

Workforce Development Board of Northwest Georgia and Youth Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 8, 2020, Noon

Via Goto Meeting

Minutes

Attendance-WDB

WDB Members Present, County:

Lisa Adkisson, Fannin
Bruce Bowman, Gordon
Illya Copeland, Murray
Nicole Green, Polk
Paige Green, Gilmer
Jim Henry, Chattooga
Beth Kelley, Walker
Randy Long, Pickens
Linda McEntire, Whitfield
Mitchell Morgan, Gilmer
Anthony Nash, Polk
Cam Parker, Bartow
April Rogers, Bartow
Lisa Shaw, Floyd

Youth Committee Members Present:

Ben Arp
Nancy Edwards
Beth Kelley

WDB Members Not Present, County:

Michael Hamilton, Floyd
Scott Jackson, Pickens*
Mike Murphy, Bartow
John Parton, Polk
Larry Stansell, Chattooga
Lee Tubbs, Catoosa
Carey Tucker, Floyd

NWGRC Staff:

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

Guests/Visitors:

Brandi Dover
Chris Hord
Lynn Long
Cindy Martin
Lindia Moore
Tammy Pence
Anne Rapp
Vince Stalling
Barbara Tipton

**retired*

I. Welcome

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

II. Consent Agenda Bruce Bowman

Mr. Bowman informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing the Minutes from the May 20, 2020 meeting and a Dislocation Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Mitchell Morgan made the motion that the Consent Agenda be approved. Beth Kelley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Youth Committee Minutes Beth Kelley

Beth Kelley reported that the Youth Committee had met on May 13, 2020. The Minutes were sent via email and attached for review. Ben Arp made the motion to accept the Minutes. Nancy Edwards seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Fiscal Report Anthony Rucker

Anthony Rucker presented the "Northwest Georgia Regional Commission WIOA Grant Financial Report, Grant Inception to 5/31/2020" (attached). This report encompasses the Adult, Dislocated Worker, HDCL, and Youth programs and also reflects the additional COVID-19 funds. Mitchell Morgan made the motion to accept this report. Cam Parker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Workforce Development Board Bylaws Lesia Lambert

Lesia Lambert informed the Board that, based upon guidance from the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development, the following changes to the Bylaws were recommended (copy attached with changes in color):

- Page 4 (bottom of the page); add the following, "The CLEO shall be notified within ten (10) days of a vacancy.
- Page 6 (paragraphs 5 and 6); Remove the reference to the One-Stop Committee and the Service Committee for Individuals with Disabilities and remove duplicative verbiage regarding non-WDB appointees to the WDB.

Illya Copeland made the motion to approve these changes. Mitchell Morgan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Policies

A. ITA Policy Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert presented the recommended changes to the Individual Training Account Policy (copy attached with changes in color). Those changes are as follows:

- Page 1; References the change that all applicants must apply for the Pell Grant and/or Hope Grant/Scholarship and that those grant funds must be applied towards tuition and fees prior to the use of WIOA funds.
- Page 2; Removes the following "Customers shall not be required to apply for or access student loans, or incur personal debt as a condition of participation" and adds the following, "Funding for any reimbursement is contingent upon the availability of funds from the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development.

Beth Kelley made the motion to accept these changes. Illya Copeland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Priority of Service Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert informed those present that the Priority of Service Policy (copy attached with changes in color) had been updated to follow the State's Priority of Service Policy. The changes made reflect the service priority for WIOA funding including the higher needs populations and requires that priority of service be given regardless of funding levels. Veterans continue to receive priority and now that priority will include widows and widowers. Additional information has been added to clarify the implementation of the priority of service as well as serving individuals with disabilities. Mitchell Morgan made the motion to approve these changes. Paige Green seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Youth Support Policy Derrick McDaniel

Derrick McDaniel presented the Youth Support Policy (attached with changes in color). Staff's recommendations are as follows:

- Page 3; Allowable Youth Supportive Services. Add "In the event, out-of- school youth (GED participants) must take online classes, they will receive a flat rate of \$10 per day. The days of attendance and progress made for GED participants will be recorded by the Career Advisers. Individual Training Account (ITA) participants taking online courses, must contact their Career Adviser on a weekly basis to advise them of course progress. In order to receive a flat rate of \$10 per day, ITA participants must send the Career Advisers a weekly report confirming days of attendance and progress made. However, if ITA participants or GED/short-term training participants attends classroom training in-person, the participants will receive the following traditional rates for travel and childcare outlined in Section D, item b, "Assistance with Transportation", Clauses B and C. "

- Page 4; Revise the assistance with transportation to the amounts below:
0.5 - 10 miles =\$6.00 per day
11 - 25 miles =\$8.00 per day
26+ miles = \$10.00 per day
- Page 4; Revise the assistance with childcare to the following:
Reimbursement to the participant is limited to a maximum of \$15.00 per day, for one child only.

Beth Kelley made the motion to approve these changes. Mitchell Morgan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. COVID-19 Response. Lesia Lambert

Ms. Lambert updated those present on the response to COVID-19. She reminded the Board that staff had applied for and received additional funds to assist those individuals who have been temporarily or permanently impacted by COVID-19 and individuals who meet the definition of dislocated worker including individuals who have been unemployed long-term. Staff has also asked all providers to prepare a report outlining how services will continue during the pandemic. She noted that NWGRC staff have returned to working in the office full-time and that continuing adjustments were being made to the website to ensure that those individuals who are interested in services can easily obtain information and apply.

Other

Ms. Lambert informed those present that the next regularly scheduled meeting would take place on September 16, 2020. At this time, the meeting is planned to be held as usual in Calhoun however, should the Order of Emergency be extended, the meeting will again be held virtually. Currently, local Workforce Development Boards are not permitted to hold telephonic meetings unless there is an Order of Emergency in place. Staff will provide more information as it becomes available.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.