

**APPROVED MINUTES  
KANSAS POSTSECONDARY  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
MEETING**

The August 21, 2014 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held at the Kansas Board of Regents, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas.

**Members Present**

Bruce Akin, Chair  
Kathy Howell, Vice Chair  
Thomas Burke  
Eddie Estes  
Ray Frederick Jr.

Keith Meyers for Pat George  
Steve Kearney  
Jay Scott for Brad Neuenswander  
Jackie Vietti

**Members Absent**

David Coleal  
Joe Glassman  
Lana Gordon

**Others Represented**

Coffeyville Community College  
Dodge City Community College  
Johnson County Community College  
Kansas City Kansas Community College  
Manhattan Area Technical College  
Neosho County Community College

North Central Kansas Technical College  
Northwest Kansas Technical College  
Pratt Community College  
Washburn Institute of Technology  
Julie Halling

The meeting was called to order by Chair Akin at 10:00 AM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Member Burke moved to approve the minutes of May 29, 2014. Following a second by Member Vietti, the motion carried.

**REPORTS**

**Introduction**

Chair Akin welcomed Ray Frederick Jr. to his first meeting as a new member of the TEA. Member Frederick serves as an appointee of the Board of Regents.

**Chair Report**

Chair Akin reviewed the TEA committee member structure for the 2014-2015 year. A copy of the TEA committee charges and member assignments was provided in the TEA meeting booklet.

**Member Liaison Report**

Jay Scott explained the focus of the Kansas Advisory Council for Career Technical Education (KACCCTE) for 2014-2015 will be the development of career readiness standards for K-12 and measurements of success for students transitioning to college and the workforce. He also shared KACCCTE is interested in connecting more with the TEA in the current year.

Member Vietti reported touring the facility that houses the NexStep GED completion program in Wichita. The program is a collaboration with Wichita Area Technical College (WATC) and Goodwill Industries. Member

Vietti explained the Business Education Alliance, a group of business representatives and educators from the Wichita metro area, have plans to partner with WATC and Goodwill to advance the GED completion initiative.

Member Estes reported the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) met the first week of August 2014 to review potential rules and regulations of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Member Estes explained that increased involvement of the community and technical colleges in the workforce training process is being encouraged.

Member Meyers reported employers in the Project 17 area of southeast Kansas have identified a need for training to improve soft skills of current employees and job seekers. The Project 17 “Get a Job, Keep a Job” team, which was convened at the Kansas Leadership Center training in March 2014, is focusing on responding to this need with an inventory of soft skill courses offered in the region for employers, community action programs and faith-based organizations. Member Meyers also reported Kansas has received a Second Chance Act Grant award of almost \$640,000 to be administered by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the Kansas Department of Corrections in partnership with Washburn Institute of Technology to support CPT credential training for female inmates at the Topeka Correctional Facility.

### **Vice President for Workforce Development Report**

Vice President Flanders reported he plans to attend the Fort Scott Community College (FSCC) School of Cosmetology ribbon cutting ceremony on August 22, 2014. The college’s Cosmetology program is now located on the main FSCC campus.

Vice President Flanders informed TEA members that he is chairing the Steering Committee on the potential partnership of Fort Hays State University (FHSU) and Dodge City Community College (DCCC). The DCCC Board of Trustees voted in the spring of 2014 to move into a partnership with FHSU. Vice President Flanders noted the Board of Regents’ policy on institution mergers addresses multiple components. The Steering Committee will address budget and finance matters as well as curriculum issues.

Through a grant, KBOR staff has been reviewing Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) which awards credit for postsecondary-level equivalent knowledge and skill evidenced by industry credentials, military training transcripts, standardized exams and modular training. Vice President Flanders explained the program alignment framework is conducive to assessing CPL and provides a common ground for scoring credits.

