

North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board Meeting
March 14, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.
UACCB Independence Hall – Batesville, AR
Minutes

Members Present: Ben Baxter, Regina Burkett, Gayle Cooper, Shayne Gaither, Alvin Hearyman, Garry Lawrence, Keith McClanahan, Darrell Moore, Sherry Organ, Jada Ragland, Steve Roofener, Angela Ryland, Darline Tucker, Pam Williams, and Micah Woods

Members Absent: Zack Branscum, Kimberly Clayborn, Randy Ratliff, Tim London, and Jamie Rayford

Member Represented by Proxy: Pat Dunegan

Others Present: Jan Smith, Karla Rush, Lisa Earls, Nancy Whitmire, Leonard Mesa, Byron Southerland, Tonya Washington, Donetta Bradford, Angela Goodwin, Carrie McIntosh, Mitzi Hargan, Kay Price, Lynn Poff, Greg Miller, Wendy Howard, Caren Smith, and Dustin Emerson

A meeting of the North Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Board Chair Pam Williams on March 14, 2018. Board Chair Williams called for an approval of the minutes of the previous meeting as corrected. A motion was made by Alvin Hearyman and seconded by Dr. Keith McClanahan, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Angela Goodwin presented the board with the approved programs on the ACRS. She explained that in order to receive WIOA funding, training programs must be applied for and accepted by the state before the local area can approve them. Nancy Whitmire of UACCB requested that notifications be sent out as a program is about to expire so that the institution can go in and make new application without disruption to new enrollees. Without further discussion, a motion was made to accept the ACRS list by Ben Baxter and seconded by Garry Lawrence. Approval was unanimous.

Ms. Goodwin informed the board that the NEG 29 program, which covers April/May 2017 storm damage, was budgeted for 19 participants, but currently has only enrolled 11 since October, when the funds became available from the state. Two are at the City of Augusta, one at the City of Sulphur Rock, one at the Fulton Co. Rd. Dept, and four at the IZARD Co. Rd. Dept. No participants have been enrolled in The City of Melbourne and the City of Newark. The grant is scheduled to end on June 30, 2018. Since the areas did not receive the funding for several months after the grant beginning date and additional storm damage has increased our need for laborers, an extension has been submitted and is expected to be approved.

In other business, Ms. Goodwin gave an update on the Infrastructure Funding Agreement. She explained the federal regulations state that all WIOA core programs must offer services through the One-Stop Centers, and each program must pay their fair share of the operating cost. The required services that are not available through physical presence - a staff of that particular program located at the center - will have a dedicated phone line for clients to access the services, such as those who need adult education services. The square footage and expected budgets have been previously shared with the partners, and a draft agreement has been submitted to the state for approval. The budgets for shared cost and the Infrastructure Funding Agreement draft were made available for anyone who would like to review them.

- Youth Incentive Policy – removed incentive for attending work experience since they receive a pay check for their time, and adds requirement to complete an employability skills workshop to be eligible to receive incentive for attaining unsubsidized employment. Motion was made by Angela Ryland and seconded by Sherry Organ. Approval was unanimous.
- Confidentiality Policy - added “personally identification information” as requested by the state monitors. Motion made by Dr. Keith McClanahan, seconded by Sherry Organ. Approval was unanimous.
- Procurement Policy – updated the purchase price to match the more restrictive of the state and federal procurement guidelines. Also added current costs to each type of procurement. This policy was tabled due to additional information recommended by the board.
- Work Experience Policy – this policy had been approved by the Executive Committee on 2/13/18, but was not approved by the full board due to questions raised regarding who should be the responsible party to sign for approval of worksite agreements.
- Supportive Services Policy for Adults & Dislocated Workers – minor changes, gives responsibility of approving exceptions to the Executive Director. Policy was tabled due to questions regarding the responsible party to sign for ordinary agreements with service providers.
- Supportive Services Policy for Youth – minor changes, gives responsibility of approving exceptions to the Executive Director. Policy was tabled due to questions regarding the responsible party to sign for ordinary agreements with service providers.

A motion was made by Alvin Hearyman to allow the full board to receive the updated information on the policies and approve by email. Regina Burkett seconded and all were in favor.

Donetta Bradford gave a report on current participants served on the WIOA program and what services they are receiving.

Jada Ragland and Dustin Emerson with Friendship Community Care presented information on the Job Path Program. Friendship Community Care is a nonprofit organization serving children and adults in Arkansas with disabilities.

With no further business, Dr. Keith McClanahan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Garry Lawrence seconded. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Pam Williams

Board Chair Pam Williams