



Region 2000 Workforce Development Area VII

Serving the City of Lynchburg, and Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell

Workforce Development Board Meeting

3:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Humankind

Lynchburg, VA

Minutes

Members Present: Nat Marshall – Chair, Mike Davidson, Caitlin King, Susan Martin, Kimberly McIvor, John Redding, Roxanne Slaughter, Cheryl Toler, Wendell Walker, Sterling Wilder

Members Absent, Excused: Des Black, John Capps, Nathan Dowdy, Georgia Fauber, Scott Francis, Bobby Johnson, Christine Kennedy, Dennis Knight, Sierria Lopez, Ron Lovelace, Ed McCann, Marjette Upshur, Jan Walker, Luke Saechao, Blondie Anderson,

Members Absent: Traci Blido, Scott Gillespie, Sonny Harvey, Phillip Jamerson, Tina Ragland, Heather Reynolds, Tamara Rosser

Staff Present: Ben Bowman, Savannah Cook, Susan Cook, Lori Cumbo, Rosalie Majerus

Others Present: Keith Cook – HumanKind, Krystal Crutchfield – HumanKind, Mary Winston-Deacon – HumanKind, Bob Dendy – HumanKind, Gina Dudley – Region 2000, Francie Dye – CVCC Workforce Solutions, Lamont Hobson – HumanKind, Alvin Jones - Region 2000, Nate Mahanes – DARS, Rebecca Dilling- Adult Ed of Central Virginia, Michael Pinn-United Cherokee Indian Tribe, Franklin Swan - Old Dominion Job Corps,

1. Welcome and Introductions

Nat Marshall opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Bob Dendy, President of HumanKind, welcomed the Workforce Development Board.

2. Approval of May 16 and July 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Mike Davidson noted that the adjourn time in the minutes of the May 16 meeting was incorrect. This was duly noted, and there being no quorum, the minutes were not approved.

3. Public Comment

Nate Mahanes thanked the Board for sponsorship of DARS upcoming Champions of Disability Employment Celebration, taking place on Tuesday, October 17th.

4. Budget Update

Rosalie Majerus reported that the Adult activity through August is moving along well. The Dislocated program has not gotten going at full speed yet because the VEC had not signed the contract until September. The Youth program is moving along well. Ms. Majerus noted that according to the law, at least 75% of Youth funds must be spent on Youth Out of School.

Ms. Majerus also reported that she was going to ask to increase the transfer from Dislocated to the Adult program from \$75,000.00 to \$150,000.00 in order to spend down FY 16 funds. However, without a quorum this would not be possible. Nat Marshall advised that the Finance Committee could make a motion to recommend this transfer to the Executive Committee.

5. New Policy Approval

Nat Marshall noted that without a quorum, new policies could not be approved, but asked Ben Bowman to review.

- Customized Training Policy – This policy is directly in relation to new regulations with the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act. It opens the opportunity to use WIOA funds for companies to identify and train individuals for their specific needs. Under previous regulations, incumbent worker training funds were much more limited, and funding is now available for this. The Operations and Performance Committee has approved this policy.

Mr. Bowman also reported that Lori Cumbo has been updating all of the old policies to get them in compliance with the new regulations. At some time in December, Board members should receive a link to see and review these policies.

6. New Training Program Approval

Lori Cumbo explained that before providing customized training, providers must go through an approval process. Training Providers are also asked to provide information pertaining to completion rates and credential attainment rates.

The following programs are being brought to the Board for approval, and have been approved by the Virginia Community College System:

- Central Virginia Community College – Emergency Medical Technician
- Central Virginia Community College Advanced Customer Service and Sales Certification

There being no quorum, these training programs could not be approved.

7. Monthly Report

- 1) Adult Education - Rebecca Dilling reported for Luke Saechao.
- 2) Apprenticeship – Wendell Walker reported. He has met with local school systems and is making progress with youth apprenticeship training programs, for both in school and out of school youth.
- 3) Div. of Rehabilitative Services – Roxanne Slaughter reported that the Lynchburg area and surrounding counties had 155 successful closures for the year ending September 30.
- 4) Title I: Adult and One Stop System – Keith Cook reported that they had 63 attendees at orientation for the first quarter of this program year. Of these attendees, 12 have been enrolled, and 15 are in process. Credentials have been obtained by 17 participants, and 31 have been placed in training. There is a total of 63 active clients. He also reported that he and Ben Bowman have had significant meetings with the library programs, to use them as satellite sites.
- 5) Title I: Youth – Alvin Jones reported that at the end of the first quarter they had 31 participants carried over, and have exited 10 youth, 7 with employment this month. Recruitment is in process for a third case manager in Bedford County. This will be a shared position between Workforce, Bedford County Schools and Social Services.
- 6) Wagner Peyser and Veterans – One Stop Center – Kimberly McIvor reported that the Dislocated Worker program was approved in mid-September. She is currently in the process of recruiting staff for this program. Seven participants have been enrolled the past month, and 15 more are in the pipeline.
Also, this past month 11 employers used the facilities for job fairs.

8. Board Staff Updates

- 1) New operational structure – Ben Bowman reviewed the new operational structure, which will be composed of 4 official standing committees:
 - Outreach and Awareness led by Savannah Cook.
 - Youth led by Alvin Jones
 - Operations and Performance led by Lori Cumbo
 - Finance led by Ben Bowman
- 2) GO VA – Mr. Bowman advised that this initiative will work to diversify and revitalize our economy by bringing together multiple regions for collaboration. We are in GO VA Region 2, which stretches from Appomattox to Giles County. This encompasses Region 2000, the Roanoke Valley, and the New River Valley. One focus of this initiative is on Workforce Development. What is being proposed is trying to draw in additional funds to target incumbent workers. This money is to go to creating jobs that pay over \$20.00/hour. These funds will require a match by Workforce money, which could possibly be used to train people existing workers for higher wage positions.

A second element of the initiative is to build a career pathway system that will engage young people from middle school through post-secondary and employment in the high demand career occupations.

- 3) New collaborative efforts – Ben Bowman explained that he is waiting on MOU signatures from Bedford County Social Services and Bedford County Schools. Bedford will be the first pilot in shared leadership to leverage additional resources.
 - 4) State Monitoring Report – Lori Cumbo advised that the state comes in on an annual basis to monitor the Workforce program. There were no findings on the administrative and fiscal level. One area that needs improvement is in writing better Individual Employment Plans's. Training is being provided to Title I staff. Formal local monitoring will be conducted twice a year, and informal at other times.
 - 5) Business Services/Talent Solutions Team – Savannah Cook reported that this team is made up of 34 members. They met in August and are gearing up for a November meeting when they will discuss welding needs with seven companies.
- 9. Developing Non-Profit Status for the Board**
Mr. Bowman explained that to diversify the funding stream, he is looking into status as a non-profit organization. The Workforce Development Board members would be members of a non-profit organization. He is hoping that by the January meeting, a decision can be reached as to whether the Board chooses to go in this direction.
- 10. Adjourn** – There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the WDB will be on January 9, 2018 at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance