

**Joint Annual Workforce Development Board of Northwest
Georgia, Council of Chief Elected Officials of Northwest
Georgia, and Youth Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, July 20, 2022, Noon
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Calhoun, Georgia

Minutes

Attendance-WDB

WDB Members Present, County:

Marion Barber, Bartow
Cam Parker, Bartow
Harry Harvey, Chattooga
Jim Henry, Chattooga
Lisa Shaw, Floyd
Linda McEntire, Gordon
Robert Strickland, Gordon
Randy Long, Pickens
Gregg Webb, Polk

NWGRC Staff:

Boyd Austin
Christy Elrod
Susan Gentry
Tammy Helbing
Lesia Lambert
Jamy McDonald
Terri Morgan
Anthony Rucker
Phyllis Walker

WDB Members Not Present, County:

Selena Galmon, Bartow
Mike Murphy, Bartow
Elizabeth Scott, Bartow
Carey Tucker, Floyd
Mitchell Morgan, Gilmer
Cathy Smith, Gordon*
Angela Berch, Haralson
Eli Falls, Murray
Nicole Green, Polk
Anthony Nash, Polk*
Matthew Salmon, Polk
Beth Kelley, Walker

Guests/Visitors:

Brandi Dover
Michele Abdul-Qawiy
Shelia Derry
Jasmine Irvin
Mitchell Jackson
Courtney Rouse
Vicki Thompson
Barbara Tipton
Julie Turner
Chris Upchurch
Chris Zieler

**resigned*

Youth Committee Members Present:

Traci Ball

Attendance-CCEO

CCEOs Present or Represented, County:

Al Pallone, Bartow
Blake Elsberry, Chattooga
Harry Harvey, Chattooga
Alex Case, Dade (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Ted Rumley, Dade
Rhonda Haight, Fannin (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Jamie Hensley, Fannin (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Charlie Paris, Gilmer
Becky Hood, Gordon (proxy, Bud Owens)
Ronnie Ridley, Haralson
AJ Scott, Haralson
Greg Hogan, Murray (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Kris Stancil, Pickens
Andrew Carter, Polk (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Teddy Harris, Walker
Ken Gowin, Whitfield (proxy, Ted Rumley)

CCEOs Not Present or Represented, County

Steve Taylor, Bartow
Steven Henry, Catoosa
Nick Millwood, Catoosa
Wright Bagby, Floyd
Sundai Stevenson, Floyd
Al Hoyle, Gilmer
Jimmy Palmer, Gordon
K. W. Gong, Murray
David Carmichael, Paulding
James Kelly, Paulding
Steve Lawrence, Pickens
Hal Floyd, Polk
Shannon Whitfield, Walker
Jevin Jenson, Whitfield

I. Welcome Linda McEntire/Ted Rumley

Linda McEntire, Chairman of the Workforce Development Board, 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 but not for the Workforce Development Board or Youth Committee and, therefore, no action could be taken by those entities.

II. Consent Agenda Ted Rumley

Mr. Rumley informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the May 26, 2022 CCEO Meeting, a Performance Report, and a Dislocated Worker Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Ronnie Ridley made the motion that the Consent Agenda be approved by the CCEO. Al Pallone seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Workforce Development Board Membership Ted Rumley

Mr. Rumley informed those present that a nomination had been received from Charlie Flemming, President, Georgia State AFL-CIO, for Ricardo Gibson, Assistant Business Manager, IBEW Local 613. Al Pallone made the motion that the CCEO approve the nomination. Charlie Paris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Fiscal Report Anthony Rucker

Anthony Rucker presented the "Northwest Georgia Regional Commission WIOA Grant Financial Report, Grant Inception to 5/31/22" (attached). This report encompasses the Adult, Dislocated Worker, COVID/Disaster, HDCL, and Youth programs. Al Pallone asked about totals that don't add up to 100%. Mr. Rucker replied that, due to the way funds are obligated that the totals may not equal 100% but that we have not overspent in any category. Al Pallone made the motion that the CCEO accept the report. Bud Owens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations Linda McEntire

Ms. McEntire informed those present that the Executive Committee met to discuss the changes to the Worksource Northwest Georgia Plan Update (list of changes attached; Plan with changes sent via email previously). She noted that the Committee reviewed all changes and made notes of additional grammatical and formatting changes as well as the need to update some charts. The Executive Committee approved the Plan update and recommended approval by the CCEO. Charlie Paris made the motion to approve the Plan update. Ronnie Ridley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Professional Legal Services Recommendation Lesia Lambert

Lesia Lambert stated that the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, WorkSource Northwest Georgia, had solicited for an independent contractor for the provision of providing professional legal consulting services in support of the Workforce Development Program authorized and funded under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). One proposal was received in response to the recent request for the provision of legal services in support of the Workforce Development Programs. Kutak Rock, LLC proposed to provide such legal and consultant services. Kutak Rock offers attorney David Dietrich as the consultant for this agreement. David served as the state of Georgia Compliance Director for seven years and is very familiar with and knowledgeable about WIOA. The proposal submitted was for an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for one year of service. Ms. Lambert stated that the handout (attached and previously emailed) incorrectly stated, "a minimum of \$60,000" which should be "not to exceed \$60,000."

It is staff's recommendation that the CCEO approve the Professional Legal Consultant Proposal submitted by Kutak Rock LLC, in the amount not to exceed \$60,000 for a one year service agreement/contract. Charlie Paris made the motion to approve this staff recommendation. Ronnie Ridley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Youth Committee Officers (WDB only) Linda McEntire

A quorum was not present for WDB action on this item.

VIII. Sector Partnership Grant Lesia Lambert

Lesia Lambert reminded those present that, for the past four years, our area had received a Sector Partnership grant (formerly the High Demand Career Initiative). Staff applied for and received an additional year of grant funding in the amount of \$112,000. This planning grant assists the area's advanced manufacturing and logistics employers in addressing their staffing needs. Al Pallone made the motion to approve this grant. Charlie Paris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Annual Report Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert presented an Annual Report (attached) for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This report provides information regarding WIOA funds expended, numbers served by county, Region 1 program performance, Northwest Georgia Rapid Response Dislocation List, and other activities in Northwest Georgia.

X. COVID-19 Update Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert provided an update regarding COVID-19 activities in the Region. She stated that, as Mr. Rucker reported, our area has been asked to accept additional funding to provide work experience and training activities. This planning grant assists advanced manufacturing and logistics industries in addressing the region's training and staffing needs. Additionally, the grant promotes advanced manufacturing to youth through exposure to career pathways and training in manufacturing.

XI. Disabled Veterans Outreach Program. Jasmine Irvin

Jasmine Irvin, Department of Labor Veteran Services, Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialist, provided information about the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (handout attached).

Other

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.