LOWER SAVANNAH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 06, 2024 @ 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

LSWDB Members in attendance:	Nancy Foster, Gary Jones, Kim Williams-Griffin, Tiiu Goode, Dr. Renee Ritter, Jeanette Murray, Dr. Dorian Newton, Curtis Randolph, Pat Black Jr, Demeterius Smith, Lessie Price, Dr. Forest Mahan, Will Reynolds, ,
LSWDB Members excused:	Kenisha Grimes, Darainey Hudson, Dee Crawford, Cecilia Allen
LSWDB Members not present:	Catie McCauley, Tameka Johnson, Tommy Boyleston
LSCOG/WD Staff in attendance:	André Anderson, Sally Sharpe, Marby Hicks, William Molnar, Nora Sanders, Jerome Wallace
Guests/Visitors:	Renee Alexander (Eckerd Connects), Julian Butts (Swiss Krono),

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Ms. Jones asked if there were guests. Hearing none he proceeded to welcome attendees to the board meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Andre Anderson conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

BOARD APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Jones asked the Workforce Board for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Pat Black and seconded by Dr. Dorian Newton. The meeting agenda was approved without additions/corrections.

BOARD APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – June 04, 2024

Mr. Jones asked the Workforce Board for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 04, 2024. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Black and seconded by Will Reynolds. The meeting minutes were approved with no corrections needed.

INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR PY 2024

Mr. Jones asked the board to approve the installation to the Lower Savannah Workforce Board of the Vice Chairperson and Secretary positions for Program Year (PY) 2024. The nominees were as follows:

- Will Reynolds - Vice Chairperson - Orangeburg County
- Kimberly Griffith – Secretary – Aiken County

A motion was made to approve by Nancy Foster seconded by Will Reynolds. Motion carried nominees were approved unanimously.

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REPORT OF YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING – Thursday, July 11, 2024

Ms. Jeanette Murray shared about our success story one Ms. Niah Joseph. Ms. Joseph was referred to Ms. Tonya Felton for participation in a Work Experience (WEX) with The Well Community Collaborative in Barnwell. Next steps for Ms. Joseph was to complete enrollment for college as she is interested in becoming and electrical engineer. Ms. Murray highlighted Dennis Hall's report on Youth enrollment for PY23. From that report, we learned that there were 96 active cases on the Youth caseload, with 147 served during PY23. Ms. Murray went on to discuss Eckerd Connects recruitment activities (email blasts, job fair attendance, mobile unit visits, etc.) in an effort to increase youth enrollment across the Lower Savannah region. Ms. Murray provided, Youth serving partners the opportunity to highlight their programs and any upcoming events within the workforce region.

BOARD APPROVAL OF BUSINESS SERVICES CO-LEADS FOR LSWDA

Mr. Anderson informs the board of SC Works Business Services Standards and how these standards necessitate the approval of business services leads to help coordinate the Business Services functions across the region. He submitted 2 names of individuals who had agreed to serve in this function for the Lower Savannah Region. These roles coincide with the business services teams already in place in both of these areas. Our candidates were as follows:

- Jennifer Toole, Community Impact Director, American Heart Association – Aiken Business Services Team
- Kitty Bamberg, Business Developer, SC Vocational Rehabilitation – Orangeburg Business Services Team

A motion was made to approve by Dr. Newton seconded by Ms. Murray. Motion carried. Nominees were approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH LOCAL AREA NOMINEE.

Mr. Anderson explained to the WD Board that September was Workforce Development Month, and the state expected each local workforce region to put forth an individual to represent the outstanding Workforce Professional for their region. With this action, the local has completed this task. This person would have to be approved by the Local Workforce Board to truly be considered. Our nominee was as follows:

- Charlie Furtick – SC Works Operator, Eckerd Connects

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Foster and seconded by Ms. Lessie Price. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE REDUCTION OF WIOA LIFETIME LEARNING LIMIT

Mr. Anderson discussed with the board the need to reduce the Lifetime Learning Limit. This would constitute a change to Local Instruction PY10-006, Revision #3, which currently captures this threshold at $10,000 per WIOA participant. With approval this threshold would be reduced by 3,000 to a total of $7,000. Mr. Anderson stated that this action would better align individual training costs with actual revenues received from USDOL and state discretionary grants.

A motion for approval was made by Ms. Kim Griffin and seconded by Dr. Renee Ritter. The motion carried and adjustment/reductions will be made to PY10-006, Revision #3.

