



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 3/4/2025

**= Mandatory, information must be provided*

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

***Title:**

Pima County Workforce Investment Board

***Introduction/Background:**

The Pima County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) serves as the Local Workforce Development Board as outlined within the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) that supports workforce development activities within Pima County.

The WIB provides recommendations on local workforce policy and oversight of the local workforce development system, ARIZONA@WORK Pima County One-Stop which connects eligible adults, dislocated workers, and youth to local in-demand industries. WIB members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and members represent specific categories as outlined within WIOA as business, workforce, community-based organizations, and mandated partners.

***Discussion:**

Jorge Rivero, Project Director, Equus Workforce Solutions seeks reappointment to the WIB representing Business. Danielle Duarte, Director of Talent Acquisition, HSS Hospitality Staffing Solutions, seeks reappointment to the WIB representing Business.

***Conclusion:**

Appointment by the Board of Supervisors ensures composition requirements of the local workforce development board under WIOA.

***Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the appointment of both members to the WIB.

***Fiscal Impact:**

None.

***Board of Supervisor District:**

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☒ All

Department: Community & Workforce Development Telephone: 520-724-9638

Contact: Cassie Lundin Telephone: 520-724-9638

Department Director Signature: _____

Date: 2.4.25

Deputy County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 2/7/2025

County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 2/10/25



October 22, 2024

Pima County Workforce Investment Board
Kino Service Center,
2797 East Ajo Way

Re: WIB Committee Member Request Re-Appointment Application 2024

Dear: Aric Meares,

I am writing to offer my unequivocal support for the reappointment of Jorge Rivero to the Pima County Workforce Investment Board (WIB). I believe Jorge's expertise, leadership, and commitment to workforce development make him an indispensable asset to the WIB and the broader community it serves.

Jorge currently serves as the Project Director for Equus Workforce Solutions, under contract for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, and represents two critical Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) board categories:

- Business Category
- Remaining Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) Members Category, specifically as a Governmental Entity representing Public Assistance Programs.

As the WIB moves forward in addressing workforce challenges, Jorge's reappointment is essential. His unique blend of experience in both workforce development and public assistance programs positions him to significantly contribute to the board's mission. Specifically:

1. **Bridging Workforce Development and Public Assistance Programs:**
Jorge's role with TANF provides him with a deep understanding of the challenges faced by low-income individuals, a critical population that the WIB seeks to uplift. His insights ensure that the WIB's efforts are inclusive, addressing both the needs of employers and those of job seekers who face systemic barriers. His reappointment will allow the board to better align public assistance programs like TANF with workforce development strategies, creating pathways to sustainable employment for those most in need.
2. **Proven Leadership in Workforce Innovation:**
In his capacity as Project Director, Jorge has demonstrated exemplary leadership in workforce development initiatives, training, and human resources management. His ability to create and implement programs that respond to the evolving needs of employers has been invaluable. Jorge's influence extends beyond policy, directly impacting the strategic growth of our regional workforce system. His reappointment would enable the WIB to continue leveraging his

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expertise in building a stronger workforce that is better prepared for the demands of today's economy.

3. **Policy-Making Authority and Strategic Vision:**

Jorge possesses optimum policy-making and hiring authority in his current role, a level of decision-making capacity that equips him to shape WIB strategies in ways that ensure measurable outcomes. His leadership has already contributed to developing innovative workforce solutions, and his continued presence on the WIB will support the board's ongoing efforts to comply with WIOA requirements while enhancing its overall impact on the community.

4. **Commitment to Collaboration and Regional Growth:**

Under Jorge's leadership, Equus Workforce Solutions has been a key partner in fostering relationships between employers, community organizations, and government entities to strengthen the regional workforce development system. Jorge's ability to build consensus and drive collaboration is a significant asset to the WIB, helping to create programs that meet the needs of businesses and job seekers alike. His reappointment would ensure that these partnerships continue to thrive, further supporting the WIB's long-term objectives.

Reappointing Jorge to the WIB would not only preserve the momentum built but also help the board tackle future challenges with the benefit of his broad perspective and proven results. His knowledge of public assistance programs, combined with his workforce development expertise, enables him to deliver holistic solutions that address the needs of both employers and individuals seeking to improve their economic opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of Jorge Rivero's reappointment to the WIB. I am confident that his continued service will significantly benefit the board, the workforce system, and the community at large.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Priscilla Zuniga'.

Priscilla Zuniga
Regional Director, Pacific Region

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January 23, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Danielle Duarte for consideration by the Workforce Investment Board. As a colleague, I have had the privilege of working closely with Danielle and have observed her exemplary skills, commitment to community involvement, and passion for workforce development.

Danielle has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication to both personal and professional growth. Her ability to engage with diverse groups and work collaboratively has consistently stood out. Through her involvement with recruiting in the Tucson community, Danielle has shown a keen understanding of the challenges and opportunities in workforce development and has displayed innovative approaches to addressing them.

In addition to her skills and experience, Danielle is known for their strong work ethic, dependability, and ability to adapt to changing environments. These qualities, along with her clear commitment to fostering economic growth and improving workforce opportunities, make her an ideal candidate for the Workforce Investment Board.

I am confident that Danielle would make a valuable contribution to your efforts and help further the important work of the Workforce Investment Board. I offer my highest recommendation without reservation.

Thank you for considering Danielle for this important opportunity. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shawna Adams

Shawna Adams
Senior Recruiter/Past WIB Chair
MHIRJ
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