

MINUTES – MEETING OF THE  
CAREER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

October 20, 2015  
1:00 p.m.

The Career Education and Workforce Development Board was called to order by Chairman Michael Garner. The meeting was held at the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, 525 W. Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas.

A record of member attendance is as follows:

PRESENT

Mr. Michael Garner, Chairman  
Mr. Burton Weis  
Mr. Scott Copas  
Mrs. Stacy Gunderman  
Mrs. Jenifer Price  
Mrs. Gina Radke  
Dr. Keith Vire  
Dr. Steven Collier  
Dr. Adam Arroyos

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Dr. Charisse Childers, Ex-Officio Secretary  
Dr. Richard Abernathy  
Mr. Bill Stovall  
Dr. Paul Beran  
Mr. Steve Sparks (Mr. Mike Preston)  
Dr. Brett Powell  
Mr. Johnny Key

ABSENT

Mr. Troy Keeping  
Mr. Dan Serrano  
Mr. Hugh McDonald, Vice Chair  
Mr. Jeff Standridge

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Mr. Daryl Bassett

ACTION ITEM 1 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

On a motion by Mrs. Gunderman and second by Dr. Vire, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved the minutes of September 15, 2015.

ACTION ITEM 2 – TABLED AT SEPTEMBER 15, 2015 MEETING – CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT OF CROWLEY'S RIDGE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

On a motion by Dr. Vire and second by Mr. Copas, the Career Education and Workforce Development Board unanimously approved to table the certification of candidates for Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute president's position.

INFORMATION ITEM 3 – REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 892 OF 2015

Mr. Brian Rogers, deputy director, Office of Skills Development, provided the board members information on Act 892 of 2015 and an overview of the Office of Skills Development since it became operational in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2016.

INFORMATION ITEM 4 – OVERVIEW OF RECENT GRANT AWARDS

Ms. Lisa Ferrell, projects coordinator, Discretionary Grants, Department of Workforce Services, provided the board members with an overview on the following grants: Arkansas Job Driven National Emergency Grant, Arkansas Sector Partnership, Arkansas Apprenticeship Pathway Initiative, and Arkansas Partnership for Nursing's Future, Arkansas PROMISE and Disaster National Emergency Grant 2015.

## INFORMATION ITEM 5 – OVERVIEW OF THE REGIONAL WORKFORCE PLANNING GRANTS

Dr. Brett Powell, director, Department of Higher Education, provided the board members with an overview of the Regional Workforce Planning Grants.

Dr. Powell stated that the Regional Workforce Planning Grants were created through legislation during the 2015 legislative session.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Charisse Childers stated that interest in our agency is elevated and our communication with partners and stakeholders has increased within the Department of Career Education.

Dr. Childers stated that she participated on a panel for the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce Leadership class on the future of workforce development in Arkansas. Also, stated that Dr. Trenia Miles earlier this month presented to the House and Senate State Agencies committee about the "States' and Communities' Role in Creating Second Chances."

Dr. Childers stated that on a national level she participated on a panel speaking to a group of education policy thought leaders at an invitation-only national Policy in Education (PIE) Summit.

Dr. Childers informed the board members that this month is the National Disability Awareness Month and invited them to join the agency on this Friday, October 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. for the Governor's signing of the proclamation for the National Disability Employment Awareness Month and again on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at the Capitol for "Arkansas Disability Day," in partnership with the Arkansas Disability Coalition.

Dr. Childers informed the board members that Arkansas Rehabilitation Services applied for a Demonstration and Training Grant entitled "Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities." While we were not one of grant awards accepted, the programs and partnerships defined in the grant will be explored for future implementation.

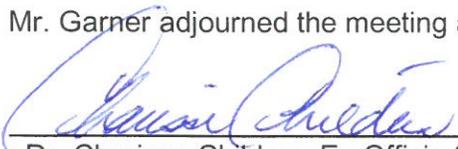
Dr. Childers informed the board members that the agency is working on the agency's strategic plan and should have the outcomes or accomplishments from the current strategic plan by the end of this month but definitely by the end of October or mid-November.

Dr. Childers provided the board members with an "Employer Engagement Report" for each division that outlines the current initiatives and efforts in place with employers and our agency.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Michael Garner, Chair, stated that the next board meeting would be December 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Garner adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.



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



Michael Garner, Chairman  
Career Education and Workforce  
Development Board