NEW RIVER/MOUNT ROGERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2019

A meeting of the New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board was held on October 23, 2019 at the Wytheville Meeting Center. Those in attendance were as follows:

Board Members
Mike Miller, Chair
Howard Bartholomay
Carol Blankenship
Brookes Dawson
Joseph Ferrell
Mary Ann Gilmer
Robert Goldsmith
Larry Linsey
Jordan Loupe
Timothy McVey
Austin Phipps
Robert Pierce
Jimmy Smith
Terry Smusz
Mark Tapp
Vicki Mars (Alternate)

Jay Williams – CLEO Chair

Guest
Beth Carico
Brenda Rigney
Camden Phillips
Ashley Schutrum
Julia Gohlke
Laura Venable
David Bowers

Staff
Marty Holliday
Ronnie Martin
Della Wheeler

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Chair Miller had the guest introduce themselves.

Ms. Holliday called the roll and a quorum was present.

Ms. Smusz made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with a second by Mr. Lindsey. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Miller asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board during the public comment period. Ms. Holliday asked Dr. Julia Gohlke to talk about the Appalachian Teaching Project as she and a few of her students were in attendance. Dr. Gohlke gave an overview of the work her class was doing on individuals in recovery returning to work in the NRV. They hoped to make connections today.

Chair Miller next asked for Committee Reports.

- **Budget and Administration Committee**: Ms. Holliday brought the members attention to the adjusted budget, noting the changes were due to funds received for the Rapid Response project and the Economic Equity project.

- **Executive Committee**: Mr. Miller gave an overview of the Joint Executive Committee Meeting, noting that the Committee deferred making any decision on the PY20 Request for Proposal (RFP) as they felt that the full board should be in on the discussion and decision. A lengthy discussion followed with members voicing concern about loss of relationships and competitiveness if the RFP required a single provider covering the whole region for all programs. While other members voice concern over loss of funding and the ability to maintain two providers. Mr. Ferrell made the motion to develop the RFP for a single provider covering the whole region. The motion was seconded by Ms. Blankenship. Mr. Goldsmith and Ms. Gilmer abstained. The motion did not pass. The RFP will be written the same as in previous years. A request was made that a section be added for all bidders to detail out their relationships in the region.

- **One-Stop Operations & Delivery System**: Ms. Blankenship asked Ms. Holliday to update the Board on the MOU and Resource Sharing Agreements (RSA). Ms. Holliday explained that the single region MOU and the seven RSAs were due to the State on Oct. 31. She told the Board that she did not have all partner signatures at this time, but she would send in what she had. She felt that many workforce areas were in the same situation. She would keep the Board updated on any issues regarding partner signatures. Mr. Miller called for a motion on accepting the MOU and RFAs as presented. Ms. Gilmer made the motion. Mr. Goldsmith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Training Provider Committee**: Mr. McVey noted the timeline in the packet and that the Board would vote on the approved Training Providers and programs at the December meeting.

Mr. Williams told the Board that he did not run for office and would not be serving on the Consortium Board after Dec. 31, 2019. He thanked the Board members for all that they do to serve the region.

Chair Williams asked the members to review the PY19 Committee Assignments and to let him know if there were any problems.

Ms. Holliday reviewed the executive summary.

Moving on with the agenda, Chair Miller called for partner reports:

PARTNER REPORTS

Reports for the following partner agencies were given: Community Based Organizations, Ms. Smusz and Mr. Goldsmith; Post-Secondary Education, Vickie Mars, Job Corp, Mr. Loupe; TANF Programs, Mr. Lindsey; One-Stop Operator Report, Ms. Carico; and Special Grants, Ms. Holliday.

The 2018 WDB meeting schedule was reviewed with Board members noting that the next WDB meeting would be a Joint meeting with the Consortium Board and is scheduled for December 11, 2019 at the Wytheville Meeting Center beginning at 10:00 AM with lunch being provided.

Ms. Holliday discussed the Travel Voucher with Board members. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Holliday

Marty Holliday,
Executive Director