

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - 2:00 p.m.**

**Teleconference Only**  
**1-669-900-6833**  
**Access code 823 3034 8355**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Present:** William "Larry" Fagerhaug (Chair), Hugh Anderson, Ryan Cordia, Robert Cunningham, Jenny Casselman, Bill Stanley, Ann Silver, Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Isla Young, Jim New

**Also present:** Andres Feijoo, (OWINN) Jaime Cruz (Workforce Connections), John Thurman (NevadaWorks)

**1. CALL TO ORDER - OPENING REMARKS**

**Chair Fagerhaug** called the meeting to order and welcomed participants.

**2. ROLL CALL - CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM**

Per direction from Chair Fagerhaug, **Andres Feijoo** took roll call and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**3. VERIFICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING**

**Mr. Andres Feijoo** affirmed that the agenda and notice of the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB) meeting on March 17, 2021, was posted pursuant to Nevada's Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020.

**4. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT(S) NOTICE**

**Chair Fagerhaug** read the notice into the record as follows: "Members of the public are invited to comment at this time; however, no action may be taken on any matters during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. At my discretion, in the interest of time, public comments will be limited to three minutes per person." Please clearly state and spell your full name for the Record.

**Chair Fagerhaug** invited comments. There were none.

**5. \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION - Approval of GWDB Executive Committee's December 16, 2020 meeting minutes**

**Chair Fagerhaug** called for comments/changes to December 16, 2020 draft minutes of the Executive Committee. There were was a correction to the spelling of Chair Fagerhaug's name. **It was moved by Bill Stanley and seconded by Ann Silver to approve December 16, 2020, minutes of the Executive Committee as amended.**

**6. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – OWINN Updates**

**Andres Feijoo, OWINN**, informed the Board that he, along with Isla Young, OWINN, and Cheryl Olson, NSHE, will be attending the National Governors Association Annual Board Chair Liaison's virtual meeting. Mr. Feijoo further informed the Board that now that Executive Director Isla Young has been appointed, OWINN is working to fill the current and future vacancies due to term expirations.

**Isla Young, OWINN**, gave the Board an update on the National Governors Association grant. The application for this grant involved OWINN as well as multiple sister agencies, including: GOED; DETR; NSHE; OSIT; Nevada Department of Health and Human Services. Nevada was one of nine states selected for this grant, which is designed to carry out innovations that rapidly connect job seekers to work, education, or training via people-centered, coordinated service delivery. The grant is for \$100,000 and OWINN will be bringing in a consultant to help with the planning for this grant.

**Ann Silver** asked if OWINN had briefed GWDB on the application for this funding prior to submitting the proposal.

**Isla Young** responded that GWDB was not briefed on this particular grant as the request for submission came directly from the governor's office.

**Ann Silver** congratulated OWINN on obtaining the grant and asked why the grant is necessary, and how it avoids duplication of efforts already underway in northern and southern Nevada workforce boards and providers.

**Isla Young** explained that the grant is not duplicating efforts, rather pulling together northern and southern Nevada workforce partners and employers. Ms. Young further indicated that much of the work happening now is not engaging enough with employers. The funding from the grant will focus on specific areas: IT, advanced manufacturing, and healthcare, in hopes of ensuring that the existing systems in place will work together more fluidly.

**7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Remove the state-imposed restrictions on employer staffing levels in OJT contracts per program year in SCP 1.14, in alignment with the WIOA federal regulations.**

**Jaime Cruz, Workforce Connections**, explained the importance of aligning state and federal policies, the major difference being that federal policies have no limitation on staffing levels. If approved, this would allow Nevadaworks to serve small businesses with less than three employees, which are the businesses most in need of help post-pandemic. Mr. Cruz informed the Board that letters of support were received from all Chambers of Commerce in the southern Nevada workforce development area.

**Ann Silver** questioned whether the Chambers of Commerce had been involved in the northern portion of the state as well as the southern.

**John Thurman, Nevadaworks**, indicated that he was unsure if the invitation had been submitted to either the Chamber or the Economic Development Authorities and informed the Board that this was never presented as an option to some of the smaller employers because they were aware that they wouldn't be able to meet the criteria in the policy.

**Bill Stanley** indicated his support and asked about the historical background leading to this proposition.

**John Thurman** indicated that he was unaware who had submitted the request, but the request originated at the state level in an attempt to try and control potentially bad actors through policy rather than through the application of policy at the local level.

**Jaime Cruz** concurred that there had never been a previous version on the federal regulations that limited the staffing levels, but there was a time in the state where one employer took advantage of the system in the form of hiring approximately ten workers and then after laying them off an no longer paying them, continuing to bill the state, constituting fraud. Mr. Cruz explained that this example highlights why these types of things need to be managed at the implementation level and not at the policy level through the use of comprehensive, detailed auditing practices involving training, technical assistance, site visits, and rigorous control of contracts.

