

Region 2000 Workforce Investment Area VII

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

Workforce Investment Board Meeting

3:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Region 2000 Workforce Center

Minutes

Members Present: Nat Marshall – Chair, Traci Blido, Joe Byron, John Capps, Sierra Carvajel, Lee Cobb, Lorenza Davis, Walter Fore, Danny Grimes, Ruth Hendrick, Christine Kennedy, Susan Martin, John Mastroianni, Kimberly McIvor, Elizabeth Narehood, Shelby Penn, Tamara Rosser, Douglas Schuch, Roxanne Slaughter, Cheryl Toler

Members Absent, Excused: Mike Davidson, Ebo Fauber, Ron Lovelace, James Mundy, Justin Reid, Heather Reynolds, Steven Shockley, Jeff Taylor, Sterling Wilder, Tom Wood

Members Absent: Scot Brabrand, Shawn Hecker, Bif Johnson, Linda LaMona, Scot McCarthy, Michael Rose, Luke Saechao, Marjette Upshur, Linda Youngblood

Staff Present: Ben Bowman, Susan Cook, Rosalie Majerus

Others Present: Cheri Almond – Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority, Blondie Anderson – UCITOVA, Sierra Carvajel – Southern Air, Lori Cumbo – Region 2000 Workforce Center, Nate Mahanes – DARS, Clay Stein – Goodwill Ind.

1. Welcome

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

Nat also congratulated Walter Fore, as he will be receiving the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the VCIC on May 27th.

2. Return on Investment Celebration

Elizabeth Narehood, Vice President of Technology for the Region 2000 Business and Economic Development Alliance, presented a brief review of the 2014 Annual Report of the Future Focus Foundation, stating that the focus of the foundation aligns with the WIB Strategic Plan. In 2014, Future Focus partnered with MATHCOUNTS, TEAMS, Randolph College Science-Fest, Sweet Briar Women's Engineering, Virginia's Youthful Engineers, and Holy Cross's Coding Camp. They also signed an MOU to serve as a non-profit partner for the Central Virginia Regional Science Fair. Elizabeth closed by thanking the WIB for its support and partnership.

3. Approval of February 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The motion was made by John Capps, and seconded by Cheryl Toler, to approve the February minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Review of YTD Financial Report

Rosalie Majerus gave a summary comparison of budget to actuals. She reported that travel is the only item over budget, due to Ben's expenses in preparing for the WIOA to go into effect. However, \$15,000 has been received from the state for WIOA transition that will go towards offsetting this expense.

Total money spent at the end of February is \$977,000. Rosalie estimated a \$272,000 carry forward, or possibly closer to \$500,000.

5. Public Comment Period – There were none.

6. New Business

- **One Stop Center Relocation** – Nat Marshall explained that a team was put together to explore options for a new location for the One-Stop. One location that is being considered is at the Fort Hill shopping center, which meets requirements for transportation and parking. However, due to its size, the cost would be too great unless other organizations could be convinced to co-locate.

Ben Bowman added that with the new law the WIB will be expected to move beyond serving its traditional funding stream, and will be evaluated more on its business services. If the One Stop is moved to a larger space, or a place with higher rent, an additional source of income will be necessary. Ben suggested the possibility of establishing a non-profit organization, 501C3 that would work in partnership with the Workforce Board, but would be a separate entity with its primary focus workforce development. He advised that there is approximately \$4,000 that was generated in revenue outside of the WIA funding stream that could be used to get the organization up and running. There would then be the ability to seek contributions from corporate entities and private foundations, and to apply for grants.

The motion was made by John Capps, and seconded by Jim Mundy, to authorize Ben to apply for a 501C3 nonprofit, as a sub-set to the WIB. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Decision on Proposals for One Stop Operator, Adult and Dislocated Worker Services and Youth Services** – Tamara Rosser reported that proposals were received from LynCag for the One Stop only, and Goodwill for One Stop Operator, Adult and Dislocated Worker Services, and for Youth Services. After reviewing the proposals and presentations from both groups the committee decided to recommend awarding the contract to Goodwill. The committee also spoke of the possibility of including LynCag to partner in some way.

By a unanimous vote the WIB approved the recommendation of the committee to award the contract to Goodwill, with Kimberly McIvor, Nat Marshall, Clay Stein, John Capps, and Ruth Hendrick abstaining.

- **Workforce Development Board Appointments – New and Continuing Members for Chief Local Elected Official Confirmation** – Nat urged Board members to turn in the necessary new application forms as required by the WIOA. Applications will be presented to the CLEOs for approval, after which they will be forwarded to the governor for his approval. Under the new policy, the CLEOs will also approve the WIB budget. Ben added that the state policy states that if you retire from a business you are expected the step down from the Board. However, Ben stated that every person brings value to the table, and under the new policy the WIB will be encouraged to have committees, and retired Board members will be able to continue to serve and work with the Workforce Board as a committee member.
- **Decision on Participation with Dept. of Labor Apprenticeship Grant** – Ben reported that there is an opportunity with the New River Valley WIB and the Southwest Virginia WIB to apply for a federal grant for apprenticeship. This is a \$500,000 grant that would be split among the three Workforce areas. For our area it would be \$100,000 or more each year that could be put directly into apprenticeship training for areas that are in need of employees. The deadline to apply is the end of the month

Lee Cobb made a motion, seconded by Christine Kennedy, to join the New River Valley and Southwest Virginia WIBs in applying for this grant. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Director's Report

- **New Operations Coordinator Position** – Ben introduced Lori Combo as the new Operations Coordinator.
- **WIA/WIOA Transition Update** – Ben reported that the interim regulations came out, and he hopes to know after the state board meeting on Thursday more of the effects on the local level. Paperwork was submitted to the governor's office from each of our Chief Local Elected Officials stating that they wished to continue as part of our existing structure.
- **Region 2000 Local Workforce Development Area 7 Designation** – Approval of the CLEOs will allow the WIB to continue its current designation for two more years. After that time there is the possibility of reconfiguring the region, or doing something different.

9. Other Items from Members

- Susan Martin announced that the Bedford Area Chamber will be hosting their third annual job fair at the Bedford CVCC campus on Wednesday, May 13th.
- Christine Kennedy announced the Lynchburg Area Chamber Expo and Job Fair on May 19th at Liberty University. Christine also expressed appreciation to the Workforce

Investment Board for providing funding for the Young Entrepreneurs. The YEA Academy will graduate on May 7th as part of the Small Business Awards.

- Ruth Hendrick announced that CVCC will be hosting a Business and Adjunct Faculty Appreciation Breakfast on April 24th and invited everyone to attend. Also, on May 19th the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System will be visiting CVCC, and his purpose for coming is to engage with employers to discuss workforce development needs.

10. Adjourn – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

DRAFT