

KANSAS APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

December 13, 2021

Call to Order: Tony Naylor

Roll Call: KAC Members

Carrie Sowers, Program Director, Atchison Child Care Association, Atchison, KS - *Virtual*

Tony Naylor, Training Director, Wichita Electrical JATC, Wichita, KS

Gene Sicard, IBEW # 304, Topeka, KS

John Clark, Vice-President, Plumbers and Pipefitters, Wichita, KS

Alise Martiny, Workforce Development Manager, Greater Kansas City Building & Construction Council, KC, MO - *Virtual*

Russell Kennedy, Business Manager, IBEW Local 271, Wichita, KS

Department Staff

Shonda Atwater, Director of Internships and Apprenticeships, Topeka, KS

Chastity Troxel, Apprenticeship Program Manager, Paola, KS

Dona Thompson, Apprenticeship Program Grant Coordinator, Pittsburg, KS

Logan Staab, Apprenticeship IT Sector Coordinator, Hays, KS

Melody Head, RA Program Specialist, LA IV, Wichita, KS

Trent Armbrust, Chief Strategy Officer, Office of Innovation, Topeka, KS

Approval of Minutes: September 22, 2021; **Motioned by Tony, seconded by Gene; motion carries and minutes approved.**

Programs Approved: Dona Thompson

- JAG-K W/ Youth Program
- Garmin
- Webco
- Revisions
 - Pioneer Electric Cooperative
 - Southern Pioneer Electric

Tony asked if Youth was going to participating in OJT hours. Yes

Unfinished Business: None

Managers Update: Chastity Troxel

National Apprenticeship Week- Chastity shared LA's activity during National Apprenticeship Week. Social media was utilized in several areas of the state. Melody Head, LA IV RA Specialist planned several events in Wichita area. Melody shared that they planned an appreciation breakfast and asked for feedback from Sponsor on current RA procedures. She also coordinated a luncheon in Wellington. Two proclamations were also signed by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. Shonda shared her and Chastity attend an event in Missouri during NAW to observe for future implementation.

Grants Update- Chastity discussed SAEI grant was awarded and Kansas received \$5.6 million and will run 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2025. This opportunity is the largest ever awarded for Kansas to support RA and it was a great accomplishment for our state. RFP were submitted to award 7 intermediary sponsors and concentrated efforts for specific occupations to align with Grant base goals. All intermediary's had a similar structure and will hire support staff at the location of each sponsor. The intent of these positions will be to manage, oversee grant activities, help promote RA and build standards as well as relationship building. This new structure will allow a large number of employers to participate and in turn will serve a large number of apprentices. LAWDB will still be important to utilize in this process for supportive services and each awarded intermediary are required to work with the LA's and will serve over 750 throughout the grant period. Those awarded are:

- KC Tech Council
- Flagship KS
- Hamilton-Ryker
- Hutchinson Community College
- Dwayne Peaslee Tech
- Interhab
- Local 304

Chastity discussed RASEG grant and status. 440 apprentices were to be served during the grant period ending in June 2022. Currently at 360 apprentices enrolled so we feel like the goal will be met and many of those had WIOA co-enrollments.

Chastity discussed SAE 2020 grant and status. This grant did not serve participants, but create a position in Department of Commerce, which was filled by Dona Thompson. She has been doing a great job and focuses on building training and creating and updating documents, became an expert in RAPIDS and conducts training for sponsors and verify accurate information.

John asked what happens if we don't meet the grant goals. Chastity stated DOL will look at why, but we have never not met goals. DOL has stated our activity looks great and several other states are not as successful as Kansas during this time with COVID. Shonda stated that monitoring is everything and these number, if not good, can affect our ability to apply for future grants and our confidence in activities helps. Chastity stated our FPO position has changed several times, but everything has been good transitions.

RAPIDS update- Chastity shared RAPIDS update about ID cards being implemented online and new 671 form.

New RA Positions and Staff- Chastity discussed new positions with SAEI grant. Logan Staab is IT Sector and new hire Jenny Rogers will start in late December in the Health Care Sector position.

Statutory/Regulatory requirements- Shonda discussed the need to have a full KAC which is 9 members. 4 labor and 4 management positions and 1 outside representative. She shared that she has gathered names for suggestions and will be working on getting that list to the members for suggestions. We need to expand to other industries, community colleges and LAWB members.

Updated Logo- The apprenticeship logo has been updated.

Dinner Bell Calls- Shonda discussed the Dinner Bell Calls which has been a new development moving forward. These calls will serve as a communication device to involve sponsors and employers or anyone else who wishes to attend. We will have guest speakers, such as a RA expert from PSU. Dona and Shonda have been

working on gathering ideas for these calls. We want to build a network and also be able to provide an outlet for questions on a regular basis and celebrate wins and completing apprentices.

Break at 12:01 for Lunch

New Business:

Framework for Growth -Trent Armburst shared Framework for Growth to identify where we are growing and Kansas focus on certain industries. Food and Production and the value if build in Kansas. He visited a restaurant in DC that had KS food on the menu. Up to 50% of engineering graduates leave the state of Kansas. Kanas is slow as a state for training programs where other take 90 days, Kansas is currently two years. Jobs for the future will be large numbers of automation. There is a perception that Automation jobs eliminated other jobs, but more jobs are actually created, they just require different skill sets. There is a need to fund RA on a state level, but KAC needs to stand at the Capitol and support RA and increase marketing to put weight to asking for investment.

Data Update & 2022 Framework- Shonda talked about her background and shared the slides. Ref.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/file/78792F7B-7C11-4C98-85AF-B91D3F2A1640?tenantId=dcae8101-c92d-480c-bc43-c6761cccc5a&fileType=pdf&objectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fsokansas.sharepoint.com%2Fsites%2FKDCApprenticeship%2FShared%20Documents%2FGeneral%2FMarketing_Outreach%20Folder%2FKS%20Reg%20Apprenticeship.Final.121021.pdf&baseUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fsokansas.sharepoint.com%2Fsites%2FKDCApprenticeship&serviceName=teams&threadId=19:5IzgnwuejvDpvB6iG1UXq3btbowYg76yQX0ud2Sf8r01@thread.tacv2&groupId=add30d02-3691-4edf-9441-41fcb25ecf21

We need state funding and suggested KAC members call Representatives and Senators. Shonda urged for KAC to submit letter of support to the Governor for state funding in areas to support compliance review process, invest in the program, and more staff.

Vote proposed to submit letter of support – John motioned, Gene seconded, Tony announced approval
Russell commented on quality programs and instructors so that apprentices are truly prepared to work and get the best from their investment in employees.

Shonda talked about developing strategies to combat misconceptions like paperwork is too hard.

Other Business:

Date & Location of Next Meeting: The next meeting is slated for March 2022, with the location and time TBD

Adjournment: Tony Naylor