**Chair Fagerhaug** called for a motion to approve removal of the state-imposed restrictions on employer staffing levels in OJT contracts per program year in SCP 1.14, in alignment with the WIOA federal regulations. **It was moved by Robert Cunningham and seconded by Ann Silver to approve removal of the state-imposed restrictions on employer staffing levels in OJT contracts per program year in SCP 1.14 in alignment with the WIOA federal regulations. The motion carried.**

## **8. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ONLY – GWDB Retreat Updates**

**Ann Silver** informed the Board that she and Chair Fagerhaug and Andres Feijoo had met recently by phone to discuss the Board retreat. Ms. Silver informed the Board that the group is contemplating combing the retreat into one single day starting with a morning Board meeting, followed by lunch, and then moving into the retreat for the afternoon. The county offices in Las Vegas are being considered for the retreat. Ms. Silver proposed that the retreat be scheduled in early November.

**Andres Feijoo, OWINN**, indicated that there is already a Board meeting scheduled for the end of October, and as such, the retreat could possibly just end up being a retreat. Mr. Feijoo further explained that the proposal of the November date would include new members as the terms of some existing Board members will expire at the end of October. Mr. Feijoo further informed the Board that he has been in contact with NGA in hopes of facilitating this retreat.

**Ann Silver** discussed the possibility of moving the October meeting to November to align with the retreat.

**Andres Feijoo** indicated his desire to keep the October meeting as scheduled as the first round of changes for the modification of the state plan is on that agenda. In addition, Mr. Feijoo explained his understanding that Robert Whitney, OWINN's DAG, indicated that the retreat does not have to be a public meeting, thus negating the need for a meeting, but informed the Board that he would confirm this with Mr. Whitney.

**Bill Stanley** indicated his vote for the retreat to take place in Elko rather than in Las Vegas, indicating that northern Nevada is underutilized as a location.

**Chair Fagerhaug** indicated that the Board is open to recommendations for location and supported Mr. Stanley's suggestion of Elko.

**Ann Silver** indicated that if the decision is Elko, she can work with the Elko Chamber of Commerce to secure a restaurant and libations.

**Chair Fagerhaug** concurred with the investigation of using Elko as a location as well as having Mr. Feijoo confirm the rules of open-meeting law in terms of a retreat with the DAG. Chair Fagerhaug further informed the Board to email any suggestions to himself, Ms. Silver, and Mr. Feijoo.

## **9. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ONLY – April GWDB Full Board Meeting and DOL Training.**

**Chair Fagerhaug** reminded the Board of the discussions at previous meetings centered around training from the Department of Labor regarding fundamentals of purpose and processes for the Governor's Workforce Development Boards to provide basic understanding to newer members as well as to serve as reminders for existing members. Chair Fagerhaug informed the Board that the virtual training will take approximately three hours that could be added onto a Board meeting. Chair Fagerhaug discussed shortening the April meeting agenda and adding in the training, divided into segments. Chair Fagerhaug further discussed additional training that delves more into the operations and processes of how local Boards relate to the full Workforce Development Board.

**Andres Feijoo** informed the Board that this training would take place on the same day of the regularly scheduled, April 15 meeting, but the start time would be moved from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. The meeting would begin with the regularly scheduled meeting, running for approximately one hour, followed by a short break with the training session(s) to follow.

**Chair Fagerhaug** confirmed for the Board that the meeting on April 15 would likely conclude around 3:30 or 4:00 in the afternoon. Chair Fagerhaug further informed the Board that the Department of Labor has been successfully implementing this type of training for various Boards nationwide and has found the training valuable in providing a solid baseline understanding of how workforce development boards work as well as potential creation of a new onboarding process for new members.

**Bill Stanley** asked regarding the plans for bringing the subcommittees back together and generating the final or semi-final reports by those subcommittees.

**Chair Fagerhaug** indicated that this has not yet been discussed but indicated that because the April meeting will be abbreviated due to the training, likely the subcommittees would report to the Board in the July meeting.

**Andres Feijoo** indicated that although the July agenda had not yet been decided, it was likely the subcommittees would report more in-depth on their findings during that meeting.

**Bill Stanley** asked Mr. Feijoo to provide him with a deadline to create the schedule.

**Andres Feijoo** indicated that the July meeting would be a deadline but also informed the Board that the subcommittees would not be presenting a final product in July as they are ongoing.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOTICE (SECOND)**

**Chair Fagerhaug** invited comments.

**Ann Silver** reminded the Board that John Thurman, Nevadaworks, intended to retire and asked if the process of finding his replacement would be open, public, and transparent.

**John Thurman** indicated that yes, the process would be open, public, and transparent. Mr. Thurman further indicated that the responsibility falls on the Nevadaworks locally elected officials, and that they are actively working on this process.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**The March 17, 2021 meeting was adjourned.**

**Notice of this meeting was posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third day prior to the meeting on the Internet at:**

[http://owinn.nv.gov/GWDB/GWDB\\_Workforce\\_Meetings/](http://owinn.nv.gov/GWDB/GWDB_Workforce_Meetings/) and

[Nevada's Public Notice website at https://notice.nv.gov/](https://notice.nv.gov/), as required by NRS 232.2175.

Supporting public material provided to Committee members for this meeting is posted on OWINN's Website at [http://owinn.nv.gov/GWDB/GWDB\\_Workforce\\_Meetings/](http://owinn.nv.gov/GWDB/GWDB_Workforce_Meetings/) may be requested from the Executive Director's Office at 555 E. Washington Ave. Ste. 4900, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101; or call (702) 486-8080.