ARC Meeting Minutes
Austin, TX
October 29 - 31, 2019

In attendance: Andy Condon (CT), Kevin Doyle (MI), Steve Duthie (MT), Steve Hine (MN), Joe Jaehnke (WI), Nicole Kennedy (NC), Barbara Ledvina (IA), Bill McMahon (MN), Brian Nottingham (SC), John Pearce (OR), Mike Peery (MT), Dana Placzek (CT), Christopher Robison (NV), Amanda Rohrer (MN), Gary Sincick (OR), James Spector-Bishop (MN), Matt Steadman (UT), Mike Sylvester (UT), Al Sylvestre (CT).

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Steve Hine welcomed everyone to Austin. Introductions were made.

Steve Hine

- New contracts have been established with several states
- We are still hopeful that we will be able to use the GSA procurement process for getting the Employer Database in the future. There have been several grant coordinators that have come and gone while we have been working on this project. GSA has requested a statement of work for the project, and Andy Condon has provided that to them. One change would be that we would be dropping the DVD delivery of the database to the states.
- The contract currently between InfoGroup and Connecticut expires on November 30, 2020. The final deliverable under this contract is expected in April of 2020.
- Jim Winters is no longer with InfoGroup. His replacement is Kyle Schimenti.
- Steve Hine announced that he would be stepping down as the LMI director for Minnesota. He will be doing research until his retirement. He plans to stay with the ARC until he retires. Steve will write up a job description to help identify a replacement for him when he retires as head of the ARC.

Amanda Rohrer

- Working on the licensing deliverable to improve it
- Standardizing the OCC coding for comparisons across states.
- Licenses are more comparable
- Need more content in description
- Found additional information Licensing Deliverable – Amanda
- Career OneStop uses licensing data
- See data.widcenter.org/wfinfodb/states/License/ and widcenter.org/support-activities/licenses/
- Steve Hine suggests that we add verbiage regarding licensing to the TEGL

Matt Steadman

- LEWIS training was held in several locations this year. It was well received.
- Documentation was written for projections.

- BLS has not officially sanctioned LEWIS
- Wants to rewrite LEWIS for the cloud which would involve creating an AWS account. Permissions would be needed from BLS/ETA. Cost of contractor for this project is double expectations, so more money would be needed from the ARC for the project (Additional $150,00; bringing the total to $350,000). Cloud service could be used as long as FedRamp certified.
- Discussion was held on additional training, and who the training should be targeted towards.

Gary Sincick

- Discussion on the development of an API that will be available to DBAs on the Widcenter.org
- Two resources that Gary has found helpful are: *Building APIs You Won't Hate* by Phil Sturgeon, and *Design of Web APIs* by Arnaud Lauret
- Documentation on the work of the API committee has been placed on Basecamp – including rules and naming conventions
- API primary functions: data access by key fields, lookup table access for datasets, time period available endpoints, and year boundary requests.
- Next steps include: OR implementation; volunteers to test; review of requirements/specifications; web data connectors to Tableau; and another API meeting.

James Bishop-Spector and Bill McMahon

A presentation was given on using analytics using the National Labor Exchange (NLX) Job Bank.

Group broke out into subcommittees. Several people from Policy joined the Education/Training group as additional assistance had been requested.

Wednesday, October 30, 2019

A discussion was held on changes of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) which occur approximately every 5 years. The question was raised if we need to add area types. Hine and Condon noted that BLS had decided to only implement the 10-year decennial MSAs.

Hine asked how the new MSAs are handled. It was noted that we assign a new set of areatypes.

Sincick talked about MSAs and how they would impact the API. States are not consistent in how data is populated.

Amanda gave an update on the WID Center. Subcommittees meet to discuss issues relevant to their area.

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Don Haughton from ETA called in. He explained that there had been an issues with getting the TEGL out. He noted that the GSA is working on getting a contract established for the Employer Database – that there are just a few more hoops to jump through. Andy Condon offered to send Don the results of the last contract process – specifically the evaluation data.

Steadman gave an overview of LEWIS and the possible re-write of the program to allow it to reside in the cloud. Haughton noted that BLS may be moving to Census, and this may impact relationships with ETA, BLS, and LMI directors.

Placzek, with the Structure Committee, reported that the committee discussed the timing of the release of WID version 3.0. Haughton noted that he wants notice before such a release, and wants to start notifying states and regional offices now that this may be coming down the pike in the future. He wants BLS and BLS contacts to be notified as well.

Sincick reported on the development of the API, and how Oregon will build a test site so that states can try out the API. Discussion was held on how version 3.0 will impact the API.

Ledvina, with the Education and Training, reported plans for holding a training in St. Paul in 2020 for DBAs as well as topics for a newsletter that will come out before the end of the year.

McMahon talked about CareerOneStop and licensing as well as improved searches. Also discussed analysis of NLX data, and how CareerOneStop will focus on WIOA clients.

Following the call with Haughton, discussion was held on a new logo for the data dictionary.

A group picture was taken.

Discussion was held on membership on the ARC. Hine will reach out to several states to gauge interest.

Discussion was held on when/where the next meeting should be held. Looking at March/April 2020 in Bay Area of California or Memphis, TN.

James Spector-Bishop, Nicole Kennedy, Steve Hine, Al Sylvestre, Andy Condon, Amanda Rohrer, Dana Placzek, Matt Steadman, Steve Duthie, Mike Sylvester, Gary Sincick, Bill McMahon, Mike Peery, John Pearce, Barb Ledvina, Christopher Robison, Joe Jaehnke, and Kevin, Doyle.