

Minutes  
Local Elected Officials Consortium (Consortium)  
Meeting

WorkSource Southwest Georgia Conference Room, 75 West Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia

August 22, 2018

The Consortium held its scheduled meeting, Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at the WorkSource Southwest Georgia Administrative Office in Camilla, Georgia.

Chair Merritt called the meeting to order at approximately 12:28 p.m.

Ms. Pascha Spence, Office Manager, WorkSource Southwest Georgia called roll. It was reported that there were 10 officials present to include two proxies and that **a quorum was declared**.

The following Consortium members were present:

- Chair June Merritt, Early County
- Commissioner Connie Hobbs, Baker County
- Commissioner Benjamin Hayward, Mitchell County
- Commissioner Shelia Williams, Seminole County
- Commissioner Pete Stephens, Decatur County
- Commissioner Wiley Grady, Thomas County
- Commissioner Kreg Freeman proxy for Commissioner Allen Worsley, Miller County
- Commissioner Charlie Williams proxy for Commissioner Conner Collins, Calhoun County
- Mayor Edward Reynolds, City of Bainbridge
- Mayor, Annette Morman, City of Baconton

The following Consortium members were absent:

- Commissioner Christopher Cohilas, Dougherty County
- Commissioner Wilbur T Gamble III, Terrell County
- Commissioner Dennis Roland, Lee County
- Commissioner Terry Clark, Colquitt County
- Commissioner Fred Dent, Worth County
- Commissioner Ray Prince, Grady County

Guest present were:

- Mr. Torey Wingate, WDB Chairman

Staff members present were:

- Ms. Melody Pierce, Executive Director
- Ms. Amanda Godwin, Operations Manager
- Ms. Rebecca O'Neil, Programs Manager
- Ms. Pascha Spence, Office Manager

Due to quorum being declared Chair Merritt proceeded with the order of business. Chair Merritt called on Executive Director Pierce to explain the conflict of interest provision.

- a. Chair Merritt called for an approval of previous meeting minutes dated February 7, 2018. **Commissioner Connie Hobbs made a motion to approve said meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Hayward. After no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.**
- b. Chair Merritt called for an approval of previous meeting minutes dated June 27, 2018. **Commissioner Pete Stephens made a motion to approve said meeting minutes, seconded by Mayor Annette Morman. After no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.**
- c. Chair Merritt called on Director Melody Pierce to discuss the Consortium/WDB/City of Colquitt Partnership Agreement. Director Pierce stated that in order to be in compliance with the federal mandate the document was drafted to outline the roles and responsibilities of the three entities. Director Pierce explained the assurances that are currently in place to alleviate the liability from the counties. Director Pierce stated that members of the Workforce Development Board (WDB) are expected to report back to the county they are representing in regard to all business of the WDB. **Commissioner Pete Stephens made a motion to approve the Consortium/WDB/City of Colquitt Partnership Agreement, seconded by Mayor Annette Morman. After no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.**
- d. After discussion, Chair Merritt called for an approval of the WDB FY 2019 Proposed Operating Budget. Commissioner Pete Stephens **made a motion to approve said WDB FY 2019 Operating Budget, seconded by Commissioner Wiley Grady. After no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.**
- e. Chair Merritt called on Director Pierce for a brief overview and update of WorkSource Southwest Georgia. Director Pierce began by giving the Consortium a brief update on the last actions taken at the WDB meeting of June 5, 2018. Director Pierce explained the recent State Workforce Division change of organizational structure going from the Georgia Department of Economic Development to the Technical College System of Georgia. The Florida/Georgia Alliance Strategic Retreat was August 10, 2018 in Valdosta Georgia. The HDCI (High Demand Career Initiative) Sector Strategy is going as planned. The next WDB Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 4, 2018. The Housing Authority Community Access & Empowerment Outreach are underway. Director Pierce stated that she has been attending the monthly Regional Commission Meetings. The State Workforce Academy was August 12-15, 2018 in Athens Georgia. The Southeastern Training Association (SETA) Conference will be September 16-19, 2018 in Mobile Alabama.

**The next Meeting date will be December 4, 2018.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

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Ms. June Merritt, CLEO