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APPROVAL OF FUND TRANSFER FROM ADULT TO DISLOCATED WORKER (DW)

Mr. Anderson discussed with the WD Board the need to reverse $100,000 of an earlier Dislocated Worker (DW) to Adult transfer as the original transfer amount has proven not to be necessary and will enable the local area to spend those funds on new PY24 DW Expenses. Mr., Anderson went on to state that the local area has suppressed program costs as much as it reasonably could to prepare for potential reduction in its formula fund (Adult, DW, Youth) allocations.

- $100,000 from Adult to DW

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Black and seconded by Mr. Reynolds. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDERS FOR THE LSWDA

Mr. Anderson presented training providers who are seeking to be included in the locally approved list of training providers for the region. He further went on to detail that approval is a step in the process to be utilized on a local level but these providers must demonstrate a successful track record in placing these participant into unsubsidized employment to keep receiving referrals into their training classes and curricullums The training providers being considered were as follows:

- Aiken Technical College - Veterinary Assistant
- Aiken Technical College - Advanced Welding Certificate
- Aiken Technical College – Practical Nursing Program
- Second Chance Job Center - Carpentry, Level I
- Second Chance Job Center - Landscaping, Level I
- Second Chance Jobs Center - Masonry, Level I
- Second Chance Jobs Center – Painting, Level I
- Second Chance Jobs Center – Weatherization, Level I
- Second Chance Jobs Center – Welding, Level I
- Second Chance Jobs Center - Manufacturing, Level I

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Black and seconded by Ms. Price. The motion was unanimously approved.

SPECIALIZED REPORTS FOR BOARD

Were provided by:

Marby Hicks/Andre Anderson – LSWDB Financial Update

- Ms. Marby Hicks Informed the board that the local area had met state financial performance requirement for all 3 of our formula funding streams. Mr. Anderson provided the board with an update on the local area meeting all financial benchmarks for USDOL and the state. Additionally, Mr. Anderson relayed the sole measure that the local area did not meet last year (PY22); has been met for this year (PY23).

Charlie Furtick – Center Reports

- Mr. Charlie Furtick provided the board an update of the traffic patterns associated with SC Works centers and statistics from each. Ultimately, over 7,400 served for the 4th quarter. Mr. Furtick went on to state that the Orangeburg SC Works saw almost 4,000 of these individuals on its own during this timeframe.

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Additionally, Mr. Furtick discussed the success we are having with hiring events across the region and the numbers associated (670 individuals attending hiring events and 640 newly registered job-seekers across the Lower Savannah region). The top reason for a person/customer to visit our centers was unemployment assistance as revealed in customer service survey administered within the SC Works Centers.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Anderson provided updates to the board on several topics.

- Planning and Development Grant
  Mr. Anderson explained to the board that we were in receipt of the Planning and Development Grant from the state and what the grant would primarily be used to support (listed below). Mr. Anderson spoke about the expansion of Apprenticeship across the region. He further went on tell the board that there is funding to support a Board Training/Retreat and he would like the board to be thinking about what that training should cover.
  - Networking/Conferences
  - Expanding Apprenticeship
  - Workforce Development Board Retreat/Training

- Business Services
  Mr. Anderson informed the board on our current status with Business Services activities and how the local area is using the Discretionary Grants to cover the cost of OJTs and IWTs across the region. Mr. Anderson went on to discuss the implementation of Industry Roundtable which will be conducted across the region this year. Hoping to have 3 successful one for PY24.
  - 1st Industry Roundtable (August 28th Starbucks Roasting Plant)

  Mr. Anderson spoke on taking full advantage of training opportunities that are provided by Technical Colleges through Pell and Lottery grants as well as other partners in the region that did not put additional burdens on the WIOA budget. Two such trainings, Heavy Equipment Operator/CDL Operator are being provided for free to any person living in Allendale County who qualifies
  _ Heavy Equipment Operator/CDL Training (Allendale County)
- Mobile Unit Outreach Calendar (June 2024)
- PY24 Workforce Development Board, Youth, Disability, SC Works Meeting Schedules

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WDB Meetings Next WDB meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2024

Committee Meetings	Youth	September 12, 2024
	Disabilities	September 24, 2024

OPEN DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

Andre Anderson for
Kim Williams-Griffith

The Lower Savannah Workforce Development Board Secretary

NOTICE OF THE MEETING and COPY OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING WAS DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL NEWS MEDIA PRIOR TO THE MEETING. NOTICE OF THE MEETING and COPY OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING WAS ALSO POSTED ON THE LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BULLETIN BOARD AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

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