



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
OneStop Operations Committee Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2023 @ 3:00pm
via Zoom/ Clemson SC Works Comprehensive Center

Members Present

David Bowers, Chair
Susan Gibson
Shonna Williams

Danny Brothers
Teri Gilstrap
Mike Wallace

Brooke Garren
Jim Kilton

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Jennifer Kelly

Windy Graham

Guests Present:

Billy Hunter

JT Parnell

Jeff Snider

Welcome and Introductions

Chair David Bowers officially called the meeting to order at 3:00pm welcoming everyone in attendance and announced the meeting being recorded for processing of minutes.

Consent Agenda

Chair Bowers stated that the consent agenda was included in the meeting packet. The consent agenda included the following items:

- 08/23/2023 Meeting Minutes
- PY23 Usage Reports
- PY23 Financial Reports
- PY23 Employer Services Reports

ACTION TAKEN: Danny Brothers made a motion to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Shonna Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

SC Works System Updates

Ms. Jennifer Kelly, WorkLink Executive Director, gave an update on Employer Services to the group. Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) grants, available for local companies through the Engage, Build Serve (EBS) Statewide grant that WorkLink received, have been notified. Four of six companies have been reimbursed for their IWT training, and the remaining two companies are in the process of finalizing training.

Ms. Kelly stated that a Rapid Response IWT grant was awarded to Sulzer Processing Pumps from Department of Employment and Workforce in the amount of \$73,500 to upskill their current

workforce. This grant award is effective June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024. WorkLink will coordinate the grant on behalf of the State. As of October 18, \$27,195 has been expended towards this grant award.

Mr. Billy Hunter, One Stop Operator, gave an overview of OJT efforts, stating that they had met with a number of employers to provide an overview of the OJT program. Mr. Hunter gave an update on the SC Works Customer Service Satisfaction, including a review of the surveys sent and responses received. Mr. Hunter indicated that YTD 93% of surveys indicated satisfaction or higher with SC Works Center services. Mr. Hunter also can an overview of key numbers from the PY2023 Usage reports, and discussed outreach efforts made to promote Job Fairs and Hiring Events through social media platforms.

WIOA Program Updates

Ms. Windy Graham, presented a policy change for approving or denying programs of study on the ETPL, Eligible Training Provider List. Programs of Study have been excluded from the WorkLink Eligible Training Provider List if the anticipated wage is below our self-sufficiency wage of \$12.47/hour. The proposed policy change would allow WorkLink staff to approve programs of study where the hourly median wage for 50% of workers is expected to be at least equal to our self-sufficiency wage. The primary benefit of this policy change would be to the healthcare field, where CNAs are in-demand but there are not enough individuals entering this field to meet employer needs.

Ms. Kelly stated all occupations falling under the policy change will still be required to be in demand for the WorkLink area. Ms. Kelly stated that she conducted a brief job search, that showed wages in the WorkLink area averaged around \$14 to \$15 per hour. Career Coaches would also look at the family income to determine if the family unit is self-sufficient as well. For any individuals who find positions that do not meet the self-sufficiency wage, they will be encouraged to see the CNA job as a stepping stone in the participant's career pathway.

ACTION TAKEN: Danny Brothers made a motion to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Teri Gilstrap. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. JT Parnell, Eckerd Program Manager, gave a PY2023 status update, stating that there have been 28 new participants enrolled in WIOA, and 50 individuals who have participated in training. Approximately \$51,081 in outside scholarships have been leveraged through a partnership with Tri-County Technical College.

Mr. Parnell discussed the Modification 1 listed in the packet on page 23, stating that this modification had been approved by the Executive Committee and was listed for information only in the packet.

Mr. Parnell and Mr. Jeff Snider presented a request to change the current re-enrollment policy into WIOA to allow WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker customers upon successful completion of three-quarters of follow-up. Customers will only be re-enrolled after they have provided their employment and credentialing information for the fourth quarter. Ms. Kelly shared WIOA performance measures information and assured the committee that this would not cause any issue with how we track WIOA federal performance measures. Ms. Kelly also stated that participants will still be limited to cost caps for scholarships equaling no more than \$5,000 in one program year and \$10,000 in a lifetime. Once these caps have been reached, they may still be eligible to take advantage of Career Services.

ACTION TAKEN: Shonna Williams made a motion to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Danny Brothers. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Kelly shared two success story videos that were featured at the Anderson County awards ceremony on behalf of two WIOA participants.

Other Business

Chair Bowers presented the dates for the One Stop Operations Committee meeting for PY2024.

ACTION TAKEN: Shonna Williams made a motion to schedule the One Stop Operations Committee meetings for Calendar Year 2024 on January 17, March 20, May 15, August 21, and October 16, seconded by Danny Brothers. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Kelly also noted that the Assistant Director search and Jennifer Campbell would begin work with WorkLink on October 20, 2023. Chair Bowers stated the next meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 3 p.m.

Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jennifer Kelly