

**East Central Georgia Consortium
Workforce Investment Board
Tuesday, January 27, 2015 @ 5:30 PM**

Meeting Minutes

WIB Attendees

LaTunya Goodwin, Chairperson
Joe Gore – Lloyd Horden
Ginger Carrington
Lauri Tuten – Dale Arnold
Morris Beard
Janie Cravens
Al Lamar
Jesse Mitchell
Wanda Jordan
Lisa Stich
Ruby James
Mike Boardman
Andy Calhoun

ECGC Staff

Leon Fields, Director
Mary Stein
Karen Abron
Sondra Randall
Wanda Stewart
Vivian Stewart
Pecola Wiley
Carrie Lokey
Suzette Hobbs

Guests

David Cravens – McDonald's
Alvin Banks – Augusta Warrior Project

Welcome/Opening

LaTunya Goodwin, Chairperson welcomed everyone.

Invocation

Leon Fields, Director

Call To Order

Chairperson Goodwin called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Review/Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Goodwin presented the minutes from October 28, 2014, for approval. Al Lamar made a motion to approve the minutes and Jesse Mitchell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried.

Employment Training Programs:

Carrie Lokey provided a quarterly and year to date report for the board members to review and asked if there were any questions that needed to be addressed.

One Stop Report

Karen Abron provided a quarterly report for the board members to review and asked if there were any questions that needed to be addressed. Mrs. Abron also presented an occupational skills yearly report for 2014. This report showed the total enrollees (47) and sector strategies breakdown (Medical – 33, Construction – 2, IT – 3 & Miscellaneous – 8).

Education Department Report

Vivian Stewart provided the following update on the WorkKeys assessments and the Learning Center:

- The Medical Bridge Program continues to be a success and we are actively seeking RNs.
- We continue to administer the Work Keys & TABE assessment.

Youth Council Report

Pecola Wiley stated that the Youth Council minutes are available to anyone who wants a copy. Mrs. Wiley further explained that we currently have nine Youth Service Providers, and 101 active participants. The number of participants has increased for the first quarter. One of our greatest concerns is the transition between WIA and WIOA. Out of school youth is the main focus for WIOA. Currently under WIA we are serving more in school youth. This will be our biggest challenge.

First Quarter Performance Rate:

- Placement in Employment or Education – Exceeding
- Attainment of Degree of Certificate – Exceeding
- Literacy & Numeracy Gains – Not Meeting

We are still awaiting a final decision from GOWD regarding corrective action for a recent finding, during a monitoring review.

Ginger Carrington stated that the Youth Council voted to present Jefferson County Community SHIPS for Youth with a letter, regarding the cancellation of their MOU with Jefferson County Board of Commissioners. Therefore Jefferson SHIPS doesn't have the financial stability that is required for this program. The letter will inform them that they are in violation of their contract. The policy states that we have to give them fifteen days for corrective action, which means they have to find additional funding or financial support. If Jefferson SHIPS is unable to find funding, the Youth Council has decided to end their contract. Mrs. Carrington asked the board to support this decision. Al Lamar asked what caused the Board of Commissioners to no longer give funding to Jefferson SHIPS. Mrs. Carrington was unsure of the reason for this decision. She further explained that at the beginning of the year Jefferson SHIPS had received a loan, in the amount of \$8000. In Sept. they requested another loan and it was denied because the previous loan had not been paid back. The Board of Commissioners forgave the loan but withdrew the MOU. Mr. Lamar asked what was done with the \$8000. Mary Stein explained that this funding had nothing to do with WIA, therefore we are unsure what the money was used for. Chairperson Goodwin asked if the remaining funds would go to the other Youth Providers. Mrs. Stein stated that it would go back into youth funding.

Chairperson Goodwin asked for a motion. Jesse Mitchell made a motion to support the Youth Council in presenting Jefferson SHIPS with a letter, giving them fifteen days to establish financial stability. Wanda Jordan seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried.

Financial Report

Sondra Randall provided the board with a budget for PY2014. Ms. Randall stated that we have funding available to serve adults and dislocated workers. She asked if there were any questions regarding the budget.

Chairperson Goodwin asked Mr. Alvin Banks if he would like to share any information. Mr. Banks stated that he is available to assist any Veteran.

Comments/Updates

Leon Fields, Director stated that WIOA is the new thing. As we transition from WIA to WIOA there are a number of challenges. One change with WIOA is that we have to prepare a RFP for the One Stop Operator. We are asking the Executive Committee to create a RFP that addresses all of our services.

House Bill 393 discusses term limits which moves the board chair. The Directors have asked Deputy Commissioner Ben Hames to review the term limits, but there are certain steps that have to be taken.

Mr. Fields further explained that GOWD has given us a performance award and DOL is scheduled to move in on March 13th.

New Business

Chairperson Goodwin gave the names of each member of the Executive Committee:

Julie Langham
Ginger Carrington
Morris Beard
Adela Kelley
Janie Craven
Lisa Stich
Lauri Tuten

There was a decision made for the Executive Committee to meet on Tuesday afternoons and the dates will be given at a later time.

Carrie Lokey is asking the board to approve a change to the WEX policy. Andy Calhoun made a motion to approve WEX participants to work 320 hours or to the end of a pay week after the total hours are completed but not to exceed sixteen weeks. Jesse Mitchell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried.

Old Business

The IWT request was denied by GOWD because it has to be a lay-off aversion.

Other Discussion

Joe Gore explained that the license fee for ACT has increased and at this time Oconee Fall Line Technical College has suspended WorkKeys testing. The Technical College is asking for the board to allow them to test under ECGC's realm, in order to keep an affordable testing fee. Leon Fields stated that pending further information this would have to be an electronic vote.

Karen Abron informed the board that Deborah Eason, owner of New Beginnings Medical Services, LLC, wants to be added to the EPL. She instructs a Medical Coding/Billing class. The duration of this class is twelve weeks at a cost of \$2800 per individual. The students will receive a State/National Certification License. Her business started in Sept. 2013. Since then seventeen students were enrolled (15 completed & 11 employed). We are planning to invite Ms. Eason to our next WIB meeting.

Adjournment

Chairperson Goodwin adjourned the meeting.