



INNOVATE

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

July 10, 2018
10:00 a.m.

Crowne Plaza Hotel
201 South Shackleford Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211

Arkansas Workforce Development Board

TANF Oversight Committee



AGENDA

July 10, 2018

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD TANF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

10:00 A.M.

Call to Order Gann Nunnally, Committee Chair

Chairman's Comments Gann Nunnally, Committee Chair

ACTION Item 1

Minutes of the April 10, 2018 Committee Meeting

Report on TANF Program Activities

Phil Harris

Announcements

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING DATES

October 9, 2018	10:00 a.m.	Committees	Little Rock
	1:00 p.m.	Full Board Meeting	Little Rock

Crowne Plaza Hotel
201 South Shackleford Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211



**For Consideration of the
Arkansas Workforce Development Board
TANF Oversight Committee**

July 10, 2018

AGENDA ITEM 1 – ACTION: Minutes of the April 10, 2018 Committee Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the TANF Oversight Committee approve the minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting.

INFORMATION/RATIONALE: Minutes of the meetings are attached.

UNOFFICIAL

MINUTES

**ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Oversight Committee
April 10, 2018**

A meeting of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Oversight Committee of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board was held on April 10, 2018, at Brightwater Culinary School, 801 Southeast 8th Street, in Bentonville, Arkansas. Chairman George Nunnally presided with the following members present: Mr. Tom Anderson, Mr. Lindsay Brown, Judge Brandon Ellison, and Mr. Robert Thorne.

Mr. Daryl Bassett, Ms. Mary Franklin, and Mr. Johnny Key were unable to attend.

Chairman's Comments: Recognizing the presence of a quorum, Chair Nunnally called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Chair Nunnally announced the Arkansas Workforce Development Board Chair Tom Anderson appointed him as the Chair of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Committee.

Agenda Item 1 – Minutes of the January 9, 2018, Committee Meeting: Chair Nunnally proceeded to Agenda Item 1, asking if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved on **a motion by Judge Brandon Ellison, seconded by Mr. Lindsay Brown, and carried unanimously.**

Chair Anderson introduced Mr. Phil Harris, Assistant Director for TANF.

Mr. Harris presented a PowerPoint on the following topics: State and Federal legislative updates, TANF policy changes, Arkansas Workforce Integrated Network System (ARWINS) implementation, and committee action plan updates.

Mr. Harris' first update provided recent changes by State legislation. He proceeded to update the committee regarding a bill that was recently passed whereby Arkansas would opt out of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), a section of the 1996 welfare reform law that prevents anyone who has been convicted of a felony drug offense from ever receiving TANF benefits. The federal law only applies to drug felonies.

The Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) drug-related policies have been removed from the TEA policy manual. This allows the program to implement additional slots for clients who were previously denied eligibility due to a drug conviction (at least 56 denied in the last year). This new process should be ready for implementation between November and December 2017.

Mr. Harris informed members that Arkansas has been selected by the Administration for Children & Families (ACF) to participate in a study to learn more about integrating TANF and workforce services. The Arkansas TANF program will be participating along with other select states. An update will be provided to the committee at the next meeting.

Mr. Harris informed members that ARWIN is operational at this time and will soon be fully implemented in all Arkansas Department of Workforce Services offices as of May 25, 2018. The vision of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services Director Daryl Bassett is to leverage it as a platform for common intake and case management reporting system for low-income job seekers referred from the Department of Human Services.

Mr. Harris provided an update on DHS Arkansas Works Initiative. He gave an overview of the population for Arkansas Works and highlighted Medicaid recipients who will be required to engage in the new work requirements beginning June 1, 2018. Mr. Harris closed with giving an overview of the delivery strategy the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services will implement to accommodate the large influx of participants. The group's ages range between 19 and 49, with those over 50 years of age being exempt.

The Department of Workforce Services will play a key role in job placement and referrals. This will be done through a simple intake, assessment, and referral system. Mr. Harris used a flowchart to illustrate the process of how we can service these individuals through "Bridging the AR Works Recipient with the Workforce System". The work requirement is designed to mimic the current SNAP E&T program. Mr. Harris stated that DWS has received approval to utilize TANF staff, as well as the Arkansas Workforce Integrated Network Systems (ARWINS) to capture data, manage, and refer participants. Harris stated the goal is to also include other partners such as WIOA, the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program, Career Pathways Initiative, Adult Education, etc.

TANF Oversight Committee Action Plan:

Mr. Harris informed members that work-based learning in Career Pathways program is going well; however, the TEA policy changes have not been implemented at this time.

Announcements: Chair Nunnally announced a tour of Brightwater Culinary School will begin at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will be provided at 12:00 p.m. The Full Board will convene at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Nunnally announced the next meeting of the TANF Oversight Committee will be at 10:00 a.m., July 10, 2018, followed by a regular quarterly meeting of the full board at 1:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will be announced by staff at a later date.

Adjourn: Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m. on a motion made by Board Chair Tom Anderson, seconded by Mr. Lindsay Brown and carried unanimously.

Mr. George Nunnally, Chair
TANF Oversight Committee

Arnell Willis, Workforce Development Board Director
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

*Minutes recorded by Rebecca Edwards
Department of Workforce Services Staff*