



INNOVATE

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

March 24, 2020

9:00 a.m.

TELECONFERENCE

Arkansas Workforce Development Board

TANF Oversight Committee



AGENDA

March 24, 2020

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD TANF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

Call to Order..... George Nunnally, Committee Chair

Chairman's Comments..... George Nunnally, Committee Chair

Agenda Item 1: ACTION

Minutes of the January 7, 2020, Committee Meeting..... George Nunnally, Committee Chair

Report on TANF Program Activities..... Phil Harris
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Announcements

Adjournment

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Note: In accordance with the Governor's prohibition against public gatherings due to COVID-19, this meeting will be conducted via teleconference.



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

March 24, 2020

AGENDA ITEM 1 – ACTION: Minutes of the January 7, 2020 TANF Oversight Committee Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the TANF Oversight Committee approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 meeting.

INFORMATION/RATIONALE: Minutes of the meetings are attached.

UNOFFICIAL
MINUTES
ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Oversight Committee
January 7, 2020

A teleconference meeting of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board (AWDB) TANF Oversight Committee was conducted on January 7, 2020, and accommodations were set up for in-person attendance at the Little Rock Workforce Center, 5401 South University Avenue in Little Rock, Arkansas. Chair Gan Nunnally presided with the following members confirming attendance through roll call: Mr. Tom Anderson, Dr. Charisse Childers proxy DeeVee Pearson, Mr. Lindsay Brown, Judge Brandon Ellison, Ms. Mary Franklin proxy Robert Williams, Mr. Randy Finegan, and Mr. Robert Thorne.

Mr. Len Blaylock and Mr. Johnny Keys were unable to attend.

Recognizing a quorum had been met, Chair Gan Nunnally called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chairperson Comments: Chair Nunnally reminded members to identify themselves by stating their names when making a comment, making a motion, or providing a second to a motion after roll call due to the meeting being a teleconference.

Agenda Item 1 – ACTION - Minutes of the September 25, 2019, Committee Meeting: Chair Nunnally proceeded to Agenda Item 1, for the approval of minutes from September 25, 2019.

A motion to approve the September 25, 2019, minutes as written were approved on a motion by Mr. Lindsay Brown, seconded by Mr. Robert Thorne. Each committee member voiced their individual vote in favor, and the motion carried unanimously with no revisions.

Report on TANF Program Activities: Chair Nunnally recognized ADWS Assistant Director of TANF Mr. Phil Harris to provide an update on TANF Program Activities.

State Updates: Mr. Harris informed the committee there were no TANF updates on the State level; however, TANF will be reviewing the eligibility policy in the near future due to the increase of minimum wage. The increase will affect some families served by the TANF program.

Federal Updates: Mr. Harris informed members that all states are members of the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA). APHSA provided notification of the following proposed rule changes: (1) Prohibit the practice of counting hours of participation of families receiving nominal pay; (2) Eliminate the excess Maintenance Of Effort (MOE) provision of the case load reduction credit calculation to reduce Work Participation Rate (WPR); and (3) eliminate the ability to count spending of non-governmental third-party funding toward the State's MOU requirements. All 50 states will be impacted by the changes. Arkansas will be impacted by

meeting the second rule change listed on the MOE WPR . Arkansas has met this requirement for the past three years.

Annual Reports: Mr. Harris informed committee members that Arkansas met the December 31, 2019, deadline for submitting federally required annual reports: Annual Case Load Reduction Report ACF202 and the Annual Case Load 199 (Data Report). States were granted an extension to submit the Administration for Childrens and Family (ACF) Annual Case Load 204 (Activities and MOE Report) by the January 15, 2020, deadline due to some technical difficulties.

Children's Advocacy Center: Mr. Harris informed committee members that an agreement has been signed with the Arkansas State Police for the Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) of Arkansas. For this funding year the CAC program is \$2.5 million with another \$2.5 million for year two expansion. These community-based facilities utilize a multi-disciplinary approach to reduce trauma to children who are victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect reported through the Child Abuse Hotline and the Arkansas State Police Crimes Against Children Division. There are 17 CAC's with 6 satellite sites to cover the entire state of Arkansas. Some of the services provided include advocacy, forensic, medical, mental health, and prevention programs.

Adult Education: Mr. Harris informed committee members of a \$1.7-million-dollar expansion for Adult Education to expand services to teachers, noncustodial parents, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) recipients. Currently, there are eight counties serving as pilots that includes: Pulaski, Crawford, Garland, Sebastian, Jefferson, Benton, Columbia, and White due to the significant amount of re-entry activity in those counties. TANF supports the re-entry program Restore Hope, and this program will assist Adult Education to expand services to this population. An agreement is set to be in place by February 1, 2019.

Agenda Item 2: INFORMATIONAL - Review of the TANF Specific-Section-WIOA State Plan 2020-23: Chair Nunnally recognized Mr. Derwin Taylor to present key changes for TANF in the 2020-2023 WIOA State Plan. Mr. Taylor informed committee members TANF State Plan will be renewing this year at the same time as the WIOA State Plan. The TANF State Plan renews in December of every even-numbered year. However, the TANF section in the WIOA State Plan and the TANF State Plan have no new requirements or laws at this time that will require changes to either plan. Mr. Taylor clarified the TANF State Plan has different terms and requirements than the WIOA State Plan, which will require the governor to certify the TANF State Plan as part of its renewal process and to keep its eligibility for the TANF Block Grant to continue funding.

Announcements: Chair Nunnally thanked Mr. Harris and Mr. Taylor and asked the committee members for any other business. Hearing none, he informed committee members the AWDB Program and Performance Evaluation Committee meeting would convene at 10:30 a.m. followed by the AWDB Strategic Planning Committee at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Nunnally informed committee members the next AWDB TANF Committee meeting will convene on March 24, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. Committee members and the AWDB Full Board

meeting will convene on January 21, 2020, at Embassy Suites, 11301 Financial Centre Parkway, Little Rock and 10 a.m. An AWDB Full Board Training will be given at 1:30 p.m. on the same day.

Chair Nunnally reminded committee members the 2019 Financial Disclosures must be filed with the Arkansas Secretary of State by January 31, 2020. ADWS provided notaries to assist AWDB members with filing if needed.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m. by Chair Gan Nunnally, upon a **motion by Mr. Lindsay Brown, seconded by Mr. Robert Thorne, with none opposed.**

George Nunnally, Committee Chair

Arnell Willis, Director Workforce Investment
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Minutes by Monica Humphrey and Rebecca Edwards
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

