

ARWDB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 13, 2026, Meeting Notes

Members Present

Ms. Autumn Andrews
Mr. James Jackson
Ms. Kristy Smith
Mr. Robert Duffield
Ms. Sara Ray
Mr. Trey Ragsdale

Members Absent

Mr. Jamal Jessie
Mr. Mike Alexander

Quorum met

ARWDB Board Co-Chairman, Sara Ray, called the Committee meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Workforce Director Brett Lacy welcomed attendees and started the meeting.

1. ARWDB membership:
 - Review meeting attendance: Members are currently in good standing.
 - Board Membership: Membership will be reviewed once we receive the official appointments from the ARC Board.
 - Stephanie Rooks and Tim Heims retired.
 - A Board Retreat has been proposed for later this year.
2. Board Meeting Action Items:
 - Approve the PY26 Budget
 - Discussion was held regarding the PY26 Budget. This is an estimated budget, and there may be changes once final grants are received.
James Jackson made the motion, and Sara Ray seconded. Passed unanimously, with Trey Ragsdale abstaining.
 - Approve the NextGen WIOA Youth Eligibility Policy.
 - Discussion regarding the Next Gen Committee reviewed and updated the policy, including provisions and requirements of how to determine youth program eligibility and provide program documentation.
Robert Duffield made the motion, and Trey Ragsdale seconded. Passed unanimously.
 - Approve the Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Agreements.
 - Discussion regarding the IWT RFP selection process. Three RFPs were received, and two were considered responsive and selected.
Trey Ragsdale made the motion, and Kristy Smith seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. Legislative Update: Provided by Brett Lacy
Brett provided an abbreviated update on federal and state workforce funding, the status of appropriations, and reauthorization.
 4. Program updates:
 - Henry Charlot provided additional information on the IWT program and the SAEF program.
 - Marsharee O’Conner provided information on the Pathways to Digital Economy (PADE) initiative.
 - Phyllis Jackson provided information on the Career Centers and indicated the new Mobile Career Center is making good progress.
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The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.