

STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD GENERAL SESSION
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 16, 2019

GROUP MEMBERS AND ATTENDANCE:

Attendance	Member	Attendance	Member
	Governor Brian Kemp		Joe Yarbrough
√	Chairman Wendell Dallas	√	Karen Viera
Phone	Vice Chairman Ben Copeland		Kellie Brownlow
	Alan Schuetze		Kevin Jackson Jr.
	Ames Barnett		Marcia Dixon
Designee (non-voting)	Avery Niles	Designee (non-voting)	Mark Butler
	Ayanna Howard	√	Mark Wilson
	Bart Gobeil		Matt Arthur
Phone	Brian Anderson	√	Mike Long
√	Buddy Harden	√	Mike Roby
	Cade Joiner		Phil Sutton
√	Cayanna Good	√	Randy Beall
√	Charis Acree	√	Randy Toms
√	Chris Tobiasson	√	Robyn Crittenden
√	Chuck Little	√	Sam Dasher
√	Dell Keith	Phone	Shawn Ryan
	Eric Hughes		Shan Cooper
Phone	Evelyn Olenick	√	Stanley Cartwright
√	Frank Ginn	√	Stuart Countess
	Frank "Chunk" Newman	√	Susan Andrews
√	James Wilburn	√	Theresa Fisher
Phone	Jay Cunningham	√	Tom Cook
Phone	Joe McDermott		

Welcome and Opening Remarks

In place of Chairman Dallas, Karen Viera called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

Welcome

Dr. Lee Brinkley Brian welcomed everyone to Roosevelt Warm Springs. She discussed the history of the campus, including its relation to FDR and their mission to help people with disabilities.

Meeting Agenda and Meeting Minutes

Chairman Wendell Dallas called for a motion to approve the May 16, 2019 meeting agenda. Robyn Crittenden motioned, Karen Viera seconded. The agenda approved unanimously. Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the February 21, 2019 meeting minutes. Theresa Fisher motioned, James Wilburn seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

SWDB Committees

Chairwoman Karen Viera gave an update on the Adult and Dislocated Worker Committee. She stated that Keith Dixon will present during the meeting. She also stated Carol Cofer's presentation during the Adult and Dislocated Worker Committee call regarding the use of mobile labs for the manufacturing sector strategy. She then turned the floor over to Britney Singer to discuss the Action Items.

Britney Singer, Programs Manager, discussed updates to the Basic Deficient Definition Policy. She stated that there were slight language revisions to add "computing" and "solving problems".

Ms. Singer then brought forward the Follow-Up Policy and its lack of requirement for the Local Areas to log follow up services and activities for Adult and Dislocated Worker files. She proposed adding language that makes this more explicit that Local Areas log these activities.

Next, Ms. Singer reviewed the Transitional Jobs Policy and discussed how the policy lacks any significant mention of transitional jobs and how local areas can use them. She proposed revisions that would include helping individuals with barriers to employment gain immediate employment. Reimbursement would allow for up to 100% of wages paid as an incentive for participating companies. This revision would not require the company to hire the employee full time after the fact.

Kristin Laarhoven then brought forward the Rapid Response Policy. She stated that the policy requires a cleanup ensure additional flexibility with contractors and service provision.

Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the proposed policy. Sam Dasher motioned, Mike Long seconded. The policy approved unanimously

Dr. Susan Andrews gave an update on the Youth Committee. She stated that the Youth Committee call was successful and highlighted WorkSource Cobb's challenges with out of school youth. Dr. Andrews mentioned the connection that was established between Margaret Cawood and WorkSource Cobb. Next, Cherie Olivis' trip to Philadelphia was mentioned for its involvement with opportunity youth. Dr. Andrews then turned the floor over to Britney Singer.

Ms. Singer then briefly brought forward the Basic Skills Deficient Definition again.

Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the proposed policy. Karen Viera motioned, Mark Wilson seconded. The policy approved unanimously.

Steven Wilson gave an update on the Performance and Accountability Committee in place of Chairman Brian Anderson. He stated that the preliminary numbers for the Q3 Report were finalized and that PY18 is yielding positive results. Mr. Wilson then invited the board to bring forward any numbers that they would like to hear about in the future. He went on to say that monitoring had been completed and that there had been eight local areas with open corrective action plans that should be closed out by June. He then turned the floor over to Jason Mann.

Jason Mann proposed a revision to the Eligible Training Provider Policy regarding WIOA conflicts of interest. He stated that due to TCSG's involvement with the training process, that this can be considered a conflict of interest. Mr. Mann stated that this policy revision would address this issue by placing the State Workforce Development Board in place of the Office of Workforce Development for the appeals process of the eligible training provider. Therefore, the State Board will now act as the decision maker.

A question was asked regarding whether the entire board or only a committee within the board would be placed as the decision makers. Mr. Mann stated that it would be the Performance and Accountability Committee. Another question was asked regarding the time frame of appeals and whether or not they would follow the board's meeting schedule. Mr. Mann stated that a training provider will have 30 days to make an appeal and an additional 30 days to pursue a second level appeal.

Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the proposed policy. Susan Andrews motioned, Chuck Little seconded. The policy approved unanimously.

Chairman Dallas then took time to discuss the Points of Accountability. He stated that he talked with individuals in Oklahoma about the focus of performance and Accountability. He stated that Chairman Brian Anderson is open for suggestions from the committee.

In Mayor Ames Barnett's absence, Dr. Serena Walker gave an update on the Financial Oversight Committee. She stated that the committee has received their projected allocation from the US Department of Labor. She then stated that there has been a slight decrease in all three areas and that the action items are aimed at combatting this. There were no disallowable costs, major grievances, or mismanagements of money at the local level. Dr. Walker stated that some contracts and policies needed to be updated to reflect WIOA instead of WIA. She then turned the floor over to Kristin Laarhoven.

