

**Council of Chief Elected Officials  
of Northwest Georgia**

Thursday, January 27, 2021, 10:00 a.m.  
via GoTo Meeting

Minutes

**Attendance**

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**CCEOs Present or Represented, County:**

Al Pallone, Bartow  
Steve Taylor, Bartow  
Blake Elsberry, Chattooga  
Harry Harvey, Chattooga  
Ted Rumley, Dade  
Donna Whitener, Fannin  
Wright Bagby, Floyd  
Charlie Paris, Gilmer  
Becky Hood, Gordon (proxy, Bud Owens)  
Jimmy Palmer, Gordon  
Ronnie Ridley, Haralson (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
K.W. Gong, Murray  
Greg Hogan, Murray  
David Carmichael, Paulding  
James Kelly, Paulding  
Shannon Whitfield, Walker  
Ken Gowin, Whitfield (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Jevin Jenson, Whitfield

**CCEOs Not Present or Represented, County**

Steven Henry, Catoosa  
Nick Millwood, Catoosa  
Alex Case, Dade  
Jamie Hensley, Fannin  
Craig McDaniel, Floyd  
Al Hoyle, Gilmer  
Pete Bridges, Haralson\*  
Steve Lawrence, Pickens  
Kirk Stancil, Pickens  
Andrew Carter, Polk  
Hal Floyd, Polk  
Teddy Harris, Walker

**Staff and Guests:**

Karla Conetta  
Susan Gentry  
Lesia Lambert  
Terri Morgan  
Anthony Rucker  
Phyllis Walker

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**I. Welcome . . . . . Ted Rumley**

Ted Rumley, Chairman, called the meeting of the Council of Chief Elected Officials to order. It was established that a quorum was present.

**II. Consent Agenda . . . . . Ted Rumley**

Mr. Rumley informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the November 4, 2021 Meeting and a performance report, attached) had been e-mailed and were also attached for review. Steve Taylor made the motion to accept the Minutes. Wright Bagby seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. Workforce Development Board Membership ..... Lesia Lambert**

Lesia Lambert informed the Council that, Blair Elrod, Executive Director, Polk County Chamber of Commerce, had nominated Greg Webb, Plant Manager, Gildan. Steve Taylor made the motion to approve this nomination. David Carmichael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Fiscal Report ..... Anthony Rucker**

Anthony Rucker presented the "Northwest Georgia Regional Commission WIOA Grant Financial Report, Grant Inception to 12/31/2020" (attached). This report encompasses the Adult, Dislocated Worker, COVID/Disaster, HDCl, and Youth programs (attached). Al Pallone made the motion that the report be approved. Steve Taylor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. Georgia Northwestern Technical College Request ..... Phyllis Walker**

Phyllis Walker presented a request from "Georgia Northwestern Technical College Program/Proposal Request," attached. She stated that Georgia Northwestern Technical College requested a second class for the Floyd County Prisoner Project at a cost of \$6,400 per student. The total cost of training for this second cohort will be \$76,800 for 12 students. According to GNTC, all 12 students in the first cohort earned both AWS Weld Test Certifications. Seven out of the 12 students in the first cohort completed the 135 Hour Shielded Metal Arc & Gas Metal Arc Welding Program and obtained employment. Six (6) out of the 12 students found employment in the welding field. The Workforce Development Board approved and recommended CCEO approval for the second cohort at a cost not to exceed \$76,800, contingent upon at least half of the students being released from incarceration within 6-12 months after training completion (with the flexibility to allow for individuals who are releasing in more than 12 months be considered for training if needed to obtain the total number of trainees. David Carmichael made the motion to approve this program. Steven Henry seconded.

**VI. Individual Training Account Policy ..... Lesia Lambert**

Ms. Lambert presented the Individual Training Account Policy (attached). She noted that a change had been made on page one as follows (highlighted on attached copy):

Remove the following: "All grants must be applied towards tuition and fees prior to the use of WIOA funding" and replace with "If it is determined through an analysis of the cost of attendance that the total cost of attending training exceeds the amount available through Hope and WIOA funding, NWGRC allows Pell funds to be utilized by the participant for living expenses and other appropriate personal expenses during the training period. [WIOA sec. 134 (c)(3)(B)]." Al Pallone made the motion to approve this change. Shannon Whitfield seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**VII. COVID & Disaster/Dislocated Worker Update . . . . . Lesia Lambert**

Lesia Lambert provided an update regarding COVID and the Disaster/Dislocated Worker Grant in the Northwest region in Georgia. She stated that a total of 64 individuals are enrolled in the Disaster/Dislocated Worker Grant; 23 in work experience and 41 in training. The individuals enrolled in the work experience component are paid \$12.50 per hour for 40 hours per week for up to 16 weeks (NWGRC pays the FICA, SS, and Workman’s Compensation). The goal is to enroll the remaining 56 individuals by the end of May 2021. The grant ends in March, 2022. She encouraged the Elected Officials to contact her if they are interested in learning more about implementing this grant in their counties.

**Other**

Ms. Lambert informed those present that an Orientation would be held in the near future for new Elected Officials.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.