

**Workforce Development Board of  
Northwest Georgia Meeting**  
Wednesday, January 18, 2023, Noon  
Georgia Northwestern Technical College  
Calhoun, Georgia

Minutes

**Attendance-WDB**

**WDB Members Present, County:**

Marion Barber, Bartow  
Angela Berch, Haralson  
Selena Galmon, Bartow  
Rick Gibson, Bartow  
Harry Harvey, Chattooga  
Jim Henry, Chattooga  
Beth Kelley, Walker  
Randy Long, Pickens  
Mitchell Morgan, Gilmer  
Mike Murphy, Bartow  
Cam Parker, Bartow  
Matthew Salmon, Polk  
Lisa Shaw, Floyd  
Elizabeth Scott, Bartow  
Robert Strickland, Gordon  
Carey Tucker, Floyd  
Gregg Webb, Polk

**WDB Members Not Present, County:**

Terry Craft, Whitfield  
Eli Falls, Murray  
Nicole Green, Polk \*  
Linda McEntire, Gordon\*

**Youth Committee Members Present:**

Beth Kelley

**NWGRC Staff:**

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

**Guests/Visitors:**

Michele Abdul-Qawiy  
Al Abernathy  
David Dietrichs  
Sheila Derry  
Brandi Dover  
Mitchell Jackson  
Zelma Jones  
Anne Rapp  
Claude Ricketts  
Vicki Thompson  
Julie Turner  
Chris Upchurch  
Chris Zierler

*\*resigned*

**I. Welcome . . . . . Jim Henry**

Mike Murphy, Chairman of the Workforce Development Board, called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. It was established that a quorum was present.

**II. Consent Agenda . . . . . Jim Henry**

Mr. Murphy informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the September 21, 2022 WDB Meeting and a Performance Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Cam Parker made the motion that the Consent Agenda be approved. Mitchell Morgan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations . . . . . Mike Murphy**

Mr. Murphy reported that, due to the lack of quorum at the November 2022 Workforce Development Board meeting, the Executive Committee met on November 30, 2022, to review items for approval. The Executive Committee recommends that the following items be ratified by the Workforce Development Board, having been approved by the Executive Committee and the Council of Chief Elected Officials (handout attached for each item):

- A. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved the Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the September 21, 2022 Meeting, a Performance Report, and a Dislocated Worker Report).
- B. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved replacing Linda McEntire as Chairman of the WDB with Mike Murphy (Ms McEntire resigned her position as Chairman of the WDB because she no longer works for a private company and is no longer eligible to serve as the Chairman). Per the Bylaws, Mike Murphy, Vice Chairman, will serve through the end of Ms. McEntire's term as Chairman (through June, 2023). Cam Parker agreed to serve as Vice Chairman of the WDB through June, 2023.
- C. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved an increase request of \$500 from the Atlanta Academy of Dental Assisting.
- D. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved adding 'Professional Coder' to MedCerts eligible programs (handout attached) and approved a request from Chattahoochee Technical College to add the Dental Assisting Program.
- C. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved changes to the Priority of Service Policy (attached with changes highlighted and crossed out) to more closely align with the Technical College System of Georgia policy changes.
- D. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved a nomination from Alison Watson, Assistant Clinical Director, Northwest Georgia Public Health, for Christa Gilmore, Youth Development Coordinator, to serve on the Youth Committee.

- E. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved revisions to the Basic Skills Policy to better align with the TCSG policy (changes are highlighted and deletions are crossed out).
- F. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved the "Northwest Georgia Regional Commission WIOA Grant Financial Report, Grant Inception to 10/31/22."
- G. The Executive Committee and the CCEOs approved staff's request to apply for the QUEST (Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training) Grant

Cam Parker made the motion to ratify these items as presented. Mitchell Morgan seconded. Motion carried with Randy Long abstaining (due to his wife's employment with Chattahoochee Technical College and with no dissenting vote.

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

Anthony Rucker presented the "Northwest Georgia Regional Commission WIOA Grant Financial Report" (attached). This report encompasses the Adult, Dislocated Worker, COVID/Disaster, HDCl, and Youth programs.

**V. Workforce Development Board Committees . . . . . Lesia Lambert**

Lesia Lambert informed those present that two of the Workforce Development Board Committees had vacancies: the Executive Committee and the Proposal Review Committee. She encouraged those present to let her or Terri Morgan know of interest to serve on these Committees or other Committees/Councils (list included).

**VI. Re-Enrollment Policy**

There was no action taken on this policy at this meeting.

**VII. Youth Committee Report and Recommendations . . . . . Beth Kelley**

Beth Kelley informed those present that the Youth Committee met on January 11, 2023. The Committee and guests discussed ways to improve performance and enrollments. The speakers were from United Way of Rome and Floyd County and talked about their initiatives covering Floyd as well as Chattooga and Polk Counties. Anyone interested in information about United Way's programs can contact Terri Morgan.

**VII. COVID Update. . . . . Lesia Lambert**

Ms. Lambert reported that 169 individuals have participated in Disaster Dislocated Worker Grant activities: 69 in temporary work experience and 100 in training. She also stated that the additional \$233,000 in funding had been received and was being utilized. The end date for this grant in March 32, 2023.

**IX. Technical College System of Georgia Monitoring. . . . . Lesia Lambert**

Ms. Lambert informed those present that the Technical College System of Georgia would be conducting yearly monitoring of our area during the week of February 13, 2023. She noted that the monitors often ask to speak to providers and occasionally they also ask to speak to Board Members.

**X. David Dietrichs, Attorney, Kutak Rock LLP**

David Dietrichs provided a presentation regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Board.

**Other**

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.