

**Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board
Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
Hughesville, MD
June 11, 2015**

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Benton (Chair), Kelly Williams, Edie McGreevy, Dan Mosser, Todd Morgan, Brianna Bowling, Stacey Cook, Sonja Cox, Swynice Hawkins, Larry Greenhill, John Hartline, Thomas F. McKay, Bill Scarafia, Robin Cullers, Therese Wolf

Members Absent: Darlene Breck, Ben Bryan, Besty Burian, Alan Crawley, Ronn Filley, Betty Fleming, Lanny Lancaster, Catherine Pratson, Julie Randall, Shawn Salta, Stacey Spalding, Doris Cammack-Spencer,

Staff Present: Ruthy Davis, Michelle DeSoto, Lindsey Almond, Leonard Greene, Melinda Bowling, Norma Hurley, Pam Wilkerson, Eleanor Nelson

Mission Moment Guest: Anthony Jones & Drew Balmon

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 am by Mike Benton, Chairman

WELCOME

Mike Benton, Chairman, opened the meeting with an acknowledgment of the attendees.

MISSION MOMENT

Two WIA job seekers were introduced by Pam Wilkerson. Mr. Anthony Jones spoke about his experience being out of work and successfully completed the CDL program at the Waldorf One-Stop. 1 year later, gainfully employed with First Transit (VanGo).

Ms. Drew Balmon, moved back home to take care of family and lost her job. Spoke with Diana Abell, Career Services Specialist about getting training for EMT. Ms. Balmon successfully completed the CNA/GNA program and received her licenses.

CLEO APPRECIATION

Mike Benton introduces the WIB CLEO Commissioner Todd Morgan and thanked him for his support of the WIB. Commissioner Morgan than thanked the WIB members for their service, for the work in helping the community and for their time and dedication.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the March 12, 2015 SMWIB minutes was made by Kelly Williams seconded by Bill Scarfia and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONSENT AGENDA)

A motion to approve the Committee Reports (Consent Agenda) was made by Swynice Hawkins seconded Briana Bowling and carried.

APPROVAL BUDGET

A motion to approve the FY 2016 Budget was made by Larry Greenhill seconded by Sonja Cox and carried.

JOBSOUCÉ NEWS

Staffing: DLLR is downsizing. Ruthy Davis is working with Alan Crawley, LEA DLLR, in insuring the Waldorf One-Stop office develops better customer service.

New Grant Opportunities:

- HHS – NEW PATHWAYS FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES: Charles County Department of Social Services is the lead and is applying for grant. TCCSMD will be fiscal agent and could receive \$100,000 to put towards workplace excellence and job readiness.
- DOL reached out to LWIB for input in planning grants. Two grants were selected: Internship Grant and Sector Strategy Grant to training in healthcare and skills trainings.
- RURAL MARYLAND COUNCIL – MARDAF: TCCSMD is partnering with SBDC on application. Maximum grant award is \$25,000. Average grant is \$18,000. Priority is given to applicants who secure local matching funds. Grant focus is to promote entrepreneurship.

4TH ANNUAL “NINE INNINGS OF NETWORKING” HIRING EVENT

The 4th Annual “Nine Innings of Networking” took place on Monday, June 1, 2015 at the Regency Furniture Stadium. Successful event -- 16 Sponsors and 36 Southern Maryland employers meet more than 1800 job seekers. VanGo conducted 8 interviews and made 8 job offers.

A new dimension was added to the event. MGM National Harbor was invited to speak on different contract opportunities available for MBE/WBE specific contracts. MBE/WBE companies registered in the Southern Maryland Region were invited. The agenda consists of panel presentations, questions & answer session and networking. Presenters included Whiting-Turning, general contractor for the MGM National Harbor, Last Mile Broadband LLC, SMECO, and Small Business Development Center at the College of Southern Maryland.

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) UPDATE

Initial Designation: Each area, 12 in Maryland, had to request initial designation from the Governor to keep current status for 2 years. New WIOA law states that there needs to be one comprehensive center in each designated area; for Southern Maryland it would be the Waldorf One-Stop.

The TCCSMD Board feels the Southern Maryland rural counties will not be effectively served if reorganized. The TCCSMD Full Board keynote speaker is Secretary Kelly Schulz. The Board will make a presentation to Secretary Schulz reiterating the JobSource successes and that a lack of transportation to areas is paramount in decision in keeping the Southern Maryland region intact.

Draft Regulation Released: Draft regulations were released in April 2015 for review until June 30, 2015. Final regulations are anticipated for release on July 1, 2015.

New Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board: The new WIOA resolution will dissolve the current Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and stand up the new Workforce Development Board (WDB). The new WDB will begin in September 2015. Board applications and makeup will be sent out so current WIB members to determine if they still meet the requirements under WIOA.

BOARD GOING FORWARD UNDER WIOA

Chairman Mike Benton opened the floor for a roundtable discussion regarding the WIB - what went well, and what can we do better as a board.

Brianna Bowling noted that the JobSource staff does a great job and needs to stop spending time proving to the board that they are doing a good job – it is a waste of resources.

John Hartline mentioned that the WIB does not want to see reports for the sake of reporting. Goal is to avoid all the mundane graphs and reports given to the board, separate from what is required in the regulations, and is working with Leonard Greene to avoid doing additional work.

Mike Benton wants to see the board informed on monthly basis. This can be accomplished by sending a quick email once a month or a newsletter.

Stacy Cook mentioned that maybe the WDB should look into new and different committees to incorporate.

Sonja Cox also stated that rules on attendance should be implemented and followed for new WDB and committees.

John Hartline mentioned that the Waldorf One-Stop computer training lab is now operational. He is conducting a math tutoring program and intends to have future computer trainings available for job seekers. In July, the first training will be a 2 week boot camp utilizing the new computer lab.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comments

First meeting of the WIOA compliant Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board is scheduled for September 10, 2015. Location is TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.