Vice President Flanders reported the initiative to work with the military and their families as they transition to civilian life will continue to move forward with the framework established by the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Multi-State Military Collaborative. The MHEC initiative focus is to increase the number of veterans completing credentials and recognize the training and experience received in the military for credit toward earning a credential or degree.

Kansas has signed up to be a member of the Dream It. Do It. Network. The initiative was developed by the National Association of Manufacturers and the research/education affiliate, The Manufacturing Institute, to promote careers in manufacturing. The program provides resources and ideas for promoting manufacturing careers to parents, students and educators to change the perception of the manufacturing industry and strengthen the skilled workforce in the state. Many of the Kansas two-year institutions plan to host a Manufacturing Day event in October of this year.

Vice President Flanders reported attending the Kansas Board of Regents retreat August 12-14, 2014. He informed TEA members that the Retreat included a presentation and discussion with legislative leaders regarding performance funding.

### **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

#### **Technical Program and Curriculum Committee**

Amended Program Alignment

Member Vietti recognized Senior Director Johnson to present the amended program alignment proposal.

- Automotive Technology (47.0604)

In June 2012 the national accrediting agency, the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF), revised accreditation policies and standards for all Automotive Technology programs. Senior Director Johnson explained in response to the changes by NATEF, institutions submitted requests to review and potentially amend the alignment for this program which was originally aligned in 2010.

KBOR staff and automotive technology program faculty from 16 of the 20 institutions offering this program met on March 10, 2014 to begin the realignment process for all Automotive Technology programs at community and technical colleges. As a result, the program alignment map designating four exit points – Certificate A, Certificate B, Certificate C and AAS – was created. The curriculum committee aligned 12 credit hours of common courses, designated credit hours for each exit point and set a maximum of 68 credit hours for the AAS degree, including all pre-requisites.

The meeting minutes and proposed alignment map were sent to participating faculty for a review/comment period from March 25, 2014 to April 4, 2014. The proposed alignment map, reflecting final recommendations from the curriculum committee, was issued for presidential comment from April 16, 2014 through May 5, 2014.

Seward County Community College submitted a request for clarification regarding certifications. KBOR staff contacted Trish Serratone, President of NATEF, and Chuck Roberts, Vice President of NATEF and ASE, to discuss the certifications. Serratone and Roberts confirmed that the student credentials are ASE certifications.

An alert was sent to all colleges, as well as Serratone and Roberts, communicating the findings and support from NATEF. As of July 8, 2014 all comments received were in support of the revised alignment.

The TEA Technical Program and Curriculum Committee recommended adoption of the proposed amended Automotive Technology program alignment and, for state funding purposes, all programs be delivered within the 68 credit hour maximum.

**Motion:** Member Estes moved to approve the amended Automotive Technology alignment and map as presented. Following a second by Member Howell, the motion passed unanimously.

#### Status Report on Tier/Non-Tier Course Review

Member Vietti prefaced the discussion regarding the tier/non-tier course status review with a reminder that at the May 29, 2014 TEA meeting the TEA approved continuation of the process to review and update tiered and non-tiered course designations based on the existing framework and to make changes as needed based on the tier/non-tier criteria. Member Vietti suggested, before a course-by-course review is implemented, that the review process be established and formalized. She requested TEA members share their initial responses to the process before sharing the process with the institutions for comment.

Senior Director Johnson explained that the KBOR cost model, established in SB 143 as a funding formula for tiered technical education state aid and non-tiered course credit hour grant, is currently used to determine the gaps in funding on both the institutional and system level. The KBOR cost model is also used to determine the distribution amount to the institutions for the Excel in Career Technical Education Initiative (SB 155).

The cost model is based at the individual course level and each course is given an established course rate. In the development of the cost model, a framework based on statutory (K.S.A. 71-1802) definitions was used to categorize each course as “tier” or “non-tier” through a series of questions or descriptors related to the content, design and intent or purpose of each course. Like courses are then grouped together in buckets for consistency across the system and to reflect cost differentials of courses.

