

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 11-COUNTY
MIDDLE GEORGIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA
OCTOBER 29, 2024**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the 11-County Middle Georgia Workforce Development Area was held at 10:00AM, on October 29, 2024, at the Middle Georgia Consortium, Inc., located at 124 Osigian Blvd., Suite A, Warner Robins, Georgia 31088. The following members were present:

Meeting Attendance Record			
Name	County/City	Present	Absent
Commissioner John Westmoreland	Baldwin	X	
Commissioner Dale Jump	Crawford	X- Virtual	
Commissioner Dan Perdue/Timothy Andrews	Houston		X/X
Commissioner Chris Weidner	Jones	X	
Commissioner Greg Tapley	Monroe		X
Commissioner Martin Moseley	Peach		X
Commissioner Jenna Mashburn	Pulaski	X	
Commissioner Bill Sharp	Putnam	X	
Commissioner Ken Fowler	Twiggs	X	
Commissioner Anderson Ford	Wilkinson	X	
Mayor Lester Miller	Macon-Bibb		X

Guests in Attendance

There were none.

Chairman Chris Weidner chaired and called the meeting to order at 10:10AM. A quorum was present.

AGENDA

1. *Approval of the October 29, 2024 Agenda* —A motion was made by Commissioner Bill Sharp and seconded by Commissioner Ken Fowler to approve the October 29, 2024 Agenda. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

MINUTES

1. *Approval of the June 25, 2024, Minutes of the Executive Committee of the 11-County Middle Georgia Workforce Development Area.* – A motion was made by Commissioner John Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Jenna Mashburn to approve the June 25, 2024, Minutes as written. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Election of Vice-Chair* – A motion was made by Commissioner Jenna Mashburn and seconded by Commissioner John Westmoreland to nominate and elect Commissioner Bill Sharp as Vice-Chair. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.
2. *Approval of WDB and Youth Committee Membership Nominations*

- WDB – Barbara Mosley, Southeast Nonprofit Housing – A nomination form was presented for Barbara Mosley, of Southeast Nonprofit Housing, which is the new Seasonal Farmworkers Grant recipient. Barbara Mosley formally served on the WDB through the former grant recipient, Telamon Corporation.
- Youth Committee – Brenda Brown, CGTC – A nomination form was presented for Brenda Brown, of Central Georgia Technical College, to serve on the WDB Youth Committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bill Sharp and seconded by Commissioner Ken Fowler to approve both the nomination of Barbara Mosley, of Southeast Nonprofit Housing to serve on the Workforce Development Board and the nomination of Brenda Brown, of Central Georgia Technical College, to serve on the Youth Committee. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

3. *Approval of Local Apprenticeship Policy and Apprenticeship Grant* – Darrell Stillings explained that in previous years our training model has basically been through ITAs, however, the Governor and the passing of Senate Bill 497 is going to change how we train people going forward. The Bill will not eliminate ITA training but it will bring a lot of people together and make the pipeline more proficient. The Bill has changed the High Demand Initiative to the High Demand Apprenticeship Program (HDAP), which will be administered in line with the Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Department of Labor, Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Office of Workforce Development to work together and form an apprenticeship program. It is a great opportunity to help youth with apprenticeship in high school and transition them into technical college, four year college or private sector if the apprenticeship is through a business. It provides a great opportunity to braid funds and extend the funds to be more useful. He further pointed out that the local policy states that WorkSource Middle Georgia may provide technical assistance to the employers who seek to apply for the TCSG High Demand Apprenticeship Program (HDAP) grant through the assistance of applying for the application, letter of recommendations and/or partner contact with the region, if applicable. Private businesses that want to sponsor apprenticeships can go directly to the State and receive \$5,000 per apprentice who participates in their apprenticeship program. There are three local areas in the State that are participating in a pilot program to develop and implement new apprenticeship programs. Middle Georgia is one of the areas to receive \$50,000 and will be looking to work with its partners to meet to determine how to construct a path where an apprentice can go from high school to a career in the labor market.

A motion was made by Commissioner John Westmoreland and Commissioner Jenna Mashburn to approve both the Local Apprenticeship Policy and the Apprenticeship Grant in the amount of \$50,000. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

4. *Pre-Award Reviews for Work-Based Learning Programs (OJT, IWT, CT, WEX, TJ)* – Darrell Stillings provided copies of the Pre-Award Reviews for Work-Based Learning Programs (WIG PS-24-001) and explained that the purpose of the WIG is to provide guidance on the Pre-Award Process and to formalized the Pre-Award Review for Work-Based learning programs to ensure that all areas are using the same process. In response to a question of if we are just adopting the State Policy, Darrell Stillings replied yes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenna Mashburn and seconded by Commissioner Bill Sharp to approve the adoption of the States Pre-Award Reviews for Work-Based Learning Programs (WIG PS-24-001) as local policy as presented. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

