

MINUTES – MEETING OF THE  
CAREER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

June 14, 2016  
1:00 p.m.

The Career Education and Workforce Development Board was called to order by Vice Chairman Hugh McDonald. The meeting was held at the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, 525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas.

A record of member attendance is as follows:

PRESENT

Mr. Hugh McDonald, Vice Chair  
Mr. Burton Weis  
Mr. Jeff Standridge  
Mr. Troy Keeping  
Mrs. Jenifer Price  
Mrs. Stacy Gunderman  
Dr. Jerry Cash  
Dr. Keith Vire  
Mrs. Gina Radke  
Mr. Scott Copas

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Dr. Charisse Childers, Ex-Officio Secretary  
Dr. Paul Beran

ABSENT

Mr. Michael Garner, Chair  
Dr. Adam Arroyos

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Dr. Brett Powell  
Mr. Johnny Key  
Mr. Bill Stovall  
Mr. Mike Preston  
Mr. Daryl Bassett  
Dr. Richard Abernathy

Mr. Hugh McDonald, Vice Chair called the meeting to order.

ACTION ITEM 1 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2016

On a motion by Mr. Standridge and second by Mr. Copas, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved the minutes of May 10, 2016.

ACTION ITEM 2 – AUTHORIZATION OF ACE-CTE TO DIRECT THE USE OF FUNDS BASED ON SUBRECIPIENTS DEFICIENCIES

Dr. Charisse Childers, Director, stated it is the recommendation of the agency that the Career Education and Workforce Development Board approve by a majority vote the authorization of CTE staff to direct the use of Perkins funds based on subrecipients' deficiencies. Authorization would also include CTE staff the right to enforce all rules and regulations within the Arkansas Perkins Manual. The Board action will be effective July 1, 2016.

Dr. Childers stated that informational/rationale is given and Ms. Kathi Turner, Deputy Director, Career and Technical Education and Ms. Maria Swicegood, Accountability Coordinator, Career and Technical Education are present to provide more information and to address any questions the board may have.

Ms. Turner stated Arkansas Department of Career Education manages the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. The purpose of this Act is to provide an increased focus on the academic achievement of career and technical education students, strengthen the connections

between secondary and postsecondary education, and improve state and local accountability. This Act was effective for 6 years and reauthorization of the Perkins Act is hopefully near. Until this happens, the Perkins Act has been extended and thus we are beginning the 9th year of a 6-year Act. Perkins funds must be used to improve career and technical programs in the following areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Technical Skill Attainment
- Secondary School Completion
- Student Graduation Rates
- Secondary Placement
- Non-traditional Participation
- Non-traditional Completion

All Perkins funds must be related to improving one of these indicators. It is the desire of ACE CTE to request that 15% of a subrecipients' funds be used to improve an indicator if the subrecipient is in Year 2 Improvement in an area. Non-traditional participation and completion may be combined to assist the subrecipients. Sample projects have been disseminated to subrecipients to assist school staff in meeting the indicators. Our expert attorney, Michael Brustein from Washington, DC, indicated in the Perkins meeting last week that the state is responsible to assist recipients in meeting their indicators and the state has the right to impose restrictions on how funding is spent. The State Plan for Perkins also supports these efforts.

Mr. Standridge asked if the agency is the recipient and the CTE Centers are the subrecipients. Ms. Turner stated that schools or consortiums [are subrecipients], many of them are Educational Cooperatives.

Mr. McDonald asked on average how much does a school district or educational cooperative receive.

Ms. Swicegood stated that we roughly get around \$11.2 million Perkins Funds, 75% of that is for Secondary and 25% of that is for Post Secondary.

Mr. Standridge asked do we anticipate having to direct major shifts in funding for any centers, cooperatives, or consortiums. Mr. Standridge stated in spending not in funding. Ms. Swicegood stated yes in spending, we have several in second year that would be affected this coming year.

Mr. Copas stated that he had two questions on the recommendation. The first question, is there a reason you did not ask to put the 15% requirement in the recommendation and the second question is do you not already have the right to enforce the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Perkins manual.

Ms. Swicegood stated that she had left that out of the recommendation. Mr. Copas recommended that we put the 15% in the recommendation for action.

Mr. McDonald stated that it is his understanding we do have the authority and this action is to emphasize the authority to direct that the funds be allocated in accordance with the Perkins indicators.

Ms. Turner stated that is correct, our concern is that when we start telling schools and working with districts. Because this is the way Perkins was started nine years ago, we have gotten away from the last few years as an agency of supporting schools and helping them with rules and regulations and following that, so when we start enforcing rules and following rules and regulations and working with our schools it is just that we wanted to keep you in the loop. The only action that is actually required through law would be if we chose to reassign funds. If it gets to that sanction, we would then need board approval.

Mr. Standridge stated his understanding is that over the years school districts, centers, and consortiums [the subrecipients] have not been monitored closely in terms of how they spend those funds and they have developed practices and so when we go back and enforce what is already

enforceable by the agency we may have some push back. Therefore, I think what you are asking for is for the board to reaffirm that the staff has the authority to enforce the rules and regulations.

Ms. Turner stated yes, that is correct.

Mr. Copas stated that it is his understanding that if we do not act that we are putting the money that we receive from the federal government at real risk. Mr. McDonald stated that is correct.

Mr. Standridge stated he wanted to reiterate that he is very much in favor following policy, rules and laws, but I just do not have a good understanding of the impact of this decision and I would like to see that before we act on the item.

Mr. Copas stated he appreciates Mr. Standridge concern but you are looking at how it affects the end user; if we don't have the money, then they are really affected. I think if we have rules we have to follow to get the money, then we need to follow the rules and the end user needs to change what they are doing. I do not want to take a risk of losing let's just say 15% of \$33 million dollars. So I think that is what I have heard is that we are at risk of losing the money if we do not straighten up. I think to delay this is to potentially risk the loss of whatever amount of money that is. I am for this motion with the addition of the 15% to the recommendation.

On a motion by Mr. Copas and second by Ms. Radke the Career Education and Workforce Development Board approved by a majority vote the authorization of the CTE staff to direct the use of 15% of Perkins funds on subrecipients deficiencies and authorization for CTE staff to enforce all rules and regulations within the Arkansas Perkins Manual.

#### INFORMATION ITEM 3 – 2016-2017 AGENCY BUDGET – ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES (520)

Mr. Joseph Baxter, Chief of Financial Management, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, provided the board members with information concerning the major components of the 2016-2017 budget.

#### INFORMATION ITEM 4 – 2016-2017 AGENCY BUDGET – DEPARTMENT OF CAREER EDUCATION (590)

Ms. Lorna Claudio, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Career Education, provided the board members with information concerning the major components of the 2016-2017 budget.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. McDonald stated that the Budget Committee would be meeting June 23, 2016.

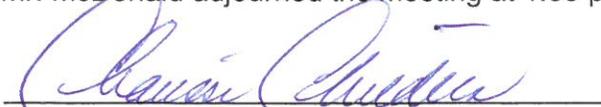
Mr. Copas stated that the Personnel Policy Committee has meet three times and we do have a recommendation that we are finalizing to bring to the board with the major personnel issues that we feel need to be addressed with the Governor and the Office of Personnel Management.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Charisse Childers stated that the report will be sent to the board.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McDonald adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

  
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Dr. Charisse Childers, Ex-Officio Secretary  
Career Education and Workforce  
Development Board

  
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Hugh McDonald, Vice Chairman  
Career Education and Workforce  
Development Board