

**Northwest Georgia Workforce Development Board
 Youth Committee Meeting—Noon
 Wednesday, May 11, 2016, Noon
 Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Calhoun, GA**

Minutes

Council Members Present:	Council Members Absent:	Guests & Staff:
Ben Arp Robb Gilstrap Curtis Kingsley Lisa Townsend Gregory Wooten	Gail Brown Erica Campbell Starr Dees Beth Kelley Dianne Scoggins Eric Waters	Cassie Blevins Karla Conetta Gwen Dellinger Kathryn Durham Randy Gayler Susan Gentry Tammy Helbing Lindsey Herdin Lesia Lambert Terri Morgan Anthony Rucker Judy Siddall Vince Stalling Emily Waters

In absence of the Chairman Beth Kelley, Curtis Kingsley, Vice-Chairman of the Youth Committee, called the meeting to order. Mr. Kingsley asked that those present introduce themselves.

Mr. Kingsley informed those present that the Minutes from the March 9, 2016 had been mailed for review (attached). Ben Arp made the motion to approve. Gregory Wooten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Anthony Rucker provided a fiscal update. He stated that a formal report would be given at the WDB meeting on May 18, 2016. Mr. Kingsley asked about projections for next year. Mr. Rucker stated that the grant for the upcoming year was approximately \$2.1 million and carryover funds were approximately \$1 million.

Karla Conetta informed those present that a Youth performance report was included for review (attached).

Lesia Lambert informed those present that a Conflict of Interest form had been attached and asked those who had not signed it to please sign and return to staff.

Gwen Dellinger informed those present that our Youth Committee was made up of members of education, juvenile justice, and business representatives. She stated that perhaps the Youth Committee membership would need more out-of-school representation since the funding under WIOA is more geared towards out-of-school initiatives and programs. Additional members can be added during the year as long as the number in the Bylaws (20) is not exceeded.

Ms. Dellinger stated that the slate of Officers would need to be approved for the upcoming year. Since only one Officer was present, Ms. Dellinger suggested that the Youth Committee meet prior to the July 20, 2016 WDB meeting. The Youth Committee members agreed to change the meeting date of the July meeting to July 20, 2016, at 11:30 a.m. in order to meet with the WDB for the annual meeting and to take care of business.

Ms. Dellinger then informed those present that the Plan for the area would need to be submitted by August 31, 2016. The WDB will need to approve this plan at the July 20, 2016 meeting in order for the public comment period of 30 days to be met. She reminded those present that a survey had been sent to the Youth Committee members to inventory resources for youth. Lesia Lambert stated that staff would send the inventory again for those who had not yet completed it. WIOA requires that 20% of youth funds be spent on work strategies. Staff is working on adding this component. Another issue that needs to be addressed in career pathways in the out-of-school youth population. She asked that the Youth Committee assist staff in completing the area plan and stated that information would be sent regarding these issues and more.

Ms. Dellinger informed those present that staff was working on a list of resources for individuals with disabilities as well as a similar list of resources for youth. Any input is appreciated.

Ms. Lambert stated the Work Experience Program enables participants to explore career options and gain exposure to the working world and its requirements. A Work Experience employment enhances the employability of individuals through the development of good work habits and basic work skills. The current minimum wage (\$7.25 per hour) is the wage participants currently earn in the work experience component. She stated that it has become increasingly hard to place youth, especially older youth, in employment at the current minimum wage. Many youth leave the work experience prior to successful completion and seek employment at a higher wage. Under WIOA Regulations 20% of program funds allocated must be spent in a work experience component and 75% of funds must be expended for services for out-of-school youth.

Ms. Lambert stated that it was staff's recommendation to increase the wage for the work experience program from \$7.25 per hour to a minimum of \$8.00 per hour. She clarified that this will not be applicable to work experiences where the employer only pays other employees the minimum wage or less than \$8.00. Mr. Kingsley asked if funds were available for this increase in

wage. Ms. Lambert stated that there were sufficient funds available. Ben Arp made the motion to approve this recommendation. Gregory Wooten seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lambert informed the Committee that a request had been made from a provider to provide incentives. She stated that our area has not provided incentives in the past. She stated that staff was going to research other area's policies and directives and the final regulations when available and make a recommendation in the future.

Ms. Lambert presented the "Youth Services Policies and Procedures" (attached) for approval by the Youth Committee. Gregory Wooten made the motion that this policy be approved. Ben Arp seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Dellinger asked those present to look at handout provided (attached) regarding information for the "Go Build High Demand Career Scholarships."

Sam Turner, Baldrige Success Strategies, LLC, gave a presentation to the group regarding continuous improvement.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.