

**MIDDLE GEORGIA
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
AUGUST 24, 2021**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Middle Georgia Workforce Development Board was held virtually on August 24, 2021, at noon. The following members were present:

Barbara Moseley	Jeff Scruggs
Steve Williams	Dan Brandon
Darreth Roby	Clifford Holmes
Richard Hinson	Joy Carr
Brian Utley	Amy Kelly
Ivan Allen	Keith King
Gloria Knowles	Tishua Green
Willie Billingslea	Carolyn Watson
Stacey Mixson	Aundrea Simmons
Kendrick Butts	Tyrone Evans
Jay Flesher	Lee Tompkins

The following guests were in attendance:

Ethel Wynn, GDOL, Milledgeville Career Center
Brenda Brown, CGTC
Robert Betzel, Grit Consulting, LLC
Janie Reid, In-the-Door, One-Stop Operator
Paul Allen, In-the-Door, One-Stop Operator

WELCOME GUEST/NEW MEMBER

Chairman Steve Williams chaired and called the meeting to order at 12:06PM. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating. There was a quorum present.

MINUTES

1. Approve of the Minutes of the June 22, 2021 meeting of the Middle Georgia Workforce Development Board.

A motion was made by Clifford Holmes and seconded by Patrick Manuel to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021 meeting of the Middle Georgia Workforce Development Board as written. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Middle Georgia Entrepreneur Academy – Robert Betzel, of Grit Consulting, LLC briefed the members on the Startup grant and asked for their support. He explained that Start Macon was made aware of a grant that was provided by the Lieutenant Governor’s office to the Startup group in Augusta, Georgia. The grant provides \$25,000 to five cities to collectively create an Entrepreneur Academy that would allow them to take individuals who are interested in entrepreneurship and determine if it’s the right path for them and, if it is, shepherd them through a 12-week curriculum requirement such as plan development, finance, technology and all the other requirements to help them become successful entrepreneurs. Once they complete the 12

weeks of classroom training, they will receive mentoring from successful entrepreneurs who are also involved. The five cities that are part of the effort are Augusta, Columbus, Macon, Savannah and a subset of Atlanta. The State has already agreed to accept the training on the ETPL list and participants will earn a certificate. Start Macon has been accepted into the grant and in Middle Georgia it will be a regional effort. The plan is to identify and enroll two cohorts of twenty-five each during the next twelve month period with a goal of helping them successfully launch into business. Start Macon is currently working with a number of organization that includes Central Georgia Technical College and other local educational affiliates to have the certificate on their ETPL list so the Workforce Boards can approve access to it for those that qualify. He further explained that this is not a new curriculum and all the pieces needed are already available but efforts are to organize the recruitment and engaging the entrepreneurs and bringing all the components together to create a cohesive program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. WDB Committee Reports

- One-Stop Committee – There was nothing to report at this time.
- *Disability Committee* – Tyrone Evans reported that a meeting is scheduled for September 16 and an email will be sent out to the members closer to that date.
- *Youth Committee*
 - **Internship Pay for Youth** - Darrell Stillings explained that the internship program is a more in depth program than the regular youth work experience program and requested approval to increase the pay from \$8 an hour to \$10 an hour. Since some youth will work 30 hours per week and other youth will work 20 hours per week, a cost estimate was presented for serving ten in-school youth working 30 hours per week as well as working 20 hours per week. The annual cost for wages and fringe benefits per participant is estimated at \$4,513.23 for youth working 30 hours per week and \$3,008.82 for those working 20 hours per week. The plan is to serve one youth for each of the ten counties in the Middle Georgia area.

A motion was made by Clifford Holmes and seconded by Joy Carr to approve increasing the youth internship wages from \$8 an hour to \$10 an hour as requested. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

- **Be Pro, Be Proud** - Darrell Stillings reported that through the HDCI Grant the Be Pro, Be Proud Mobile Unit is tentatively scheduled to be in Houston, Pulaski and Peach Counties April 18-25, 2022. It is also scheduled to be in Bibb, Crawford, Monroe and Twiggs September 20- 24, 2021 and in Baldwin, Putnam, Jones and Wilkinson counties November 8-12, 2021. He is currently working with all involved to get the thumbs up, however, with COVID the dates for September may change.
- ### 2. Subcontractor Program Monitoring Reports
- Darrell Stillings provided copies of and discussed the programmatic monitoring reports for Central Georgia Technical College’s Case Management and Youth Contracts as well as the monitoring report for Eventual Success. He explained that monitoring is required and is conducted more virtually than in-person. He further explained that there are case management requirements under the contracts that are time sensitive and impacts our performance. Since monitoring is done virtually, if case managers do not enter data into the system either in a timely manner or at all then it did not happen and will result in a finding. In response to a question he added that training is being conducted with the service providers to make sure they understand why the findings occurred and the effects the findings could have on our performance and overall program

3. **Business Services/NEG Update** – Vann Davis provided copies of and discussed the NEG Update dated August 24, 2021. He pointed out that services have been provided to 50 participants throughout the service area under the NEG grant and participants are either participating in Temporary Work Experience or Education and Skills training. Currently there are nine participants in work experience and 41 in education and skills training and recruitment efforts for both participants and worksites are still ongoing. He also reported that there are active OJT agreements in place with Interfor in Houston and Putnam and there's an active incumbent worker training agreement with Monroe County Board of Commissioners for Paramedic Training. The report also showed discussions for OJT and Work Experience is ongoing with nine other companies in the area with most companies gathering the documentation needed to meet WIOA requirements.
 4. **Expenditure Report** – Kerry Scarboro provided copies and discussed the Expenditure Report dated July 31, 2021. She reported that all end-of the spending requirements were met for all grants ending June 30, 2021 and as of August 1 there is \$2,354,290 in available funds. She reported that the FY funding should be received in October and will be an additional \$1,062,365 for a total of \$3,416,667 in available funds.
5. **Activity Reports**
- *PY 2020 Enrollment Report* – Terrell Mitchell provided copies of and discussed the enrollment report dated August 12, 2021. She reported a total of 406 participants have been served and 385 are carryovers.
 - *PY 2020 4th Quarter Performance Report* - Terrell Mitchell provided copies of and discussed the PY 2020 4th Quarter Performance report dated August 17, 2021. She reported that all measures were met for Adult and Dislocated Worker. All measures were met for Youth except for the Credential Attainment measures which is at 53.7% which 97.6% of our goal. She reported that these are unofficial and she is currently looking through the data to see if there is any discrepancies so hopefully this will be met in the end.
6. **One-Stop Operator Report** – Janie Reid, Middle Georgia One-Stop Operator, provided reports for June 2021 and July 2021 activities for both Baldwin and Houston County Career Centers. Both she and Paul Allen have continue to serve customers and are getting a few more calls from people inquiring about jobs and what we can do to help them. Members were encouraged to contact her or Paul with any questions.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

There were none:

MATTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. **PY 2021 Meeting Schedule** – The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2021, at noon and will most likely be held virtually unless something changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Williams thanked everyone for participating and there was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 12:46PM.