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DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
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NEVADA STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL SIMILAR PROGRAMS
MEETING MINUTES – March 7, 2024

Nevada State Apprenticeship Council (NSAC) members present: Chairman Archie Walden, Vice-Chairman Jeremy Newman, Ryan Bellows, Madison Burnett, Mike Kennedy, Mandi Wilkins, Craig Statucki.

Also present: Toni Giddens

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Walden called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

2. Roll Call and Quorum.

Per direction from Chairman Walden, State Apprenticeship Director Giddens took a roll call and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

3. Verification of Public Posting.

Director Giddens affirmed pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Section 241.020, the Nevada Open Meeting Law, that the agenda and notice for the meeting were properly posted.

4. Public Comment.

Chairman Walden called for public comment. Mr. Loveland, representative from Local 525 JATC stated that they had objections to the proposed standards and whether they should provide them now or during agenda item 5. Chairman Walden stated he would like those heard during agenda item 5 and closed the initial public comment period.

5. New Program Standards and Apprenticeship Agreement.

Chair Walden called for a representative of Veterans Stand Together to present their proposed program. Claudia Dzul and John Alvarez of Veterans Stand Together were present to represent the program. Mr. Alvarez provided information on their program standards. Director Giddens informed the Council that Veterans Stand Together have nationally approved standards under the Office of Apprenticeship. Council Member Burnett asked if they would be indenturing apprentices and referring them to various licensed employers for HVAC work, and if this would be new construction. Mr. Alvarez

affirmed that they would be working with various licensed employers to increase exposure. Council Member Kennedy asked about the minimum wage standard meeting state standards. Chair Walden stated he had the same question and asked Mr. Alvarez if this was a construction application or a mechanical one as it would make a difference in the pay rates. Mr. Alvarez stated that this is a mechanical application. Chair Walden asked Director Giddens if there is a different pay scale for non-construction applications. Director Giddens affirmed this. Mr. Alvarez referred to Leo with Southern Nevada Air Conditioning Refrigeration Service Contractors Association (SNARSCA) to provide more information on the employers and confirm that this will be mechanical projects. Leo confirmed that they are all mechanical employers. Chair Walden asked how many apprentices they were planning on training based on the number of employers listed. Mr. Alvarez stated that they would be directly connecting with SNARSCA employers, and based on their needs it will determine the number of apprentices. Council Member Kennedy asked to verify if the apprentices will be working in a warehouse setting and not on a construction site. Leo from SNARSCA confirmed that the Apprentices will be working on the residential platform, including service calls and not on a job site or a construction site. Mr. Kennedy also confirmed that the wage scale falls within the parameter, Director Giddens confirmed this for non-construction wages. Council Member Newman asked to confirm that this would be service work and maintenance only, not performing new installs on new homes and new residential. Mr. Alvarez affirmed this. Hearing no further questions from the council, Chair Walden asked for the representative from Local 525 JATC with their objection.

Bryce Loveland, attorney for the Local 525 Training Center and Crystal Nagel, HVAC Coordinator were present to represent the 525 and present their objection. Mr. Loveland stated that the proposed program did not meet the time and skills requirement as the 525 program and that all the listed instruction in the proposed program were taught at the Local 525 and this the 525 program was more robust, and the hours of training were doubled. He also stated that the proposed program did not provide who the qualified instructors would be. Mr. Loveland also stated that wages were below standards. Crystal Nagel concurred with Mr. Loveland, and that after review of the proposed standards she sees that they do everything that they do, and that they do more. She ended stating they are in opposition to the proposed program.

Chair Walden asked for questions from the Council. Council Member Newman asked if the proposed program reached out to them for apprentices through the Local 525. Mr. Loveland stated that they had not. Council Member Newman asked if they currently had apprentices out of work or were they meeting the demands for the industry. Ms. Nagel stated that they had no apprentices out of work in the HVAC Apprenticeship and that they are meeting the needs of their current contractors. Mr. Newman asked if they were to call the 525 and ask for apprentices, they could provide apprentices to them. Ms. Nagel affirmed this. Chair Walden asked Mr. Loveland and Ms. Nagel if they would be willing to send apprentices to them if they did request them. Ms. Nagel affirmed this. Council Member Burnett asked if this would bring a hardship to their program by displacing apprentices. Mr. Lovejoy stated that they believe so. Mr. Burnett asked if they presently assign apprentices to mechanical contractors. Mr. Loveland and Ms. Nagel affirmed this. Chair Walden called back the representatives from Veterans Stand Together for a rebuttal to the objection. Mr. Alvarez read into the record the programs response to the objections

from Local 525. Chair Walden asked for any questions from the Council. Council Member Newman asked if they had reached out to the 525 to be a part of their apprenticeship. Mr. Alvarez stated that they had not. Council Member Bellows confirmed that the proposed program was willing to make adjustments to raise the starting wage, raise minimum hours to 8500 and provide more information on training piece with CSN. Mr. Alvarez affirmed this but stated that they did not need to increase the journey wage as was previously stated that this is a mechanical program and not construction.

Council Member Wilkins recused herself from this item as she is a trustee on the 525 Apprenticeship Board. Hearing no further questions, Chair Walden presented a motion to approve the proposed standards. Hearing none, Chair Walden asked for a motion to deny the proposed program. Council member Newman motioned, and Council Member Burnett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment.

Chairman Walden called for public comment. Hearing none he closed public comment.

7. Adjournment.

Chairman Walden adjourned the meeting of the Nevada State Apprenticeship Council at 10:05 AM.