

## **Southern Middle TN Local Workforce Development Board Meeting**

**October 9, 2019**

**In Attendance: Keith Durham, Harden Franklin, Will Johnson, Christine Hopkins, Teresa Smith, Rob Michell, Diana Hague, Rena Rurdy**

**Proxy: Robby Moore, Brian Crabtree, Terry Tillis, Howard Kirksey, William Moon, Dr. Mark Short, Selina Moore, John Sechler**

**Absent: T.J. Judge, Cory Warden, Barbara Lamb-grass, Don Barber, Mathew Boner, Ray Trawick, Kellie Kea-Carroll, Rebecca Gold Johnson, Jason Helton**

### **Call to Order and Welcome**

- Performed by Keith Durham, Board Chair

### **Roll call**

- Performed by Carl D. Sims II, WIOA program Coordinator and Compliance Officer

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Introduced to the board by Keith Durham.
- Motion to approve made by Christine Hopkins
- Seconded with no discussion by Rena Purdy.

### **Discussion of WIOA Contract with SCTDD's Transportation Department**

- Introduced by Keith, passed to Wendi to start discussion.
- High school students cannot take dual enrollment due to lack of transportation.
- Rena Purdy stated that transportation is a barrier hurting dual enrollment.
- Youth Summit – ten students from each high school, (for a total of thirty) 11<sup>th</sup> graders, all said dedicated routes would benefit them, and help students achieve higher education.
- Hoping to tie tourism to transportation as well.
- Our local TCATs and Columbia State should be set up as designated sites for public transportation.
- Possible focus on the Regional Area – one example being a route between Collinwood and Lawrence, focus on transit within region.
- Focus on designated stops and designated transportation.
- Discussion on topic – average miles traveled, time it takes to get to the area. Do students have enough time to work on studies and projects with travel times?

- Anita Turnbow brought up that other workforce boards have contracts with Public Transit programs and schools.
- Richard Stewart requested that the Board consider a motion to work with the SCATS program and SCTDD.
- Wendi suggested that it's open to all public transportation (cabs, taxis, etc).
- Rob Mitchell stated that Hickman County is in a similar situation. Contract with the school.
- Have the teachers get trained and certified through the school, or bring the staff to the students.
- Suggested a meet in the middle approach.
- Keith stated that a mechanism needed to be in place for transportation.
- Teresa Smith requested that Adult Education be included in talks, and brought up the fiscal impact. What kind of costs is the board looking at per person, per trip?
- A need to accommodate Adult education and Dual Enrollment people.
- Keith called for a motion for SCTDD/SCATS and WIOA to hammer out a contract.
- Rena Motioned and Christine Seconded.
- Motion approved.
- A request to look at research, and see detailed qualifications.
- Transportation is a major issue.
- Carl Sims brought a question forward from Wendi, asking if a contract was hammered out, should it be brought back before the board?
- Keith stated that they should review the contract.
- Kevin asked what the cost will be. Costs to be hammered out during the contract.
- Kevin asked if it was similar to the Mule Town Trolley.
- Richard confirmed it was.
- Motion to work on contract brought to board for approval
- Motion approval.

### **Discussion of Reentry Contract with Centerstone**

- Keith introduced the topic to board, handed off to Wendi.
- Wendi discussed the trip she took to the jails. State inmates have access to state services, such as counseling, while local inmates do not have access to any services.
- Christine Hopkins wants to find services for local inmates; Centerstone is in agreement to work with this population. Leading to better outcomes for inmates and justice involved.

- Sheriff believes these services are needed for locals, along with work-release programs.
- Some push back from local judges, wants inmates to serve their time.
- Need to use all the funding we can for reentry programs.
- Rob Mitchell wants Suzy Pruitt involved due to her success with the program.
- Diana stated that VocRehab wants access to the population, and wants to help them.
- Rena stated that the sheriffs are open and welcome to re-entry programs, but needs to be easier to access.
- Christine requested to move forward for approval and apply.
- Keith opened the floor for a motion to approve the application for money for reentry program.
- Christine motioned and Rena seconded.
- Motion Approved