Senior Director Johnson shared a process chart developed for applying the established course designation framework to the tiered courses within the course inventory system. The process starts with the statutory requirement that a tiered course must be a credit-bearing course included in the course sequence of a KBOR approved technical program. The next step in the process is a review of course enrollments throughout the system and determination of the percentage of students with technical program majors enrolled in the course. The course then funnels through the remaining criteria and descriptors based on this percentage.

Discussion followed the presentation and TEA members shared their initial responses to the proposed process. Member Vietti suggested that “Gen. Ed.” be changed to bold font in the “Transfers as a Gen. Ed. to university” box.

Senior Director Johnson presented the following proposed plan of action and timeline.

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| August 21         | Process chart for applying the established course designation framework and timeline presented to TEA for direction and feedback                                |
| August 25         | Process chart sent to all institutions for additional input and official comment period   |
| September         | TEA will review process chart, any comments received from the field and recommend adoption and/or modifications   |
| September/October | Adopted process will be applied to tiered courses in the system and reviewed by all institutions and PMC for consensus on movement from tier to non-tier status |
| December/January  | TEA will review and make recommendations for any courses for which consensus was not reached  |

**Motion:** Member Burk moved to adopt the proposed plan of action and timeline for consideration of the process criteria to designate tiered and non-tiered course status. Jay Scott seconded the motion.

Further discussion followed the motion. Eric Burks, president of North Central Kansas Technical College, suggested the addition of “on the institutional level” wording to the “Can be used to fulfill a Gen. Ed. requirement” box. Out of concern for how changes in course status may affect individual institutional gap amounts and to help in determining a realistic two-year budget recommendation, Vice President Flanders suggested running a preliminary test report after tiered courses with less than one-third student enrollment in technical majors are changed to non-tier status. Member Vietti suggested providing two scenarios: (1) a report showing all courses with the current course status, and (2) a preliminary test report as suggested. Senior Director Johnson explained that once the process is approved and in place, staff will work with the KBOR Data, Resource and Planning (DRP) team to provide a test report for budgeting purposes. Vice President Flanders noted that staff would not recommend changing course status for the courses included in the Excel in Career Technical Education Initiative (SB 155) for the 2014-2015 academic year.

**Amended Motion:** The motion by Member Burk was amended as follows: to adopt the proposed plan of action and timeline for consideration of the process criteria to designate tiered and non-tiered course status and implementation of the process that is approved will not include the courses for which high school students are enrolled as part of the Excel in Career Technical Education Initiative (SB 155) for the 2014-2015 academic year. Following a second by Jay Scott, the amended motion passed unanimously.

### **Budget and Finance Committee Report**

#### 2014 Results for Excel in Technical Education (SB 155)

Senior Director Johnson provided a one-page report update on the success of the Excel in Career Technical Education initiative (SB 155) and noted significant growth in enrollment during FY 2014.

In 2014, secondary student enrollment increased 112 percent (8,208 headcount) and college technical education credit hours increased 116 percent (60,799 credit hours) over the 2012 baseline year. There was an increase of 34.5 percent in the 2014 secondary student enrollment and an increase of 38 percent in technical education credit hours for 2014 over 2013. Secondary students earned 1,419 industry-recognized credentials leading to a high demand occupation prior to graduation in 2014 which is an increase of 159 percent over the 548 credentials earned in the baseline year. Secondary student certifications have been

earned in five major areas: health-73 percent, construction-9 percent, manufacturing-7 percent, automotive-6 percent, and agriculture-4 percent. There were 160 school districts that participated in the initiative in 2014, an increase of 48 percent over the previous year.

