

New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Area Consortium Board

MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Biggs called to order the regular meeting of the NRMR Workforce Development Area Consortium Board at 10:05 am on January 20, 2021 via ZOOM due to the COVID19 Pandemic. Chair Biggs read Section 2.2-3708.10 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, permits members of the New River/Mount Rodgers Workforce Development Area Consortium Board to participate in this scheduled meeting of the board on January 20, at 10:05 a.m. through electronic communication, via Zoom due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Workman made the motion to approve the continued use of a virtual meeting format. Ms. Deel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

Chair Biggs called for a moment of reflection

ROLL CALL

Ms. Suthers conducted a roll call. The following persons were present and a quorum was present:

Board Members

Mary Biggs, Chair – Montgomery County
Dr. Eric Workman – Bland County
Joe Turman – Floyd County
Mike Larrowe – Galax City
Perry Martin – Giles County
Laura Walters – Pulaski County
Lori Deel – Smyth County

Staff

Marty Holliday
Ronnie
Beverly Suthers
Della Wheeler
Jenny Bolte

Guests

Mike Miller – WDB Chair
Elizabeth Carico, People Inc.
Trent Moore, Goodwill Industries

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair. Biggs asked Ms. Holliday to review the Operational Summary. Ms. Holliday explained that due to the COVID19 Pandemic the Operational Summary numbers were down. She informed the Board that all areas were down on the 40% training requirement. She said that the State was aware of the situation and hopes it will not be an issue at the end of the Program Year.

She also asked Board members to reach out to the Program Operators in their jurisdiction and give Youth referrals or information on what organization would be helpful with Youth referrals. asked if there were any questions concerning the Consent Agenda Items previously distributed.

Dr. Workman made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with a second from Mr. Martin. Motion was passed with Mr. Turman abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Biggs asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board during the public comment period. Hearing none, she proceeded with the agenda.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Biggs turned the meeting over to Ms. Holliday. Dr. Workman made a motion from the Nominating Committee to keep the current slate of officers: Chair- Mary Biggs, Vice Chair – Kenneth Belton. Ms. Holliday opened the floor to nominations, hearing none Ms. Holliday asked for a motion to close nominations. Mr. Larrowe with a second from Dr Workman made the motion to close the floor to nominations and vote to keep the current slate of officers. A called vote was made and passed unanimously. Dr. Workman thanked the officers for their willingness to serve.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. Holliday reviewed the very tight Strategic Plan timeline. The Plan needed to go out for Public Comment by Friday, January 22, 2021. The Plan will then need to be approved by the Workforce Development Board at their February meeting and then by the State by March 1. A brief discussion followed. Dr. Workman made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as presented with a second from Mr. Martin. A called vote was made and passed unanimously.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Miller, WD Board Chair, stated that primary focus for the Workforce Board has been the Strategic Plan.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUMMARY

Ms. Holliday reviewed the executive summary informing the Board.

1. Locality Support for Business Services for PY21: Ms. Holliday is currently asking for support for PY21.
2. Workforce Center Certification Process: Ms. Holliday informed the Board of the changes in the certification process. The certification group cannot be board staff or partners. She will need volunteers to serve on four teams to review the four centers for certification. She asked that volunteers contact her for training.
3. Work Ready Communities: There was a brief discussion concerning the process of becoming a Work Ready Community.

WORKFORCE SYSTEM UPDATES

Ms. Carico provided the One-Stop Operator report, program updates, and shared the Success Story. She then asked for Youth referrals. Mr. Moore provided program and asked for Youth referrals and announced a new case manager was needed in the Giles area was well. Ms. Holliday and Ms. Bolte provided an update on the Pathways grant and some new grants that would be starting.

CONSORTIUM BOARD MEMBERS TIME

Chair Biggs asked if any members of the Consortium Board wished to address the Board during the member's time, hearing none, she proceeded with the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Biggs highlighted the next scheduled WDB meeting schedule with Board members. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m. to the Executive Committee Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beverly Suthers,
Workforce Operations Coordinator