

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
GEORGIA MOUNTAINS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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July 31, 2014

Minutes

The Georgia Mountains Regional Commission Workforce Development Board (GMWDB) met on July 31, 2014 at 3:30 PM. The meeting was held at the Byron Herbert Reece Farm Pavilion. Handouts were made available as visual aids. Also, a sign-in sheet was distributed and the following were present:

Members Present

Tim Bala
Mike Berg
Thomas Bridges
Rex Farmer
Pat Freeman
Mitch Griggs
Dale Harrell
Peter Hill
Mark Ivester
Danny Lewis
Deborah Mack
Sam Norton
Dean Scarborough
Ken Schubring
Will Wade
Mary Wareham

Staff

Dawn Bruce
Diane Jackson
John Phillips
Nona Turk
Jessica Williams

Guest

Mary Simmons (for Charlie Auvermann)

Call to Order/Welcome

Will Wade, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. He thanked everyone for their attendance. A quorum was established.

New Business

Rabun County Job Fair

Will Wade, Vice Chair, informed the Board that June 12th was the first Job Fair organized by the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission Workforce Development (GMWD) office. The Job Fair was held in Rabun County. It was a huge success. Twenty eight employers and eighty job seekers attended the event.

Vice Chair Will Wade thanked the staff for their role in the Job Fair. GMWD also thanked Jim Bleckley, Greg James and Georgia Department of Economic Development's Deputy Commissioner Ben Hames for attending.

Lee Arrendale Graduation

John Phillips, GMWD Director, explained that GMWD received a grant for \$10,250.00 for the Training 2Work Offender Training Program. GMWD, Goodwill of North Georgia, and Arrendale State Prison Transition Center celebrated the graduation of the first eleven participants from the construction training. The event was held at the Goodwill Career Center in Oakwood. Four of the graduates obtained employment before the program ended. GMWD will be meeting with the Hall County Correctional facility to offer the same type of training. Pat Freeman stated it was wonderful to see the eleven women, hear what they went through, and their experience while in the training program. It was very inspirational.

Summer Youth Jobs Update

Jessica Williams, Youth Case Manager Supervisor, gave an update on the Summer Program. Jessica stated that GMWD had a great program this summer. The successful participant completion rate was 96%. Five participants were hired by their worksites. A tutoring program was held at Woody Gap High School and four completed. GMWD also offered an employability skills workshop at the Ninth Grade Academy in Habersham County for youth that were fourteen years old. All six of the participants completed. Staff assisted the youth in purchasing interview clothes for them to participate in mock interviews with United Way.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

John Phillips explained the changes forthcoming for the program, when WIOA takes effect on July 1, 2015. WIOA will be working closer with the colleges. One of the major changes will be in the Youth program. WIOA will be required to serve 70% out of school youth and 30% in school. However, GMWD can submit a waiver to request a 50/50 split.

Mark Ivester with North Georgia Technical College stated that it would affect customers in Adult Literacy that are trying to obtain their GED. Mitch Griggs asked about the new youth change of serving out of school youth and if it would be a challenge for GMWD. John Phillips stated it would be a challenge because it is hard to locate the out of school youth. Mitch suggested GMWD would need to market the program. The question was asked, if administration dollars could be spent for marketing. Jessica Williams stated GMWD will be working more with the seniors because once they complete High School they would be considered out of school. Deborah Mack suggested using flyers. Pat Freeman asked if John had received any information on job training for people with disabilities. John stated that with the new WIOA program 15 existing programs were dropped but none of them were GMWD programs. John stated that some of our best marketing was in the Mobile Training Units (MTUs). The MTUs are out in the counties almost every day. The ages for the different funding streams are also changing.

Vice Chair Will Wade made the suggestion that the Board meet to develop a strategy for the upcoming changes to the program. The meeting could possibly be held in the first quarter of 2015.

Dawn Bruce, GMWD Receptionist/Intake Assistant was introduced to the Board members.

Plan Updates

The Plan was updated to add cost allocation and shared cost on page fourteen. This change was in the State Plan and each Workforce Investment Act (WIA) area is required to also include the cost allocation. The Supportive Services Policy was updated and Waivers one through four. These changes were added due to the new requirements by the Department of Economic Development Workforce Division. Dean Scarborough made a motion to accept these changes. Peter Hill seconded and after discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Danny Lewis, Georgia Mountains Regional Commission (GMRC) Executive Director asked about adding Chief Local Elected Official (CLEO) to the list of agencies at the top of page fourteen. He stated he was aware that this is not a changed item. John made the request to hold this item for the next Board meeting to allow him to research the request.

Performance Negotiations

John explained that twice a year GMWD is required to negotiate performance requirements for the new program year. GMWD is required to meet 80% of the negotiated performance rate. In PY13, GMWD met or exceeded all of the performance targets.

New Provider Application (GA Southern)

Diane Jackson, GMWD Administrative Assistant explained that GA Southern University had submitted a new provider application seeking approval for the Enterprise Resource Planning Certificate (ERP) program. After a review of the application, the program did not meet the minimum score for consideration by the Board. A copy of the review was included in the handouts for the Board.

Budget

Nona Turk directed the Board members to the spreadsheet included in their packets. She stated that in April of this year, GMWD had \$562,000.00 to spend by June 30, 2014. She informed the Board that all of the \$562,000.00 had been spent. GMWD had also made some large purchases, one of which was a new accounting software package. All three Boards approved this purchase. GMWD is also in the process of purchasing an awning for the MTUs. She also explained that GMWD was able to transfer some of the Dislocated Worker funds to the Adult funds. Danny Lewis stated that at tonight's GMRC Council meeting an item will be going before the Council for approval of a concrete pad for the MTUs.

Vice Chair Will Wade requested a report that would show how many customers the funds assisted. Sam Norton suggested a report showing how many people received certificates. Danny Lewis made the statement that he understood the concept of individuals receiving certificates, however there are events like job fairs that assist individuals that GMWD cannot track. Will Wade requested the total number of customers assisted per funding stream for the program year.

Vice Chair Will Wade stated that GMWD staff member, Danielle Avelar's husband recently underwent surgery and requested that the Board to please remember her family during this time.

Deborah Mack asked for an update on the Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC) GED program. Jessica Williams stated that it has been slow going but has been very successful thus far.

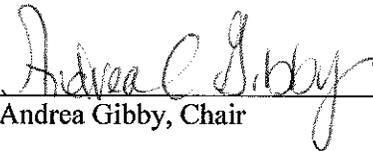
Old Business

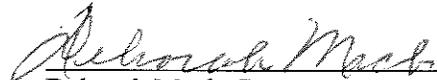
Approval of Minutes

Mitch Griggs made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2014 Board meeting. Sam Norton seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Dean Scarborough made a motion to adjourn, Deborah Mack seconded and motion passed unanimously.


Andrea Gibby, Chair


Deborah Mack, Secretary