The funding appropriation for 2014, \$19.5 million (\$18 million for tuition and \$1.5 million for credential incentives), is a 47 percent increase over the 2013 funding appropriation and the actual 2014 disbursement of \$18,388,974 is a 45 percent increase over the 2013 disbursement. The distribution to the institutions for secondary student tuition in 2014 totaled \$16,969,784. A chart showing the FY 2014 distribution to the institutions was provided. Three institutions received \$2 million or more and nine institutions received over \$500,000. Incentives to the school districts in 2014 ranged from \$1,000 to \$78,000 with 12 school districts receiving at least \$25,000 or more.

Jay Scott reported KSDE is implementing a new reporting system for this initiative and will have the ability to include additional demographics such as gender, income/poverty status, etc. Vice President Flanders informed TEA members that the success of the initiative has been shared with many audiences and has received national recognition as “Top Ten Innovations to Watch” from the Brookings Institute.

#### Status Report on Review of Extraordinary Costs

Senior Director Johnson explained the KBOR cost model, developed in 2008 in response to questions regarding what it should cost to deliver a technical education course, is used to calculate costs at the course level and recognizes the cost differential in delivering technical education courses. The model uses four main cost components - Instructor + Instructional Support + Institutional Support + Extraordinary Costs – to calculate a total per credit hour course composite rate. Current extraordinary cost rates are \$0 (no extraordinary cost), \$27, \$55 and \$110 (Level C-highest extraordinary cost) per credit hour. These costs were originally captured in 2008 and, since a national data source for extraordinary costs does not exist, have been adjusted using a Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) percentage increase over the past four years.

In January 2014 the PMC began discussions regarding the extraordinary program costs and recommended a workgroup be established to review current cost levels and program assignments. When the workgroup met in April 2014, the group identified a sampling of 25 programs for which additional cost information should be collected and developed a proposed timeline to collect necessary financial information, calculate costs using current data and report results. At the May 29, 2014 TEA meeting, members discussed issues related to budget recommendations to KBOR for FY 2016 and FY 2017 and recommended continuation of the process to validate and update extraordinary costs based on actual costs submitted by the institutions in spring 2014.

In July 2014, KBOR staff compiled data for the selected programs submitted by the institutions and performed calculations to determine individual and system average annual per-tier course credit hour costs for each program. The following methodology was used to calculate annual program costs for institutions submitting five years of data: total 5-year reported expenditures/annualized tiered credit hours/average number of concentrators/5 years. The institutional amounts were averaged to arrive at a system cost per program and the system programs costs then compared to existing extraordinary cost levels to determine the appropriate placement of the program within the existing rate structure. When less than five full years of data was not available significant variances were found and therefore not considered reliable for documenting affected program rate adjustments. Seven of the reviewed programs did not have five years of cost and enrollment data available. These seven programs are currently funded at the \$0 extraordinary rate and staff recommended this rate remain intact until sufficient data is obtained. Variances between the current extraordinary cost rates applied to the selected programs and the calculated system cost were found in at least 15 of the remaining 18 program areas reviewed. Staff recommends adjusting the extraordinary cost rates applied to these 15 programs for the current year.

Staff recommends reviewing approximately one-fourth of the remaining active programs (for which five years of cost and enrollment data is available) annually, maintaining the current four rates and practice of applying HEPI percentages and adjusting reviewed programs between the four current rates until all

programs have been through the process. After compiling data for all program areas, new extraordinary cost rates could be established based on the results of the system cost rate calculation. Senior Director Johnson explained completing the collection, reporting and calculation of data for the current evaluation will take a significant amount of resources at the institutional level and for KBOR staff and estimates new extraordinary cost rates for all rate levels would not be in place until the 2018 academic year.

Following the presentation TEA members discussed new programs and, if sufficient data is available, to assign one of the four current rates to any new programs added as an entry level ceiling rate. An entry-level cost rate would help incentivize new programs that meet business demand.

**Motion:** Member Howell moved that KBOR staff investigate an extraordinary cost rate for new programs at an entry level ceiling until sufficient data is available to calculate an extraordinary cost rate and bring a rate recommendation back to the TEA for consideration. Member Vietti seconded the motion. Following further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.

