

**Joint Meeting**  
**Workforce Development Board of Northwest Georgia**  
**and Council of Chief Elected Officials of Northwest Georgia**

Wednesday, November 15, 2023, Noon

Georgia Northwestern Technical College  
Calhoun, Georgia

Minutes

***Attendance-WDB***

**WDB Members Present, County:**

Andy Allen, Chattooga  
Marion Barber, Bartow  
Kate Daggett, Floyd  
Zac Dixon, Floyd  
Rick Gibson, Bartow  
Harry Harvey, Chattooga  
Beth Kelley, Walker  
Randy Long, Pickens  
Elizabeth Scott, Bartow  
Lisa Shaw, Floyd  
Robert Strickland, Gordon  
Carey Tucker, Floyd

**WDB Members Not Present, County:**

Cynthia Brown, Paulding  
Selena Galmon, Bartow  
Barry Gentry, Murray  
Bethany Gilmer, Floyd  
Jim Henry, Chattooga  
Mitchell Morgan, Gilmer  
Mike Murphy, Bartow  
Cam Parker, Bartow  
Matthew Salmon, Polk  
Chris Thomas, Polk  
Gregg Webb, Bartow\*

**Youth Committee Members Present:**

Beth Kelley, Walker

**NWGRC Staff:**

Boyd Austin  
Carolyn Barrett  
Linda Busby  
Karla Conetta  
Christy Elrod  
Susan Gentry  
Lesia Lambert  
Jamy McDonald  
Terri Morgan  
Anthony Rucker  
Phyllis Walker

**Guests/Visitors:**

Michele Abdul-Qawiy  
Larry Brooks  
Sheila Derry  
Brandi Dover  
Lisa Ives  
Mitchell Jackson  
Lynn Long  
Michael Mainzer  
Michael O'Neal III  
Anne Rapp  
Claude Ricketts  
Courtney Rouse  
Jessica Simmerson  
Vicki Thompson  
Chris Upchurch

*\*resigned*

## **Attendance-CCEO**

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### **CCEOs Present or Represented, County:**

Steve Taylor, Bartow (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Blake Elsberry, Chattooga (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Harry Harvey, Chattooga  
Alex Case, Dade (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Ted Rumley, Dade  
Jamie Hensley, Fannin (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Allison Watters, Floyd  
Al Hoyle, Gilmer (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Charlie Paris, Gilmer (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Jimmy Palmer, Gordon  
Ronnie Ridley, Haralson  
AJ Scott, Haralson  
Greg Hogan, Murray (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
David Carmichael, Paulding (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
James Kelly, Paulding (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Hal Floyd, Polk (proxy, Linda Liles)  
Jessica Payton, Polk (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Teddy Harris, Walker  
Ken Gowin, Whitfield (proxy, Ted Rumley)  
Jevin Jenson, Whitfield

### **CCEOs Not Present or Represented, County**

Al Pallone, Bartow\*  
Larry Black, Catoosa  
Nick Millwood, Catoosa  
Rhonda Haight, Fannin  
Sundai Stevenson, Floyd  
Bud Owens, Gordon  
K. W. Gong, Murray  
Steve Lawrence, Pickens  
Kris Stancil, Pickens  
Shannon Whitfield, Walker

*\*deceased*

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## **I. Welcome ..... Mike Murphy/Ted Rumley**

In the absence of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, Beth Kelley agreed to serve as Chairman. Kate Daggett made the motion to approve Ms. Kelley as the Chairman for the Workforce Development Board. Carey Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Kelley and Ted Rumley, Chairman of the Council of Chief Elected Officials called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. It was established that a quorum was present for the Council of Chief Elected Officials and for the Workforce Development Board. Mr. Rumley indicated that the CCEOs would like to conduct a joint meeting.

## **II. Mike Mainzer, Georgia Power**

Mike Mainzer presented information regarding Georgia Power Research Services in Northwest Georgia (handout attached).

## **III. Consent Agenda**

A. *WDB Approval* . . . . . *Beth Kelley*

Ms. Kelley informed the WDB that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the September 21, 2023 CCEO meeting, a Performance Report, and a Dislocation Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Kate Daggett made the motion for WDB approval of the Consent Agenda. Randy Long seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. *CCEO Approval* . . . . . *Ted Rumley*

Mr. Rumley informed the CCEOs that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the September 21, 2023 CCEO meeting, a Performance Report, and a Dislocation Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. AJ Scott made the motion for CCEO approval of the Consent Agenda. Ronnie Ridley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Executive Committee Report & Recommendations (WDB only)**. . . . . **Beth Kelley**

Ms. Kelley reminded the WDB that there was not a quorum at the September 13, 2023 meeting. Therefore, the Executive Committee met and took the following actions (for WDB only, handout attached):

- A. The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved the **Consent Agenda** (containing Minutes from the July 19, 2023 Meeting, Performance Report, and Dislocation Report, attached). The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Carey Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved a **funds transfer request** moving \$1,000,000 from the Dislocated Worker grant to the Adult grant, retroactive to August 1, 2023. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Harry Harvey made the motion for the WDB to approve. Randy Long seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved the **fiscal report**, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Grant/Actual Analysis, WIOA, 8/30/2023. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Randy Long seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Angels Touch CNA School, LLC**, located in Cartersville, Georgia, submitted a request to provide training in our area. The training will provide the basic foundation and skills used by nursing assistants in nursing facilities, home health care settings and hospitals. The focus is on basic human needs, cognitive care and hands on care of patients fulfilling the activities of daily living. Nursing Aide skills are acquired through classroom, lab practice and clinical training at a nursing facility. Angels Touch offers two ways to receive the same type of training. The Blended On-Line training can be completed in 4 weeks with a total of 105 curriculum hours. The total cost of training is \$1,249. The Traditional In-Person training is the other training

program. This program consists of 3 ½ weeks of training and 128 curriculum hours. The total cost of training is \$1,049. She reported that there have been over 300 students enrolled since the school was first started in 2019. Their performance for the past 12 months is as follows:

