



Approved
WorkSource Atlanta
Local Workforce Development Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2020

Board Members Present
(Quorum Present)

Chris Ahrenkiel, Selig Enterprises
Diane Allen, Georgia Department of Labor
Bernadette Amerein, Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency
Charlye Batten, Jackmont Hospitality
Randy Beall, Atlanta & North GA Building and Construction Trades Council
Terri Block, Bank of America
Dave Cole, IBM
Patricia Horton, Coaching and Consulting Services, LLC
Nancy A. Flake Johnson, Urban League of Greater Atlanta, Inc.
Mike Kenig, Holder Construction
Amy Lancaster-King, Metro Atlanta Chamber
Joseph Lillyblad, Georgia Power
Jerald Mitchell, Atlanta Beltline
Kenny Mullins, IBEW, Local 613
Mary Parker, All N One Security Systems
Dr. Albenny Price, Atlanta Public Schools
Beverly Riddick, UPS
Dr. Victoria Seals, Atlanta Technical College
Mark Templeton, IUOE, Local 926
Rashida Winfrey, Mosaic Advisors

Board Members Excused Rokeya Jones, Microsoft

WSA Staff

Katerina Taylor, Executive Director
Ruth Alvarez-Moon, Performance Analyst
Phyllis Bryant, Executive Assistant to Executive Director
Ralph Dickerson, Senior IT Analyst
LaSharn Harris, Finance Analyst
Jon Keen, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, City of Atlanta
Tammy Lipsey, Sr. Manager of Performance and Operations
Tolton Pace, Senior Project Manager
Antrell Tyson, Director of Policy and Legislation
Tammy Williams, Career Specialist

Service Providers

Roscell Hall, One-Stop Manager, In the Door
Lynn Hamilton, Regional Director, Equus
Latrisha Mitchell, Project Director, Equus

I. Call to Order

i. The meeting was called to order by Chair Patricia Horton at 11:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call

i. Chair Horton conducted roll call. Board members present and absent

are listed above.

III. **Adoption of the Agenda**

- i. A motion was made by Board Member Randy Beall to approve the adoption of the agenda and seconded by Board Member Beverly Riddick. The motion to adopt the agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote.

IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 16, 2020**

- i. A motion was made by Board Member Randy Beall to approve the minutes and seconded by Board Member Terri Block. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously by voice vote.

V. **Public Comment**

- i. Chair Horton asked if the public wanted to address the Board. There were no comments.

VI. **Welcome Remarks**

- i. Executive Director Katerina Taylor welcomed Board members and staff.

ii. **WSA Staff Update:**

- Since coming onboard, we've been overutilizing Antrell Tyson in multiple different areas and have realized that we're leveraging his experience and his skillset a lot more for policy and advisement for legislative strategy. As such, we have decided to appoint him as the Director of Policy and Legislation which is a better suited position for the Agency.
- Our Director of Accounting and Finance position has been filled. However, we are not able to announce who it is yet because that person has not put in their notice with their current employer. I know you will be happy with whom we have selected and I'm excited about sharing them with you when I can.
- Additionally, the Director of Operations position has been filled and we're very excited about it as well. We were able to upskill our team; increase our capacity; and really take advantage and leverage the talent that's out there. We have hired Sonia Wilson-Westmoreland who has workforce experience and understands and knows WIOA. She starts on next Tuesday and we're very excited to have her. We are rounding out our team to address not just the needs of our customers but truly address the operational and financial nuisances that have happened. We are filling out our team in a strategic and thoughtful way and moving the team forward in a good direction.
- Our ability and agility to move quickly to a virtual platform has been well done and I'm very proud of our staff.
- Tolton Pace reported that our Homeless Grant continues to progress very well. We have been able to start new participants as well as extend existing work experiences to 20 weeks. Currently, we have placed 50 individuals total throughout the life cycle of the grant.

VII. **Action Items**

Approval of 50/50 Youth Expenditure Waiver from OSY to ISY:

WorkSource Atlanta is asking the Board to accept USDOL's waiver to lower the spending requirement on its Out-of-School Youth (OSY) population to 50 percent. Currently, WSA provides youth services under the 75 percent (OSY) and 25 percent (ISY) expenditure requirement. If the board accepts the waiver, WSA will expend 50 percent youth funding on OSY services and 50 percent on

ISY services through June 30, 2021.