**Motion:** Member Kearney moved to adjust the extraordinary cost rates for programs within the four current rates as they are reviewed and are found to have variances. Following a second by Member Burke, the motion passed.

#### KBOR Budget Request

Director Oliver provided and reviewed the document used by the Board of Regents to approve distributions to the two-year institutions for four state appropriations, Allocations/Distributions of Certain FY 2015 Appropriations among Two-Year Institutions. The Vocational Education Capital Outlay Aid Distribution (Table 1) is distributed to institutions according to statute based on need and the condition of existing facilities and equipment. Since 2005, the distribution method recognizes need by (1) providing each school a base distribution of \$100,000, recognizing the significant need for each school regardless of size and (2) distributing the remaining funds based on enrollment production. The total funding to the institutions for capital outlay for FY 2015 is \$2,619,311, the same total amount appropriated for FY 2014. The Technology Grant Distribution (Table 2) for community colleges and Washburn University is for the purchase of instructional technology equipment. Each institution received the same amount in FY 2015 as distributed in FY 2014, \$398,475. The Tiered Technical Education State Aid Distribution (Table 3) is based on the KBOR cost model that calculates costs at a course level and recognizes the differential in delivering technical education courses. The final appropriation bill total is \$58,300,961, the same as FY 2014, with each institution receiving the amount received the previous year in accordance with the proviso. The law provides that each community and technical college is eligible for a grant from the State General Fund (SGF) distribution from the Non-Tiered Credit Hour Grant (Table 4) in an amount determined by the Board of Regents through dialogue with the institution presidents. This grant appropriation was held flat in FY 2015 for a distribution the same as FY 2014, \$76,496,329.

Director Oliver reviewed the development process for the Board of Regents unified appropriation request. The process begins in the spring followed by a budget work session in July and further discussion at the Regent's retreat in August. The Board gives formal approval of the unified appropriation request for programs administered by KBOR including funding requests for the community and technical colleges at the Board meeting in September and submits the request to the Governor's Division of the Budget by October 1, which is the statutory deadline. After the Governor's Division of Budget recommendations are made in November there is opportunity to appeal these recommendations and submit adjustments to the Board of Regents unified budget request submitted in September. The Governor submits his budget recommendation in January and the Legislature begins their budget process.

Director Oliver outlined the Summary List of Ideas for the FY 2016 and FY 2017 Higher Education Unified Appropriation Request, the working document of Board preferences from the Board retreat held August 12-14, 2014. The document was provided in the TEA meeting documents. The FY 2016 – FY 2017 budget recommendations as discussed at the Board retreat include complete funding for the Tuition for Technical Education Fund (Excel in Career Technical Education initiative - SB 155) and funds needed to close the gap in the tiered technical education formula for which a request amount is yet to be determined. The funding

appropriation for the Tuition for Technical Education Fund (Excel in Career Technical Education initiative - SB 155) in FY 2015 is \$22.25 million. Based on the summer and fall enrollment information submitted in October 2014, a supplemental request for additional funds can be made to the Governor in January 2015 as needed. For FY 2015, an additional \$8 million to close the gap in the tiered technical education formula was requested but not recommended by the Governor. An appropriation of \$58.3 million was received for the current year with a current gap of about \$31 million. Vice President Flanders suggested, with a two-year budget request and possible manageable gap amount, that the amount to fill the gap be divided between the two budget years, one-half for FY 2016 and the remaining half for FY 2017. He further explained that a clearer picture of the gap will be available with the tier/non-tier status review of courses and the courses with less than one-third student enrollment in technical majors are moved to non-tier status.

**Motion:** Member Kearney moved to approve the KBOR FY 2016 – FY 2017 budget request to continue support for fully funding for the Tuition for Technical Education Fund (Excel in Career Technical Education initiative - SB 155) and to request additional funds needed to close the gap in the tiered technical education formula over the two-year budget cycle, half for FY 2016 and the remaining half for FY 2017. Following a second by Member Vietti, the motion passed unanimously.