Mrs. Laarhoven began by stating that when the economy is doing well, less money is given out by the government. As a result, Georgia has been prospering economically and has received less grant money. For Adult and Youth, there was a 10% cut in local areas, while Dislocated had a 6% cut.

She then explained the ability to store 25% in the Dislocated Worker funding to carry out statewide mandatory functions under the Rapid Response Reserve. Mrs. Laarhoven proposed to lower the allotment from 25% down to 10%. This will increase LWDA allotments and make up for a portion of the cuts.

Mrs. Laarhoven then moved on to Recapture/Reallocation. She stated that by the end of the first year, local areas must spend or obligate at least 80% of their funding and if they do not then the remainder is subjected to recapture. There is no requirement to recapture, however this complicates the process as the local area is often focused on spending last year's funds into the next year. Local Areas will have the option to review their funds and refuse extra assistance if necessary.

Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the proposed policy. Mike Long motioned, Sam Dasher seconded. The policy approved unanimously.

Business Services in Practice

Daniel Jackson, Jonathan Hardesty, and Leigh Newman gave a presentation on the destruction and rebuilding process of two Superior Products manufacturing plants.

Assistant Commissioner's Report

Assistant Commissioner Joe Dan Banker reported that during the time of debate as to whether Workforce Development would move to the Department of Labor or not, there was a hiring freeze. He went on to state that now that the legislation process is over, the hiring process can continue.

Mr. Banker then discussed the role of sector partnerships in receiving grants for the needs of companies in Georgia. He stated that all of the applicants for those were due the day after the meeting.

Next, he discussed the grant from the Social Security Administration and its status as a successful venture. Mr. Banker then highlighted the training opportunities for the near future, including the WorkSource Georgia Academy.

Veterans Grant Awards

Jamie Jordan gave a presentation on the Veterans Grant that was awarded. It includes the development of workforce development training for veterans and their spouses. The grant allows for flexibility in helping veterans and their families find employment.

Area Spotlight

Keith Dixon, Director of WorkSource Heart of Georgia gave a presentation on WorkSource Heart of Georgia's training programs. Mr. Dixon gave updates on their ITA, OJT, and Youth programs as well as the One-Stop Delivery systems.

Monitoring Report

James Thomas and Diaon Woods gave a presentation on the PY17 Monitoring Summary Report. They discussed the federal requirements for monitoring as well as the process as a whole. The grants administration team emphasized updating policies and contracts from WIA based language to that of WIOA. They stated that the program team restructured their monitoring process in order to spend more time on case file review. Furthermore, the compliance team focused their efforts on testing for their One-Stop MOUs to ensure that LWDA's, LWDB's, CLEO's, and partners comply with the right provisions. Ms. Woods stated that in PY17 there were 21 financial findings, 18 programmatic findings, and 28 compliance findings.

Great Georgia Jobs Presentation

Shemeeka Johnson gave a presentation on various outreach projects to focus on the local areas. Ms. Johnson discussed WorkSource DeKalb's Mobile Career Center as a topic for outreach into the community. She presented her team's video spotlight for WorkSource DeKalb. Next, Ms. Johnson presented a short video of WorkSource Coastal's Youth Services that drive participants to their website. Next, she presented another short video highlighting WorkSource Cobb's workshop series that teaches soft skills such as interview techniques to participants. Lastly, Ms. Johnson discussed the Great Georgia Jobs television series that airs in every Georgia Media Market. The television series currently has 4 episodes and was supported by a social media campaign.

One question was asked as to if the Great Georgia Jobs program was televised on channels that with paid time. Ms. Johnson stated that the channels used were paid programming and strategically placed based on where the participants are.

Another question was asked as to how the social media campaign and television series were advertised to their local audiences. Ms. Johnson said that the social media campaign in certain areas would advertise for the television series in each respective area.

Youth Spotlight

Cherie Olivis gave a presentation on Youth Services. Ms. Olivis began by explaining that eligibility is determined by aspects such as age, school status, and barriers to employment. School status will remain the same for the participant throughout the entire process. She discussed how barriers to employment play the biggest role in determining eligibility. Ms. Olivis stated that LWDA's must provide all 14 of the required elements are provided to the youth. These include labor market info, adult mentoring, work experience, etc. In PY17, 7,885 youth were enrolled in Youth Services programs. Ms. Olivis then went through several success stories involving individuals who participated in Youth Services Programs. She then discussed various initiatives for Youth Services including, expanding apprenticeships.

Athens Tech Spotlight

Stephanie Benson gave a presentation on the employment impact of partnerships. She began by stating the ultimate goal in the end is to find good jobs for their students. In Northeast Georgia, there are 11 counties being serviced with Adult Education and over 41,000 residents do not have a high school diploma. Mrs. Benson explained that Athens Tech submitted an RFA with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission in 2016 for a dual enrollment program. She went on to describe their program named Bridge to Success. This program is aimed at 18-24 year olds and focuses on GED attainment and college credit at the same time, while including 14 WIOA program elements. Mrs. Benson then discussed the methods of which Athens Tech used to advertise this program such as social media, press releases, and word of mouth. She went on to describe the ManufactuREADY 6 week training program offered by Athens Tech. This program offers 5 crucial certifications in aspects such as forklift operation, CPR, first aid, etc.

Other Business

In place of Chairman Dallas, Karen Viera reminded SWDB members to have their headshots taken after lunch. Additionally, he announced that there would be an optional tour of the GVRA Warm Springs Roosevelt Academy at 1:00 PM.

Adjourn Meeting

Karen Viera thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM