

# **New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area Consortium Board**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**March 16, 2016**

A meeting of the NR/MR WIA Consortium Board was held on March 16, 2016 at the Wytheville Meeting Center in Wytheville, VA. Those in attendance were as follows:

### **Board Members**

Catherine Brillhart – Chair  
Andy McCready – Vice-Chair  
Dr. Eric Workman – Bland  
Rex Hill – Carroll  
Terri Morris - Floyd  
Jay Williams – Giles  
Mary Biggs - Montgomery  
C.M. Mitchell – Galax City

### **Guest**

Lynn White, WDB Chair  
Darrell Blankenship – People Inc.  
Mary Ann Gilmer – Goodwill Ind. of the Valleys  
Traci Mitchell – People Inc.  
Michael Lawrence

### **Staff**

Marty Holliday  
Ronnie Martin  
Beverly Burke

At 10:09 AM, Chair Brillhart called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with a moment of reflection and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by WDB Chair White.

Chair Brillhart asked for everyone to introduce themselves since several new Board members were present.

Chair Brillhart asked Ms. Burke to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Chair Brillhart next asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items that had been previously distributed. Dr. Workman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- A. Meeting Minutes from the January 20, 2016 Joint Meeting
- B. Approval of Tech Hire Grant Application with NR/MR WIA CB as grant applicant

Mr. McCready seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Chair Brillhart opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

Ms. Holliday requested that the Board approve accepting the Power Grant and approve People Inc.'s Contract to serve DLWs impacted by the decline in the Coal Industry in the amount of \$131,094. Dr. Workman made a motion to approve accepting the Power Grant and People Inc.'s Contract. Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Chair Brillhart abstained.

Ms. Holliday requested that the Board approve the Rapid Response Funding to serve DLWs impacted by the layoffs of: Volvo, Ball, Sprint and Sandvick, and to put \$600,000 under Contract with People Inc. so that they may begin to serve those clients. The contract would be effective

March 1, 2016. Traci Mitchell of People, Inc. updated the Board on the Volvo enrollments and commended the WDB staff for their assistance in the process of serving the Volvo clients. Dr. Workman made a motion to approve the Rapid Response Funding and People Inc.'s Contract. Ms. Biggs seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Chair Brillhart abstained.

Chair Brillhart asked the Board members present to review the 2016 Committee assignments. She stated that if anyone had questions or concerns they could contact her or Ms. Holliday.

Mr. White, WDB Chair, invited the Board to attend the WDB April 27, 2016 meeting. Chair White stated that proposals for PY16 have been received and delivered to the evaluators.

Chair Brillhart asked Mr. Martin to give an Operational Summary. Mr. Martin reviewed service levels and stated that the Program Operators are in line with their planned service goals. Mr. Martin informed the Board that although DLW placement levels are down, it is due to the fact that several TAA clients who retired were taken off the program as no additional Program Services were needed. Mr. Martin stated that the State had revised its definition of "Training" to no longer include Administrative Funds. This revision will have a positive impact on both our Adult and DLW service delivery.

Mr. Martin stated that all proposals have been received with only People Inc. for the Mt Rogers area for Youth and Adult, and DLW for all of Area 2, and Goodwill Industries for the Youth and Adult in the New River Valley.

PY15 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Performance numbers are in. We have exceeded all measures except for one. We have exceeded the States measures.

Chair Brillhart asked Ms. Holliday to give an Executive Summary. Ms. Holliday updated the Board on Staff activities, business engagement, and outreach since their last meeting.

Continuing with the agenda, Chair Brillhart proceeded with the Informational Items. Mr. Lawrence updated the Board on the Sector Strategy and stated that this area has a great foundation and commended the area on the Survey responses he had sent out. He stated that 95% of the surveys were completed. For the next four months, Mr. Lawrence will work with the teams that are being developed.

Chair Brillhart welcomed People Inc.'s new Workforce Director, Darrell Blankenship, who updated the Board on the One Stop Operator report. Ms. Mitchell shared the Success Story and updated the Board on the Just Hire One Adult Re-entry Project. Ms. Gilmer updated the Board on Goodwill's Just Hire One report.

Ms. Holliday updated the Board on current Grants. Ms. Holliday discussed how the Mobile Computer Labs are serving both businesses and individuals. She stated that the Labs are doing so well that more equipment has been purchased with available grant funds.

Chair Brillhart opened the floor for Consortium Board Members comments. Mr. McCready stated he learned that a Professor at VT was awarded a Regional Grant to encourage new business in the amount of half a million dollars which will be matched by VT. The Professor has chosen the Roanoke Valley for new business instead of the New River Valley. Mr. McCready will keep the board informed of any additional information about this grant.

Ms. Holliday shared that Ms. Sutherland would like to host the May 18, 2016 Board meeting at Crossroads in Galax. Mr. Martin stated that the next Board meeting is a very important meeting and a Quorum would be needed. Mr. Williams made a motion to conduct the next meeting at the Crossroads Facilities in Galax, with a second from Dr. Workman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next meeting would be on May 18, 2016 at the Crossroads Facilities beginning at 10:00 AM.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverly Burke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Beverly Burke  
Workforce Operations Coordinator