

Workforce Development Board of Northwest Georgia

Wednesday, January 20, 2021, Noon

Via Goto Meeting

Minutes

Attendance-WDB

WDB Members Present, County:

Lisa Adkisson, Fannin
Nicole Green, Polk
Christie Gribble, Fannin
Celeste Harris, Paulding
Jim Henry, Chattooga
Beth Kelley, Walker
Linda McEntire, Whitfield
Mitchell Morgan, Gilmer
Mike Murphy, Bartow
Anthony Nash, Polk
Cam Parker, Bartow
John Parton, Polk
April Rogers, Bartow
Lisa Shaw, Floyd
Larry Stansell, Chattooga
Carey Tucker, Floyd

Youth Committee Members Present:

Beth Kelley

WDB Members Not Present, County:

Bruce Bowman, Gordon*
Michael Hamilton, Floyd
Bre Johnson, Bartow
Randy Long, Pickens
Lee Tubbs, Catoosa

NWGRC Staff:

Carolyn Barrett
Karla Conetta
Christy Elrod
Susan Gentry
Tammy Helbing
Lesia Lambert
Derrick McDaniel
Terri Morgan
Anthony Rucker
Phyllis Walker

Guests/Visitors:

Megan Conner
Brandi Dover
Mitchell Jackson
Lynn Long
Lindia Moore
Monique Moore
Anne Rapp
Stephanie Scarce
Barbara Tipton
Kyle Wheelless

**resigned*

Attendance-CCEO

CCEOs Present or Represented, County:

Al Pallone, Bartow
Steve Taylor, Bartow
Steven Henry, Catoosa
Blake Elsberry, Chattooga
Harry Harvey, Chattooga
Alex Case, Dade
Ted Rumley, Dade
Donna Whitener, Fannin (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Charlie Paris, Gilmer
Becky Hood, Gordon (proxy, Bud Owens)
Ronnie Ridley, Haralson

CCEOs Not Present or Represented, County

Nick Millwood, Catoosa
Jamie Hensley, Fannin
Wright Bagby, Floyd
Craig McDaniel, Floyd
Al Hoyle, Gilmer
Jimmy Palmer, Gordon
Pete Bridges, Haralson*
K. W. Gong, Murray
Greg Hogan, Murray
Steve Lawrence, Pickens
Kris Stancil, Pickens
Andrew Carter, Polk
Hal Floyd, Polk
David Carmichael, Paulding
James Kelly, Paulding
Teddy Harris, Walker
Shannon Whitfield, Walker
Ken Gowin, Whitfield
Jevin Jenson, Whitfield

**deceased*

I. Welcome Linda McEntire

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 Workforce Development Board but not for the Council of Chief Elected Officials.

II. Consent Agenda Linda McEntire

Ms. McEntire informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the November 4, 2020 WDB Meeting and a Performance Report had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Mitchell Morgan made the motion that the Consent Agenda be approved. Mike Murphy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council of Chief Elected Officials did not have a quorum. No action was taken by the Council of Chief Elected Officials

III. WDB Membership (CCEO Only) Lesia Lambert

The Council of Chief Elected Officials did not have a quorum. No action was taken by the Council of Chief Elected Officials

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, HDCI, and Youth programs (attached). Mitchell Morgan made the motion that the report be approved. Lisa Shaw seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council of Chief Elected Officials did not have a quorum. No action was taken by the Council of Chief Elected Officials

V. Performance and Enrollment Report Karla Conetta

Karla Conetta provided Performance and Enrollment reports to those present. She stated that the numbers were down as a result of the restrictions due to COVID.

VI. Youth Committee Report Beth Kelley

Beth Kelley reported that the January Youth Committee Meeting had been postponed.

VII. Proposal Review Committee Report and Recommendations Linda McEntire

Linda McEntire presented a request from "Georgia Northwestern Technical College Program/Proposal Request," attached. She stated that Georgia Northwestern Technical College has 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. The previous cohort completed its first cohort for the 135 Hour Shielded Metal Arc & Gas Metal Arc Welding Program. According to GNTC, all 12 students earned both AWS Weld Test Certifications. Seven (7) out of the 12 students obtained employment once training concluded in September. Six (6) out of the 12 students found employment in field. The Proposal Review Committee approved and recommends WDB 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. Beth Kelly made the motion to approve this program. Mike Murphy seconded. The motion carried with Lisa Shaw abstaining (due to her employment with Georgia Northwestern Technical College) and without dissenting vote.

The Council of Chief Elected Officials did not have a quorum. No action was taken by the Council of Chief Elected Officials

VIII. COVID & Disaster/Dislocated Worker Grant 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 program: 23 in work experience and 41 in training. The individuals enrolled in the work experience component

are paid \$12 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 individuals and spend the funds by the end of May 2021. She encouraged the Elected Officials to contact her if they are interested in learning about implementing this grant in their counties.

IX. Technical College System of Georgia Sate Monitoring, February 8-12, 2021 Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert informed those present that we would be virtually monitored by the state in February and that updates would be provided to the Board upon completion of that monitoring.

X. Southeastern Employment and Training Association (SETA) Spring Conference (cancelled) Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert informed the Board that the SETA spring conference had been cancelled due to COVID. The fall conference is planned for Biloxi in September. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

XI. Julie Turner, Georgia Department of Labor, “Unemployment Insurance and Other Updates”

Julie Turner was unable to attend the meeting.

Other

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.