

## MINUTES

Macon-Bibb Workforce Investment Board  
Full Board Meeting  
Tuesday, August 12, 2014, 4:00 p.m.  
175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, GA

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Burnham  
Myrtle Habersham  
Shannon Harvey  
Becky Lee  
Harry Murray  
June Parker  
Jimmy Pitts  
Theresa Robinson  
Steve Schwartz  
Ralph Snowden  
Bob Thompson  
Jennifer Welch

### STAFF PRESENT

Sheknita Davis  
James Johnson  
Laura Mathis  
Carol Payton  
Howard Scott  
Lisa Yazzie

### GUESTS PRESENT

Ronnita Whipple – 2014 Bibb County High School Graduate

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Theresa Robinson called the August Full Board meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Carol Payton called the roll and indicated that a quorum was present.

### OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

b. Introduction of Guests

Any guests were recognized at this time.

c. Conflict of Interest Statement

In lieu of reading the entire Conflict of Interest Statement, Ms. Robinson stated that if there is any Board business that will require action and could also benefit any Board member and/or family member, it is mandatory that they abstain from discussion and voting.

STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes of July 8, 2014 Board Meeting

There were no corrections to the minutes of the July 8, 2014 Board meeting, and they were unanimously approved on a motion by Ralph Snowden, and seconded by Becky Lee.

b. Old Business

i. Local Plan Revision

Sheknita Davis reported that the revisions to the Local Plan were included in everyone's packet. No major wording changes were made, just the addition of sentences and additional detail. She noted that the changes were highlighted and briefly went over them. The revisions have been forwarded to Brett Lacey of the Georgia Department of Economic Development Workforce Division. He has reviewed them and is waiting on approval by this Board.

She asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the revisions. There being none, Ralph Snowden made a motion that the Local Plan Revisions be approved and submitted to the State. The motion was seconded by Becky Lee and approved.

ii. WIA Legislative Update

On July 22, President Obama signed into law the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) which replaces the previous Workforce Investment Act. Ms. Davis indicated that included in everyone's package was a timeline with key dates that the Board needs to know.

She noted that January 18, 2015 marks the date when the published Notices of Proposed Rulemaking to implement the WIOA will be received. These will come from the Department of Labor, Department of Education, and Department of Health and Human Services. The implementation date for the act is July 1, 2015. WIA State and local plan provisions will continue to apply for the first full-program year; therefore, no new plan is needed until July 1, 2016. This applies to the performance measures as well. It is anticipated that the State will have an updated plan completed by March 15, 2015. These dates will also affect how the Board will prepare to budget for youth beginning July 1, 2015. Current law will be changed so that the Board must budget seventy-five percent of youth funds towards out-of-school or disconnected youth and

twenty percent of total allocation put towards employment-based activities (i.e., pre-apprenticeships, summer employment, work experience).

Also included in the packet was a copy of the document Frequently Asked Questions. The Department of Employment and Training Administration has a website that has been dedicated to the FAQ. She referenced some of the key items on the FAQ.

Staff should receive more clarity on how to proceed with the implementation once more information is passed down to the State Workforce Board.

Chair Robinson encouraged the Board to read the Frequently Asked Questions in its entirety. Ms. Davis indicated that she tries to stay abreast with any webinars or emails that may come down. Some of the Board members expressed appreciation to Ms. Davis for her efforts to stay informed.

### iii. Boeing Update

Howard Scott reported that a multitude of services are still being provided to Boeing. He provided a brief overview of some of the workshops that have been held. Some of the organizations that have helped include the Small Business Development Center which provided information on business start-up, and Mercer University which provided resume workshops. Other information provided includes the Affordable Care Act and one-on-one career transition sessions.

As of July 31, 64 employees have been laid off, and the process is still continuing. Workforce staff will continue to provide assistance.

### c. New Business

#### i. Committee Reports

##### 1. Budget and Finance Committee

Chairperson Jennifer Welch referenced the Proposed FY 2015 Budget Amendment 1 that was provided to all members. The first part deals with the revenue and what is carry over from FY 2014 and what is new. The proposed revenues total \$1,812,527.

The second part deals with the expenditures. The Committee felt it was necessary to make changes to the following line items to better fit the needs: Salaries, Employee Benefits, Indirect, Contractual Services Paxen, and Contractual Services (CGTC). The indirect percentage was calculated only on salaries, but should have been calculated on salaries and fringe. Ms. Welch said she was proud to report that the fringe rate went down from 52.9% to 48.44%. The indirect cost percentage dropped from 45.36% to 43.49%.

