

STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD GENERAL SESSION
Meeting Minutes
Friday~~Thursday~~, February 18, 2021
Virtual Platform - Zoom

GROUP MEMBERS AND ATTENDANCE:

Attendance	Member	Attendance	Member
	Governor Brian Kemp		Joe Yarbrough
√	Chairman Wendell Dallas		Karen Viera
	Alan Schuetze	√	Kellie Brownlow
√	Ames Barnett		Kevin Jackson Jr.
	Bart Gobeil	√	Marcia Dixon
√	Cayanna Good		Mark Butler
√	Chris Tobiasson		Mike Long
	Chris Wells	√	Mike Roby
√	Chuck Little	√	Oren Hall "Buddy" Harden
√	Dell Keith	√	Phil Sutton
	Downing Barber	√	Randy Beall
	Eric Hughes	√	Randy Toms
	Evelyn Olenick	√	Robyn Crittenden
	Frank Ginn	√	Sam Dasher
√	Frank "Chunk" Newman	√	Stuart Countess
√	Greg Dozier	√	Susan Andrews
√	James Wilburn	√	Theresa Fisher
√	Jay Cunningham	√	Tom Cook
√	Jerald Mitchell	√	Tyrone Olier

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chairman Wendell Dallas called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) had a quorum. Chairman Dallas announced the following staff changes:

- Karen Kirchler has been appointed as the Interim Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Workforce Development.
- Renee Robinson (Grants Specialist) submitted her resignation in December. Kenneth Slade will replace her starting March 1st. Brittany Bullock submitted her resignation as the Business Services Manager and DeeDee Doeckel has moved over from the OWD Apprenticeship team to replace Brittany. The apprenticeship team is working to backfill DeeDee's previous role.

- Ben Lanier submitted his resignation as the Youth Services Lead. Rossany Rios is currently overseeing his previous responsibilities.

Welcome

Chairman Wendell Dallas welcomed everyone to the February 18, 2021, State Workforce Development Board meeting. The meeting was conducted using the Zoom virtual meeting platform.

Meeting Agenda and Meeting Minutes

Chairman Wendell Dallas called for a motion to approve the February 18, 2021 agenda, Randy Beall motioned and Ames Barnett seconded. The meeting's agenda was approved. Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the November 20, 2020 meeting minutes. Susan Andrews motioned, Randy Beall seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

SWDB Committees

DeeDee Doeckel provided the Adult and Dislocated Worker Committee update. ~~The Adult & Dislocated Worker Committee had a quorum.~~ The Adult & Dislocated Worker Committee did not have a quorum. Mrs. Doeckel stated that the committee provided updates on their working conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. She gave an overview of Karen Viera, Dr. Cayanna Good and Jerald Mitchell's statements.

Jamie Jordan provided a summary on the 3.4.1.2 On-the-Job (OJT) policy, explaining that the current policy mandates employers must maintain OJT contracts for 6 years but the new change would remove that mandate and require the records to be maintained as per the record retention policy (section 2.2.18). Mr. Jordan also explained that the changes to policy 4.5.2 Storage of Confidential Information will provide clarity in regards to the collection of medical data. Mr. Jordan announced that medical documentation will not need to be collected unless necessary as self-attestation will suffice.

Chairman Dallas called for a motion to approve the 3.4.1.2 OJT and 4.5.2 Storage of Confidential Information policies. Ames Barnett motioned, Susan Andrews seconded. The policies were approved unanimously.

Susan Andrews provided the Youth Committee update. The Youth Committee did have a quorum. Dr. Andrews announced that Brett Lacy, Director of WorkSource Fulton, shared highlights on the Virtual Youth Programs that the five Metro Atlanta Workforce Development Boards. The Metro Atlanta Workforce Development Board has partnered with organizations like Atlanta Career Rise, to offer a curriculum surrounding virtual panels and virtual job shadowing opportunities to be completed over 4 to 5 weeks. Students are paid a stipend. Additionally, the students are required to complete outside work that helps to fulfill the requirements to get that stipend.