### **Review of Monitoring Findings**

- Keith introduced topic to board, moved to Wendi for discussion.
- Wendi and Carl covered the findings and observations from the State Monitoring Team and Earnest and Young.
- Staff walked through each finding and observation, stating the finding and SCTDD's answer.
- Christine asked about MPCR, Minimum Participant Cost Rate, when we would know? How do the percents breakdown?
- Wendi stated that at the end of the month we would know during the first quarter but SCTDD is aiming for 40% next year.
- Rena questioned the conflict of interest findings.
- Paul Rosson explained the situation, and pointed out that SCTDD, SCHRA, WIOA, and Transportation are all State Entities. As such there is no conflict of interest.
- Keith asked the board if there were any questions on the Observations.
- Hardin Franklin asked if the observations are being corrected.
- Keith, with help from staff, stated that the observations were corrected with examples.
- No action from the board. Review done annually.

## **New Business**

### ***Kevin Vaughn and Will Johnson***

- Kevin Vaughn provided information on Fire Pro protection and has a seat on state board.
- Working on video on apprenticeship.
- Pipefitters have a five year program.
- Pre-apprentices to work in trade 85 last year and now 62.
- Complete five year program, counts for 44 college credits.
- Transportation, background checks, hard work are common problems among 38 counties in TN.
- Christine asked How many students in the rural counties would you need to have class?
- Look at forecast of work load and make decision each year.
- Pre-apprenticeship—understand what's involved provide them information.
- Age group? 18+ years old.
- Main goal of apprenticeships is to lead into a full time job.
- Only pay for books.
- Can program be brought to rural counties? Must go to Davidson County for school and work.
- Teresa noted there is a push for pre-apprenticeship programs through adult education.
- Wants a committee with all players at the table.
- Next local plan pre apprenticeship available in counties.
- Southern Middle will have access to apprenticeship.
- Pilot Southern Middle apprenticeship—to feed right into their programs.
- Diana was asked how long would it take. She replied it varies and stated September 1 starts apprenticeship program. Teresa stated that she can start any time on pre apprenticeship.
- Heavily regulated by government apprenticeships.
- First year apprenticeship \$13.36.
- Rena asked about pathways for high school students.
- First step is to apply per Mr. Johnson.
- Rob stated TBR doesn't accept those as traditional paths. Change mindset.
- Rob continued and stated that 12 are federally approved.
- Gain license but no certification.
- 12 schools are approved.
- After 350 hours insurance starts and by the third year workers get 1.60 hour in pension.

- Hardin stated that twice weekly classes probably won't work.

## **WIOA Dashboard**

- Tiffany provided dash board through June.
- Goodman layoff 302 registered jobs4tn, 195 at job fair.
- Thirteen companies IWT, 535 employers, 59 students in WEX.
- AJC traffic-breakdown 8300 per year.

## **Old Business**

- **Rob**
- Update on new centers?
  
- **Paul Rosson, SCHRA Executive Director**
- We are ready to submit the centers for final certification.
- DHS, ADA, furniture and computers ready to go and waiting on them to give us the go ahead.
- The State Certification Process was changed.
- Aiming for a presence in thirteen counties.
- Confidence in Assistant Commissioner to assist and streamline process.
- Waiting on final approval from State.
- The new AJC in Tullahoma has access to more parking spaces, while being cheaper, and having more square footage.
- Invited entire board to ribbon cutting on November 6.
- Help in impoverished areas. Need presence in all of these counties.
  
- Keith stated again, that the goal of board is too have a presence in all thirteen counties, and gave thanks for to Paul for his hard work.
- Christine stated that SCTDD, our Rural Counties, and SCHRA are blessed to have Gary Morgan, Richard Stewart, Nathan Ward, and Lorrie Fisher. She continued that Jerry Manfield is fortunate to have these people, and that rural counties need this knowledge and resources the team can offer.

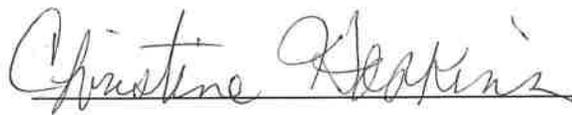
## **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Christine, seconded by Keith.

Board Approval of Minutes from Oct 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting on January 23, 2020

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Keith Durham", written above a horizontal line.

**Keith Durham, Board Chair**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine Hopkins", written above a horizontal line.

**Christine Hopkins**