item 1: ACTION-Minutes from December 16, 2024, Strategic Planning Committee Meeting: Committee Chairperson, Karen Breashears asked if any revisions/corrections needed to be made to the December 16, 2024, meeting minutes.

Hearing none, Committee Chairperson Karen Breashears made a motion for the minutes to be approved as presented. Ms. Latanyua Robinson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Rebecca Ives. The motion carried unanimously, with none opposed.


Agenda Item 2: INFORMATIONAL- Review of strategic goals and objectives, establish priorities, and review the status of current projects: Executive Director, Dr. Charisse Childers provided an update on the Statement of Interest: Moving from WIOA Planning to Implementation for NGA. NGA will meet today to select which state(s) they are choosing to work with. A decision should be made by the end of the week. If the Statement of Interest is not selected by NGA, the in-person meeting scheduled for February 3, 2025, will still take place to continue working on the strategic goals, objectives, and priorities. All of the committee members chose Strategic Goal #1 as the highest-ranking goal. Strategic Goal #1 is to develop an efficient partnership with employers, the educational system, workforce development partners, and community-based organizations to deliver a platform that will prepare a skilled workforce for existing and new employers. There was a group consensus among the committee members on Objective #1 of Strategic Goal #1. Objective #1 is to expand employer partnerships through the support of industry engagement. The committee members stressed the importance of expanding small business participation in smaller rural areas. For the upcoming Strategic Planning Committee meeting on February 3, 2025, committee members will receive guidance on the plan set forth by NGA (if selected). If the Strategic Planning Committee is not selected by NGA, the committee members will be prepared to present on Titles I-IV on specific initiatives, projects, and platforms to meet goals and objectives for Priority #1. The Strategic Planning Committee will also establish a lead for work on the plan. The committee lead will develop a plan around the strategies and objectives including a plan to monitor progress by Titles I-IV. Dr. Childers provided an overview of several documents that were provided to the AWDB at previous board meetings and stated that she will provide a summary specific to each Strategic Goal and Objective by the end of the week or when complete.

Announcements: None

Adjournment: Committee Chair, Karen Breashears asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Randy Henderson which was seconded by Ms. Rebecca Ives. The motion carried unanimously with none opposed. The meeting ended at 9:20 a.m.



Karen Breashears, Committee Chair



Dr. Charisse Childers, AWDB Director