5. *Approval of CGTC Proposed Program Changes*

- *Approval of Additional Youth Incentive Payment* - Darrell Stillings explained that in the past students have dropped out of high school and attended adult education where they earned a GED, however, now a student can transfer from high school to Central Georgia Tech through the DAP program and earn a high school diploma and an associate degree at the same time. If a student transfers to CGTC to one of the alternate programs other than the GED program they take the TABE test and their score is recorded. If within 40 hours of training they take the TABE test again and test at least a level higher than their initial entrance test they will receive a one-time \$50 incentive payment based on availability of funds. This incentive payment is to encourage students to stay engaged. The higher test level will also be a positive towards our measureable skills gain performance measure.

In response to a question of if Putnam High School knows about it, Darrell Stillings added that Putnam County GED program knows about it and once it is approved it will be promoted.

In response to a question of what grade does it start, Darrell Stillings added that it is available for dropouts not students enrolled in high school.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bill Sharp and seconded by Commissioner John Westmoreland to approve the Central Georgia Technical College Additional Youth Incentive of one-time incentive payment of \$50 when participants earn a measurable skills gain by increasing one level higher evident by their TABE test scores. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

1. *HDCI Activity Update* - Paul Allen provided an update on HDCI activities. He reported on behalf of Howard Scott, Business Services Specialist that we currently have six active contracts with local businesses in the area who are actively training and employing workers who were previously long-term unemployed. These opportunity span across multiple industries to include allied health care, logistics, information technology and manufacturing. He also reported that the ACT WorkKeys initiative is going very well where several job profiles have been successfully completed with the most recent being with Perdue Farms for a Wastewater Operator position and for Northrop Grumman an Electronic Technician III position. He further explained that this requires us to go in and work with the business to conduct a job profile which provides them with a report that will help them find the right talent.

He also reported that they have increased the number of National Career Readiness Certificates that have been obtained through our different emerging markets such as our current markets and transitioning markets and the number of businesses that are supporting the initiative continues to increase. He thanked everyone for their support in continuing to get the word out so business can make the ACT WorkKeys part of their hiring practices. Commissioner John Westmoreland added

Lastly, he reported that Externship Program being led by Sabrina Phelps has helped 180 educators do tours of local industries spanning across multiple industries with at least 20 employers over the last couple of years allowing the educators to get a glimpse of the industry in the real world and this allows the educators to take the information back and translate it to the class to help students identify career paths and set educational goals based on what is happening in the Middle Georgia area.

Commissioner Bill Sharp added that this explained how the work is get out and that answers his question [from previous discussion].

Commissioner John Westmoreland added he is seeing more industries are embracing tours. Darrell Stillings added that we will have to figure out how to fund the efforts going forward. Commissioner Bill Sharp will get the name of the Chairman of CW Mathews.???

6. *Expenditure Report* – Kerry Scarboro provided and discussed the Expenditure Report dated September 30, 2024. She pointed out that all grants equal \$6, 029,721 but the current balance of funds available is \$1,612,708.12. The PY 24 grants for Adults, DLW and Youth equal \$1,017,250 and FY 25 grants equal \$1,149,510 and are due to be received at any time now. She also pointed out that there is a balance of 9,283.67 in Rapid Response funds.

7. **Activity Reports – Terrell Mitchell**

- **PY 2023 Enrollments** - Terrell Mitchell reported on enrollments through October 15, 2024. She reported that Adult enrollments is 69, the dislocated worker enrollment is at 0, Incumbent Worker Training enrollment is at 4, QUEST Grant is at 130 and Youth enrollment is 128 for a total of 331 enrollments.
- **PY 2023 Partial 4th Quarter Performance Report** - Terrell Mitchell provided a Performance Report dated October 15, 2024 which is not final. She explained the overall performance outcome is good, however, we are currently not meeting the DLW Measureable Skills Gain or the Youth Credential Attainment measures. She pointed out that since we will meet the overall performance measure there will not be any sanctions imposed if the two measures are no met when the State finalizes the PY 2023 Performance report.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

There were none.

MATTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. *PY 24 Meeting Schedule* –The next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2024, at 10AM, at the Middle Georgia Consortium office. Commissioner Bill Sharp announced that he has three functions to attend on December 17 and will not be able to attend that meeting, however, he would like volunteer to host the February meeting in Putnam County if he can make appropriate arrangements.
2. *WDB Attendance Report for October 22, 2024* – Darrell Stillings provided copies of the WDB Attendance Report through October 2024 and no action was needed.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and a motion was made by Commissioner John Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Bill Sharp to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting at 10:53AM. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.