## **OPEN MATTERS**

### **Strategic Priorities**

Vice President Flanders presented the draft Strategic Priorities document for 2014-2015 and reviewed suggested revisions as well as the current vision and mission for the TEA. The draft document was provided in the TEA meeting booklet. Discussion following the review of suggested revisions included development of a year-end report summary highlighting accomplishments of the TEA and related legislation, if any, during the year. TEA members also discussed the list of industry clusters for additional emphasis under “Aligning Education with Business and Industry” in regard to agriculture and rural, urban and community opportunity development. Vice President Flanders encouraged TEA members to contact him with questions regarding the Strategic Priorities and to provide additional feedback. The draft 2014-2015 Strategic Priorities will be updated and presented to the TEA at the conference call meeting on September 25, 2014.

### **Federal Funding**

#### **Title I/WIOA**

Director Thompson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) which was signed on July 22, 2014 and is the first legislative action regarding the public workforce system in 15 years. Work groups will begin meeting on a national and state level to provide guidance to the U.S. Department of Labor on implementation of the new regulations. Highlights of the bill include: alignment of strategic planning and performance indicators for core programs (Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth; Adult Education and Literacy; Wagner-Peyser Act employment services and Vocational Rehabilitation Act programs under Title I); streamlined membership of state and local workforce boards; promotion of work based training, industry-recognized credentials, improved employer engagement and career pathways with sector partnerships; restored ability for Governors to set aside 15 percent of state WIOA funding for innovative workforce investment activities; and collaboration with employers for local/regional hiring needs with training programs responsive to needs. Director Thompson explained notices of proposed rulemaking for implementation must be published by January 18, 2015 with WIOA implementation effective July 1, 2015.

#### **Adult Education**

Dr. Susan Fish, Director of Adult Education, provided a FY 2013 report of programs funded under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Title II, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act. These programs are targeted toward the 280,000 adult population in Kansas with no high school diploma and/or limited English proficiency. Of the 9,560 adults who participated in the program in FY 2013, 49 percent transitioned to postsecondary education or training, which is the highest percent in the nation. Director Fish summarized the newly reauthorized WIOA Title II: Adult Education and Literacy legislation and identified the core programs. WIOA amendments to the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) include: changing the name from AEFLA to Adult Education and Literacy Act (AELA); identifying the primary purpose of adult education as the preparation for success in postsecondary education and the workforce rather than just

basic skills; aligning adult education content standards with state-adopted K-12 standards; emphasizing integrated education and training activities, career pathways and employer collaboration; and establishing rigorous evaluation requirements for programs. Seventy percent of adult education funds in Kansas are currently distributed by performance and coincide with the WIOA common measures of employment, secondary and postsecondary credentials and measureable skill gains toward employment or a credential. Additional WIOA common measures include median income and effectiveness in serving employers. Director Fish explained states are required to submit a unified state plan for all core programs or a combined state plan including core programs and other federally funded workforce development programs to the Secretary of Labor by March 3, 2016.

#### Carl D. Perkins

Director Beene provided a presentation on the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. The original act was signed in 1984 and has been reauthorized twice since. The purpose of the legislation is to be responsive to the economy and workforce needs, integrate academics and technical standards for secondary and postsecondary and continually improve career and technical programs. It is anticipated the future reauthorization of Perkins will focus on outcomes and accountability rather than compliance. Director Beene reported the Kansas FY 2015 allocation for Carl D. Perkins funding is \$10,245,408 with 50 percent going to KSDE for secondary education. KBOR is the flow-through reporting agency for the funds. The majority of the postsecondary funds, \$3,918,869, goes to the institutions for program improvement, \$947,699 is for state leadership and reserve to support state programs including the outcome metrics project and five percent, \$256,135, is for state administration. Of the 26 community and technical colleges, 25 submit plans for Perkins funding each year which must address all nine mandatory activities. Institutional Perkins allocations are based on institutional Federal PELL Grant recipient counts and range from \$48,000 to \$395,000 in Kansas. To be Perkins eligible a program must include 55 percent tiered technical credit hours, have an average of eight concentrators and must be aligned.