Median Earnings After Placement \$580.00 (15 Students)  
Average Wage at Placement \$14.00/hr. (50 Students)  
Attainment of Credential 81% (48 Students)  
Completion Rate 100% (59 students)  
Employment Rate 83% (50 Students)  
Training Related Employment 98% (60 Students)

The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved adding Angels Touch CNA School and both programs to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and to approve training at a cost not to exceed \$1,249 for the Blended On-Line Training and approval of the Traditional In-Person program training at a cost not to exceed \$1,049. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Elizabeth Scott made the motion for the WDB to approve. Carey Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. **Legacy Holistic Health Institute** focuses on the health and well-being of clients. Their Health Coaching training is designed to improve client outcomes and sustainable well-being. They also concentrate on the holistic interconnectedness of physical, psychological, social spiritual, and environmental well-being and integrate aspects of alternative complementary and conventional medicine to alleviate illness and promote, maintain, and optimize wellness.

Health and Wellness coaches partner with clients looking to enhance their well-being through self-directed lasting changes. There are a vast number of professionals who are trained in becoming a Health and Wellness Coach. The school is accredited by the Georgia Nonpublic Post Secondary Education Commission and has been in operation since 2018. This program leads to a national board certification as a Certified Health Coach. Those who graduate successfully can work directly with the healthcare provider or contracted staff as a solution to their patients. The school is listed on the State's Eligible Training Provider list but has not trained any WIOA students. However, they have trained 203 students in the last 12 months. Their median earnings after placement and average at placement is \$28.85 an hour. The total cost of training is \$5,447. The total weeks of training is 26 weeks. Important facts about Legacy Holistic Health Institute:

- o Attainment of Post-Secondary Credential Rate (187 Students) 92%
- o Completion Rate (187 Students) 92%
- o Employment Rate (162 Students) 80%
- o Training-Related Employment (162 Students) 80%

The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved adding the Health Coach Training program at a cost not to exceed \$5,447 and five (5) participant slots/enrollments. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Elizabeth Scott seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- F. **Greater Wealth Works** is a 24-week business development program that combines business development training, economic literacy training, and entrepreneurial leadership training. The program includes formal classroom training, group coaching, and one and one technical assistance. Participants also learn the necessary skills

and discipline to perform essential business functions such as writing a business plan, financial planning, and doing market research. To qualify for the class, participants must either be in pre-start of a business or have completed the introductory class, Exploring Entrepreneurship, with a defined business concept.

Staff requested additional information from Greater Wealth Works to provide data on the school's program performance, but none was given. Cobb Works, a local workforce area, was contacted to inquire about Greater Wealth Works since they had worked with them in the past. We were told that it had been several years since they worked with Greater Wealth. They had not had any enrollments with Greater Wealth in 4 years. They are listed on the Eligible Training Provider List.

The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved staff's recommendation not to contract with Greater Wealth Works due to them not providing us with the information we requested.. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Randy Long seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- G. **The Dental Assistant School of Atlanta** requested an increase in tuition of \$300.. This request is due to the rising cost of dental material. This request will increase the tuition cost from \$3,500 to \$3,800. They are on the Eligible Training Provider List. Since January 2021 they have trained thirty (30) of our participants as dental assistants. Twenty-six (26) of the thirty (30) are employed with earnings from \$16 to \$22 an hour. The Executive Committee and the CCEO approved the request for a \$300 increase in tuition cost for the Dental Assistant School of Atlanta from \$3,500 to \$3,800. The Executive Committee recommended WDB approval. Kate Daggett asked if this increase is per participant. Ms. Kelley responded that it is an increase per participant in training. Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Carey Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. Fiscal Report ..... Anthony Rucker**

Anthony Rucker presented a Fiscal Report (attached) encompassing the Adult, Dislocated Worker, QUEST, Rapid Response, and Youth programs..

- A. *WDB Approval ..... Beth Kelley*

Kate Daggett made the motion for the WDB to approve. Carey Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. *CCEO Approval ..... Ted Rumley*

AJ Scott made the motion for CCEO approval. Ronnie Ridley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Rapid Response Policy ..... Lesia Lambert**

Lesia Lambert presented a revised Rapid Response Policy for approval. She stated that this policy has been updated to reflect the TCSG Rapid Response Policy (attached).

A. *WDB Approval* . . . . . *Beth Kelley*

Randy Long made the motion for the WDB to approve. Kate Daggett seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. *CCEO Approval* . . . . . *Ted Rumley*

Teddy Harris made the motion for the CCEO to approve. Linda Liles seconded. Motion carried unanimously

**VIII. Rapid Response/Dislocation Update. . . . . Lesia Lambert**

Ms. Lambert informed those present that staff had participated in Rapid Response events at Summit Hill in Rome and Unique Fabrication in LaFayette by providing information during employer and employee services related to WIOA and other partner services. These companies both closed, impacting 80 individuals at Summit Hill and 200 at Unique Fabrication.

**IX. One-Stop Update. . . . . Michele Abdul-Qawiy**

Michele Abdul-Qawiy updated those present on activities taking place through the One-Stop System in Northwest Georgia.

**Other**

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.