Diaon Woods provided the Performance and Accountability Committee update. The Performance and Accountability Committee did not hold a meeting due to unforeseen

circumstances. Ms. Woods shared with the committee that there are only six LWDA's left to review this monitoring season. She also stated that the Compliance team has conducted the following training's through the WorkSource Academy: Subrecipient Monitoring (in conjunction with the Programs and Grants team), LWDB Requirements and Best Practices, and later this month there will a Back to Basics session on Equal Opportunity Requirements. These were topics highly requested by the local staff and were pre-recorded with an open live Q & A.

Ames Barnett provided the Financial Oversight Committee update. The Financial Oversight Committee did have a quorum. Mr. Barnett explained that the Financial Oversight Committee heard from LWDA 13 and LWDA 5. Both LWDA's provided an overview of their efforts to adjust their programming due to their budget reductions. Kristin Laarhoven provided an overview on the waiver of recapture option (80% local fund spend requirement) for PY20/FY21 funds. Mrs. Laarhoven explained that allowing local areas flexibility with first-year funds will enable them to prioritize the spending of second-year funds (and avoid ultimate recapture by the state, as OWD will still hold all local areas accountable to fully expend second-year funds). The pandemic has had an impact on the number of participants served statewide, and this waiver will assist in mitigating the result of a decrease in program delivery.

There were no questions asked.

National Dislocated Worker Grant Update

Jamie Jordan provided a brief update on the National Dislocated Worker Grant. He stated the following:

- Current participants in disaster-relief temporary jobs: 113
- Current participants in training services: 288
- Current participants enrolled in both: 16
- Total participants being served by the grant: 417

Mr. Jordan also announced that OWD is working with the Local Workforce Development Area's to overcome their current challenges. OWD submitted a grant modification to allow vaccine-related jobs to be counted.

There were no questions asked.

Defense Community Economic Development Grant

Kimberly Morris, Veterans Service Lead for OWD, provided a brief presentation on the Defense Community Economic Development grant. Ms. Morris stated that the "Military Community Grant is designed to enhance the workforce development support provided to military personnel and/or their spouses at local military installations." She also provided examples of some of the grant success stories from Savannah Technical College Commercial Truck Driving Program, the Augusta Technical College Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone, and Albany Technical College Technical Certificates of Credit (TCC) and/or continuing education courses.

No questions were asked.

Economic Impacts of COVID-19 Crisis Presentation

Jamie Jordan provided a presentation on the Economic Impact of the COVID-19 Crisis. Mr. Jordan began the presentation by stating that the majority of information provided in his presentation was national data and not specific to the state of Georgia. He explained that there was an unprecedented rise in unemployment due to the pandemic. As of January 2021, 10.1 million Americans remained unemployed; 20.4 million were still receiving UI benefits. During this time last year, there were only 2.1 million. The economy initially lost 22 million jobs and has only regained about half. Mr. Jordan also stated, "Recent labor reports show recovery is decelerating and seems to be plateauing." He explained that Moody's Analytics suggests that it could take until early 2024 until 22 million jobs lost are restored. He finished his presentation by listing the top 10 occupational forecasts which included: software developers, registered nurses, construction managers, electricians, and elementary school teachers.

National Dislocated Worker Grant – Cobb County Presentation

Sonya Grant, President/CEO WorkSource Cobb, LWDA 4, provided an overview of how the local area intends to use its funding. She began by explaining that WorkSource Cobb has developed strong partnerships with the Cobb Consortium, GA Department of Labor, and local employers. The partnership has created a recovery plan which is broken down into two phases. The first phase would provide humanitarian employment assistance to 50 dislocated workers and the second would service 100 dislocated workers with various resources as well as 30+ employers with their talent recruitment and hiring needs.

She also briefly discussed Cobb's partnership with the Marietta City Schools district. She concluded her presentation by listing the current challenges to achieving their goals.

No questions were asked.

Adjourn Meeting

Chairman Dallas thanked everyone for their attendance. No questions were asked.

[*February 18, 2021 meeting minutes were amended as requested during the May 20, 2021 SWDB meeting.](#)