

MINUTES



Special Executive Standing Committee

Monday, November 24, 2025

10:30 am

Mid-Region Council of Governments
809 Copper Ave. NW, Albuquerque, N M
Zoom

Call to Order – 10:36 am – Vaadra Chavez, Chair-Elect

Member

- **Karla Causey**, Treasurer, Finance Standing Committee Chair
- **Vaadra Chavez**, Chair-Elect, Operations Standing Committee Chair
- **Gabriel Esparza**, Youth Standing Committee Chair
- **Justin Hilliard** - Bernalillo County Representative
- NP - Antoinette Holmes**, Disability Standing Committee Chair
 - **Honorable Gregg Hull**, WCCNM Chief Elected Official
- NP - Kristopher Johnson**, Sandoval County Representative
 - **John Mierzwa** – Past Chair
- NP - Debbie Ortiz**-, Torrance County Representative
- NP - Stacy Sacco** – Chair (Connection Issues)
 - **Susan Yasenka** – Valencia County Representative

• <i>In-Person</i>	○ <i>Virtual</i>	<i>NP – Not Present</i>
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Approval of Monday, November 24, 2025 Agenda – by Vaadra Chavez

Motion: John Mierzwa
Second: Gregg Hull
No Discussion
Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call

	Yes In- Person/Virtual	No In- Person/Virtual	Abstain In- Person/Virtual
Karla Causey	V		
Vaadra Chavez	V		
Gabriel Esparza	V		
Justin Hilliard	V		
Antoinette Holmes	NP		
Gregg Hull	V		

Kristopher Johnson	NP		
John Mierzwa	V		
Debbie Ortiz	NP		
Stacy Sacco	NP		
Susan Yasenka	V		

ACTION ITEMS

Tab 1	<p>Approval of General Program Policy NO. GP-107, Change 3 - Requirements and Eligibility for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Program (Revisions)</p> <p>By: Diana Molina, Program Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Molina presented policy GP-107, Change 3 Requirements and Eligibility for WIOA Adult Dislocated Worker Program (Revisions). ▪ She stated this policy provides clear guidance to our providers on how to determine eligibility for the program. ▪ The local boards must have proof of eligibility for this policy, including how documentation is used. ▪ The main change is verifying New Mexico residency. This will ensure the limited resources that we have through WIOA support NM residents, in turn strengthening our regional workforce. ▪ She noted that at the end of the policy, there is a list of required documentation for eligibility that includes what could be used as proof. <p>Motion: Susan Yasenka Second: Karla Causey No Discussion Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Yes In- Person/Virtual</th> <th style="text-align: center;">No In- Person/Virtual</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Abstain In- Person/Virtual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Karla Causey</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vaadra Chavez</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gabriel Esparza</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Justin Hilliard</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antoinette Holmes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NP</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gregg Hull</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kristopher Johnson</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NP</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Mierzwa</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes In- Person/Virtual	No In- Person/Virtual	Abstain In- Person/Virtual	Karla Causey	V			Vaadra Chavez	V			Gabriel Esparza	V			Justin Hilliard	V			Antoinette Holmes	NP			Gregg Hull	V			Kristopher Johnson	NP			John Mierzwa	V		
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John Mierzwa	V																																				

Debbie Ortiz	NP		
Stacy Sacco	NP		
Susan Yasenka	V		

Tab 2

Approval of Operational Policy NO. OP – 435, Change 4 - Work Experience — Internship Policy — Adult, Dislocated Worker & Youth

By: Diana Molina, Program Manager

- Ms. Molina presented policy OP-435 Change 4, Work Experience- Internship-Adult, Dislocated Worker & Youth.
- This change defines internships as structured, time-limited learning experiences, paid or unpaid, with wages paid by WCCNM.
- It adds an Internship Worksite Survey to confirm employers are appropriate host sites.
- Clarifies requirements for both employers and participants and sets internship wages using current labor market data.

Questions & Comments

- After discussion it was recommended that the internship require the employer to have a minimum of three full time employees instead of five.

Motion: Mayor Gregg Hull made a motion to amend the policy from five full-time employees to three full-time employees

Second: John Mierzwa

No Discussion

Action: Passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

	Yes In- Person/Virtual	No In- Person/Virtual	Abstain In- Person/Virtual
Karla Causey	V		
Vaadra Chavez	V		
Gabriel Esparza	V		
Justin Hilliard	V		
Antoinette Holmes	NP		
Gregg Hull	V		
Kristopher Johnson	NP		
John Mierzwa	V		
Debbie Ortiz	NP		
Stacy Sacco	NP		
Susan Yasenka	V		

PUBLIC COMMENT/ADJOURNMENT

Public Comments – None
Adjournment – 10:57 am

Next Meeting: Executive Standing Committee, January 26, 2026 at 1:30pm

*A more detailed account of the meeting and discussions are available for review at the MRCOG
offices at:
809 Copper NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102*

Approved at the XXXX

Stacy Sacco, WCCNM Chair-Elect

ATTEST:

Secretary

“Equal Opportunity Program”