

**WORKSOURCE EAST CENTRAL GEORGIA
LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL BOARD (LEO) MEETING (Virtual)
Teams Virtual Meeting +1 470-645-0273 – 692580993#
THURSDAY – January 27,2022**

Meeting Minutes

Board Attendee

Walker Norman, Chairman
Allen Haywood
Charlie Newton
Chris McCorkle
John Graham
John Thigpen
Kenneth Usry
Lori Boyen
Sam Moore
Sistie Hudson
Vivian Stewart
Roxanne Whitaker
Warren Pittman
Willie Blockum

WorkSource ECG Staff

La Tunya Goodwin
Sondra Randall
Mary Stein
Alvin Banks
Randy Barrs

Invocation

Ken Usry

Call to Order

Chairman, Walker Norman called the LEO meeting to order 14 members in attendance (Quorum)

Roll Call

Mary Stein

Review/Approval of Minutes

Chairman Norman presented the minutes of the July 29, 2021 LEO meeting and the combined LEO – LWDB Executive Committee meeting October 28, 2021. Lori Boyen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Sam Moore seconded the motion. Vivian Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

Old Business

No old business presented

New Business

LWD Board resignations

We have had two board members resign.

1. Lakeyra Scott with Job Core – Mrs. Scott can no longer attend meetings after 5pm.
2. Bob Kepshire with University Hospital/Thomson -- Mr. Kepshire is no longer employed with University Hospital/Thomson.

Notice of New Youth Standing Committee Members

Executive Director Goodwin presented names of two new members of the Youth Standing Committee. Sue Richards previously employed with ECGC and Sam Ward employed with the Boys and Girls Club has joined this committee. Director Goodwin stated that there was no need for a vote.

Approval of Recommended LWDB Nominees

There are two new member recommendations for the LWD Board. Veronica O'Neal with Legacy Link and Nicholas Wood with University Hospital/Thomson. Chairman Norman called for a motion to accept the two new recommendations for the LWD Board. Charlie Newton made a motion to accept the recommendations to the LWD Board and Roxanne Whitaker seconded. Vivian Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

LWDB Reports:

Adult & DW Report October – December: We currently have 85 active participants enrolled in the program and 71 in follow-up. Follow-up typically means that the participant has been exited from active status in the program and is working and earning wages.

Youth Report July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021: There are currently 113 participants enrolled in the Youth Program. These participants are being served by Youth Contracts that are in our nine county service area.

HDCI Report: Randy Barrs and Carrie Edwards collectively work with this program. One of the objectives is to work with seniors in high school and connecting them with employers that will provide them employment opportunities while attending school. Most of these job opportunities are with manufacturing companies. The main objective here is to get these students working early so there will be not gap between the manufacturing companies and ready made talent when these students graduate. Also with the HDCI Grant we are working with the Georgia Cyber Security Center enrolling transitional soldiers into the cyber grant.

NDWG Grant Report: This grant has allowed some of you to employ COVID Mitigation Specialist in your county. The grant is due to expire the end of March, however the State has applied for an extension. No word on the extension as of this date.

One-Stop Operator: We are partnering with the Social Security Administration in efforts of trying to help those who need assistance and guidance with applying for benefits. We also have a program called Ticket To Work. This program helps those who are disabled and receiving Social Security (SSI or SSDI) who want to get back into the workforce. Adrienne Williams and Ruby Reid are currently working with this program. Jearldine Rush who was previously employed with the SCSEP program has been hired part time with our One-Stop department.

Finance Report: The budget was presented to the LEO Board. Director Goodwin explained that the state will be recapturing funds this year on the programs that have not expended or obligated eighty percent of their grants by June 30, 2022.

Director Reports:

Community Development Award:

The Basic Shielded Metal Arc Welder Program and Industrial Fundamentals was approved by our LWD Board on October 19,2021. Director Goodwin reported that eight participants were funded for the program and six have already graduated from the program and have found jobs. We are diligently working to get the other two participants placed. We are so appreciative that to each of you for approving this program. Because of the success of this program WorkSource East Central Georgia received a 2022 Community Development Award.

Customer Satisfaction Survey Results:

ECGC had a random customer satisfaction survey. Our team received glowing awards for the work that is being done in our organization.

Financial Impact Study:

This study was conducted by the state which resulted in great returns going back to our service areas.

Financial Audit:

As always thanks to our finance team we had a great audit.

House Bill 107:

House Bill 107 which deals with the ability to meet virtually is still out there but has not gotten to the Senate Floor. It is great to be so flexible and have hybrid meetings. However, if this bill does not pass, we will no longer be allowed to have hybrid meetings. Please talk with your legislators and ask them to get behind this bill and see that it gets passed.

ECGC State Monitoring 1/26th thru 2/24th

We are now in the process our state monitoring which is very tedious. We will have the results for you in the next LEO meeting.

Area 7 State Plan:

Governor Kemp has included in his budget to transfer all employment services from the DOL umbrella to TCSG – Office of Workforce Development. Chairman Norman said he thought that was done several years ago. Director Goodwin explained that Workforce Development is now under TCSG but not Employment Services which is currently under DOL.

Director Goodwin stated that when roll was called you probably heard a name called that you are familiar with. Vivian Stewart, Assistant Director of ECGC is now the Mayor of the City of Crawfordville.

Chairman Norman introduced Ernie Doss to the committee. Mr. Doss is Lincoln County's new finance director.

Adjournment

Chairman Norman called for a motion to adjourn if there was no further business. Kenneth Usry made the motion to adjourn, and Allen Haywood seconded. Motion carried.

Comments

Chairman Norman ask if anyone had any questions for Mr. Williams. Vivian commented that we would like to encourage the counties to take advantage of this grant. It can fulfill a need and hopefully get some people off of unemployment and back into full time employment. Mr. Horace Daniel commented that he would like to thank everyone at East Central Georgia Consortium for their hard work. Chairman Norman said I think we all concur with that.

Adjournment

Chairman Norman ask for motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Ken Usry and seconded by Charlie Newton. Motion carried.