Director Beene reported Kansas has received almost \$1 million for the Rigorous Programs of Study Grant with the focus on manufacturing production in Kansas. The grant has been funded for four years and a fifth year extension has been requested. Six postsecondary and four secondary institutions have participated in the grant to support professional development and curriculum integration for manufacturing production.

#### Workforce AID

Director Thompson presented a PowerPoint update on Workforce Aligned with Industry Demand (Workforce AID). Workforce AID is a joint pilot project led by Commerce in partnership with KBOR to align workforce training and education with industry demand and provide a skilled, credentialed workforce for Kansas companies. The initiative is an employer-driven system approach to address the skills gap, linking education to jobs, using a single point of contact, the Director of Workforce Training and Education, a shared KBOR-Commerce position. Companies design the training programs needed and the community and technical colleges competitively bid for the opportunity to deliver the training that results in skilled employees with industry-credentials. Employers connect with participants throughout the process providing opportunities to meet employers, learn about job expectations and employment opportunities as well as job shadowing experience after safety training is completed. Participants who successfully complete the training are guaranteed an interview with the employer or receive preferred interview status. Private staffing agencies now assist with recruiting participants in addition to the **KANSASWORKS** partners. The involvement of all partnerships, both public and private, at multiple levels is the key to the success of the Workforce AID initiative.

Five projects in the initiative have been completed. The first project in Topeka which provided training for certified production technicians (CPT) for area food manufacturers had an enrollment of 39 participants with 21 credentials earned and 19 employed. Three projects in Coffeyville, two in welding and one in machining, had 33 enrolled with 31 credentials earned and 12 so far have secured employment. Training for industry machine mechanics was provided to 10 incumbent workers from meat packing companies in Dodge City as well as two participants outside the companies with all 12 participants earning a credential. The fiscal impact on the Kansas economy for these first projects in Topeka, Coffeyville and Dodge City is \$1,253,761 for the period of February to August 2014.

Two projects currently in progress are located in Hays and Topeka. North Central Kansas Technical College in partnership with Hutchinson Community College is delivering machining training for 12 weeks on a part time basis to allow those currently employed to participate. A second project providing CPT training is in progress in Topeka with approximately 30 enrolled for area food manufacturers as well as Goodyear, PTMW and Innovia.

Manhattan Area Technical College was recently awarded the bid to deliver machining training in partnership with Washburn Institute of Technology which will begin late September or early October 2014. A welding project is scheduled to begin August 25, 2014 in Chanute with Neosho County Community College. Enrollment for the Neosho project is at capacity with 15 participants.

Four new projects are scheduled to begin within the next three months. A pre-hire model partnership has been established with Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita for sheet metal assembly. This pilot project is also a financial partnership between Spirit AeroSystems, Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas and the Department of Commerce. Also in Wichita, a construction pilot is underway with about ten employers identified for participation. The request for proposal for the construction pilot is scheduled to be released in the near future. Preparations are also in progress for a machining pilot in Independence and a welding pilot in Olathe.

Director Thompson explained that following the first five projects in Topeka, Coffeyville and Dodge City which were funded with one-time funds from Commerce, companies have been asked and have contributed financially to several of the pilot projects.

#### **Additional Comments**

Member Burke suggested changing the conference call meeting scheduled for April 23, 2015 to a face-to-face meeting noting the April TEA conference call meeting for the previous year was changed due to the timing of budget matters. TEA members were in consensus to change the April 23, 2015 meeting to a face-to-face meeting at the KBOR offices.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Akin called for adjournment. The next TEA meeting is a conference call scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Deej Cowling, Executive Assistant