All the changes bring the carry over down from \$664,448 to \$602,858. She indicated that there will be changes in salaries at the end of the year because there are two staff positions that were budgeted for the 12 months but are currently not filled.

The Committee recommends approval of Proposed FY 2015 Budget Amendment 1. Jimmy Pitts made a motion that it be approved. The motion was seconded by Myrtle Habersham and unanimously approved.

## 2. Public Relations Committee

Committee Chair Shannon Harvey reported that the next meeting of the Committee will be September 4. The Committee also anticipates having the Marketing/Public Relations Plan ready for adoption by the November meeting.

### GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chair Robinson said she and Sheknita Davis have talked about making sure that the Board has the necessary information needed to make informed decisions. She has asked Ms. Davis to start including on the agenda for each full Board meeting an item entitled Workforce 201. This will simply provide an opportunity for Board members to ask questions about something they don't understand or other general questions.

#### a. Workforce 201

Ms. Davis said one question that came to mind immediately is something that she has been asked over and over starting approximately two years ago – “What is Workforce and what do they do?” Some of the services and programs provided, in addition to displaced workers as reported earlier, include: tuition assistance; assistance with books; transportation; childcare; licensing fees; and uniforms. Workforce focuses more on the careers that will allow a person to earn more. Most of the students that receive assistance attend Central Georgia Technical College.

Youth services are currently being provided through Paxen Learning Corporation. They provide an accelerated GED program. Students can earn incentives throughout the year and financial rewards for earning their high school diploma or GED.

Staff has discussed the possibility of expanding short-term training programs to veterans, as well as ex-offenders, through the technical colleges.

Ms. Davis said she has been asked, “Doesn't Workforce do the same thing that the Department of Labor does?” She indicated that there is a continuum of services that participants go through with the Department of Labor before they come to Workforce.

Workforce provided assistance to Tractor Supply when they opened their facility here. There are anticipated opportunities to assist Kumho Tire who is also locating a plant in Macon, as well as the YKK and GEICO expansions. Workforce did participate in a target job fair for GEICO approximately two years ago.

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Ms. Mathis provided an update on an opportunity for the Middle Georgia Regional Commission. At the end of June, a team from the Department of Defense in Washington came to middle Georgia and met with local elected officials from Houston County and Macon-Bibb County. DoD indicated there was funding in the amount of \$26 million that had to be disbursed before the end of September or be returned. They indicated that middle Georgia was one of the places where they would like to see the money invested due to the number of jobs that have been or will be lost (RAFB and Boeing) over the next year due to reductions in spending.

The application had to be submitted to the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) by July 18; therefore, the Executive Committee met in July to consider submission of an application. The MGRC was asked by Houston County and its communities to be the applicant and was led by Chairman Tommy Stalnaker. The staff spent most of the first part of July putting the application together, and a brief Proposed Scope of Work detailing the following three projects was provided to everyone:

- Asset Map Component 1: Human Capital
- Asset Map Component 2: Infrastructure
- Asset Map Component 3: Industrial Base

Ms. Mathis touched briefly on each of the required components. She also mentioned the meeting with staff members from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government Fanning Institute approximately 18 months ago and the discussion of a Regional Leadership Program here in middle Georgia. Funding was needed to get the program going and OEA, through the grant, will provide the first year of funding for this program. This program will in no way compete with other local regional development programs or Leadership Georgia. The total project cost is approximately \$750,000, and the MGRC has the cash match through various means. She touched briefly on where the application process stands and the anticipated award date. The staff also anticipates a second year of funding.

b. Presentation

Chair Theresa Robinson announced that she invited Ronnita Whipple, a recent Central High School graduate and runner-up in the Duct Tape "Stuck at Prom" contest, to the meeting to present her art portfolio to the Board. Ms. Whipple was a former recipient of Workforce programs and has received a scholarship to the Savannah College of Art and Design. As a runner-

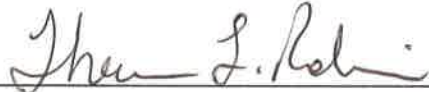
up in the contest, she won a \$5,000 scholarship for school as well as a \$3,000 scholarship for Central High School.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Full Board Meeting – October 14, 2014
- b. Youth Council Meeting – September 8, 2014

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the August board meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

  
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WIB Chair

  
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WIB Secretary

  
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