

AGENDA

July 11, 2017

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD TANF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

10:00 A.M.

Call to Order Thomas Anderson, Committee Chair

Chairman’s Comments Thomas Anderson, Committee Chair

ACTION Item 1:

Minutes of the April 11, 2017 Committee Meeting

INFORMATION Item 2:

Staff Report on TANF Program Activities Phil Harris

INFORMATION Item 3:

Report on TANF Committee Action Plan Phil Harris

Announcements

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING DATES

October 10, 2017	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Committees Full Board Meeting	TBD TBD
January 9, 2018	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Committees Full Board Meeting	TBD TBD

Crown Plaza Hotel
201 S. Shackelford Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211



**For Consideration of the
Arkansas Workforce Development Board
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Oversight Committee**

July 11, 2017

AGENDA ITEM 1 – ACTION: Minutes of April 11, 2017 TANF Oversight Committee Meeting

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the TANF Oversight Committee approve the minutes of the April 11, 2017 committee meeting.

INFORMATION/RATIONALE: Minutes of the meeting are attached.

UNOFFICIAL

MINUTES

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Oversight Committee

April 11, 2017

A meeting of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board – TANF Oversight Committee was held on April 11, 2017, at the Arkansas Career Training Institute (ACTI), 105 Reserve Street in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Chairman Tom Anderson presided with the following members present: Mr. Daryl Bassett, Mr. Lindsey Brown, Judge Brandon Ellison, Mr. George Nunnally, and Mr. Robert Thorne. Mr. Johnny Key and Ms. Mary Franklin were unable to attend.

Chairperson's Comments: Recognizing the presence of a quorum, Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Minutes of the January 10, 2017, Committee Meeting: Chair Anderson proceeded to Agenda Item 1, asking if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved on **a motion by Judge Brandon Ellison, seconded by Mr. Lindsay Brown, and carried unanimously.**

Chair Anderson asked that Mr. Phil Harris, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services (ADWS) – Assistant Director for TANF, provide updates on the TANF program. Mr. Harris began by updating the committee on requirements in Act 1205 of 2015. The committee reviewed updated year-to-date statistical data for the TANF Drug Screening and Testing pilot program, which became permanent in the 2017 legislative session.

TANF Program Activities: Mr. Harris provided an update on TANF program improvement initiatives regarding enrollments in the TANF program. This discussion involved efforts to reach the homeless or near homeless and other untapped populations for enrollment and potential job placement. Next, he discussed the Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) Work-Based Learning – Subsidized employment through two-year college campuses and registered local employers for Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) and TEA-eligible CPI participants.

Mr. Harris reported that the new ARWINS system has begun a pilot that will, by July 2017, have all TEA and Work Pays single parent and two-parent cases managed in the ARWINS system in Pulaski, Lonoke and Mississippi counties. He stated that an accelerated statewide training rollout is planned in the next state fiscal year and that the anticipation is to have all TANF case management implemented in the ARWINS system by this time next year.

Next, Mr. Harris provided an update on the TANF Action Plan reporting that we are working on the new Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, pending legislative review to modify the ADWS-TANF Policy, and entering into a data agreement with the Arkansas Department of Human Services (ADHS) to help conduct custom outreach to engage SNAP and Arkansas Works recipients.

TANF Program Outreach & Enrollment Strategies: Chair Anderson asked Mr. Harris to continue. Mr. Harris thanked the committee for their continued support regarding client servicing. He reported that approval has been granted for ADHS to co-locate ADWS-TANF staff at seventeen ADHS county offices. ADWS staff will be able to provide in-depth orientation regarding the TANF program for potential walk-ins and newly approved Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) clients. He stated that preliminary discussions for increasing enrollment for TEA is underway to adjust the net income eligibility standard to assist with job seekers receiving SNAP and/or Medicaid (Arkansas Works).

Announcements: Chair Anderson stated that following the committee meeting members should gather in Room 615 for a tour of the ACTI facility. The tour will end in the auditorium, where lunch will be served, with a short ACTI presentation. The full board will convene this afternoon at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting of the TANF Oversight Committee will be at 10:00 a.m., July 11, 2017, followed by a regular quarterly meeting of the full board at 1:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will be announced by staff at a later date.

Adjournment: Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m. on **a motion made by Mr. Lindsey Brown, seconded by Judge Brandon Ellison, and carried unanimously.**

Thomas Anderson, Committee Chair

Arnell Willis, Director Workforce Investment
Department of Workforce Services

*Minutes recorded by Devona Caples
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services*