The Technical System of Georgia has submitted a request to USDOL to extend the 50/50 youth expenditure waiver for an additional four-years.

The potential programmatic outcomes from the implementation of the waiver include:

- Ability for LWDAs to strategically focus their allocated funds on an approach to better serve at-risk youth, while discouraging a disconnection from education institutions. Specifically, among programmatic activities, LWDAs can fund a greater number of summer WEX activities targeting eligible at-risk ISY. We expect to see a continued increase in graduation rates.
- Opportunity to increase utilization of WIOA to support Pre-Apprenticeship strategies, programs, and participants. The expansion of Pre-Apprenticeship programs will directly lead to a strengthening of the associated Registered Apprenticeship programs throughout the state as well.
- Opportunity to provide support for ISY while equipping them with the academic and technical skills necessary to improve their employability. The expansion of ISY programs will strengthen the talent pipeline for employers, and therefore reduce their training costs and employee turnover.

A motion was made by Board Member Amy Lancaster-King to accept USDOL's waiver lowering the spending requirement on its Out-of-School Youth (OSY) population to 50 percent and seconded by Board Member Dr. Albenny Price. The motion to accept USDOL's waiver lowering the spending requirement on its Out-of-School Youth (OSY) population to 50 percent was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Supportive Services Request: Requesting amount for Uniforms/Tools/Equipment Services, be increased from \$500; "to up to \$1,000":

As we are moving students to a virtual summer platform many of the APS students were not able to get a laptop or a tablet. We need to be able to supply those tools for the students so that they can engage in our virtual on-line summer programs. Additionally, we need to be able to provide software as well as internet service. If we're doing virtual interviews, we want them to have the appropriate clothing so that they're comfortable being on camera with employers and some of their peers. We have been thoughtful and intentional of identifying what they might potentially need and anticipating what barriers they may have to include them in supportive services. We don't have a lot of youth clothing in our onsite Clothing Closet, so we want to make sure that they have something branded with WorkSource on it or that they have interview clothes.

A motion was made by Board Member Dr. Victoria Seals to increase the supportive services amount for uniforms, tools, equipment, and transportation from \$500 to up to \$1,000 and seconded by Board Member Diane Allen. The motion to increase the supportive services amount for uniforms, tools, equipment, and transportation from \$500 to up to \$1,000 was approved unanimously by voice vote.

VIII. Reports

Local Plan Review:

Our Local Plan is due to TCSG on June 30th and must be made public on June 1st. The plan will consist of elements of unemployment; our Atlanta population; Industry specific numbers regarding what industries will see increases and what industries will see decreases; and how we are addressing equity. We are working with Invest Atlanta to take some elements of their report to make sure it's inclusive of our report. We are also working with the other local workforce

boards.

Financial Review:

The dollars for program year 2018-2019 must be spent by June 30, 2020. The remaining amount of \$742,000 is included in what we obligated in the ResCare contract. We are meeting with them to manage how quickly they're spending their dollars down to ensure that we don't have any left over by June 30th. Based on the outstanding invoices, I am confident that most of this money is already out the door. For the program year 2019-2020, we must obligate 80% of the \$757,000 by June 30, 2020 and we will have that done by the deadline. We have been very creative as to how we pursue Work Experience options during the Covid-19 pandemic.

ResCare Performance Update:

All services are being done virtually. The staff is providing career services through Webex and they have been doing an outstanding job with their case management. There have been 30 new ITAs completed since February. We have received an influx of calls from businesses that need employees. There have been 23 placements. Orientations are conducted twice a week for Youth. We are actively recruiting and engaging with the youth that we currently have in the case load.

One-Stop Operator Update:

We've worked with several different organizations and entities to help refer individuals that are looking for employment. We've partnered with Warrior Alliance to provide resources and job search assistance to veterans within their organization. We're providing 1:1 support to clients with resume assistance and interviewing skills via video conference.

Committees:

We are appreciative to everyone that has signed up to participate on a committee and thanks to those who will accept assignments once Pat assigns them. We would like for you to participate so that we can get you a schedule. We'd prefer for you to let us know what your expertise is and where your interests lie.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Horton adjourned the meeting at 12:26 p.m.