

MCWDB Meeting Notes (10/4/22)

9:01: Dr. William Starling's welcoming remarks.

9:03: Justin Hembree and Matthew Fowler start meeting and begin roll call.

9:05: Roll Call

9:09: End of Roll Call

9:10: Ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder. No conflicts of interest reported.

9:10: Consideration and approval of bylaws. Private sector representatives are to be the ones that make motions and seconds for now until Chair and Vice Chair are elected to the board.

9:16: Motion by Ms. Phyllis Godwin, second by Mr. Kevin Brooks to approve bylaws, none opposed, motion adopted.

9:17: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

9:24: Ms. Phyllis Godwin makes a motion to appoint Mr. Naynesh Mehta as Chair and defer until January meeting to officially confirm him as Chair and appoint a Vice Chair.

9:26: Mr. Michael Jackson nominates Ms. Phyllis Godwin as Vice Chair. Motion is seconded by Mr. Ken Adelberg. None opposed, motion adopted. As such, Mr. Naynesh Mehta becomes current Chair of the Board, Ms. Phyllis Godwin becomes current Vice Chair of the Board.

9:28: Consideration and Approval of Meeting Schedule. Proposal to move from bimonthly meetings to quarterly meetings instead. Instead of January 3rd meeting, moving it to January 10th. Move July meeting to not coincide with 4th of July. Proposal motioned by Ms. Phyllis Godwin, seconded by Mr. Kevin Brooks, and accepted, none opposed.

9:30: Discussed November 9th meeting at COG to review workforce RFPs.

9:31: Consideration and Approval of Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Policies.

9:34: Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Policies approved. Motion by Ms. Phyllis Godwin to approve, seconded by Mr. Michael Jackson. None opposed, motion adopted.

9:35: Discussion and Action Concerning RFPs for the Delivery of WIOA Services. Creation of a 5-person task force to review RFPs and make recommendations on potential WIOA service providers from which the Board will decide on assigning WIOA contracts. Any member of the board is eligible to join the task force. Additional action to create a special meeting on November 9th for the task force to report their findings to the Board and make an ultimate decision regarding the RFPs

9:41: Mr. Kevin Brooks, Dr. David Goodin, Mr. Justin Wilkinson, Mr. Chip Lucas, and Mr. Ken Adelberg volunteer to join the task force.

9:46: Motion to approve all 5 members to the task force and set a special meeting on November 9th at the COG, to receive motions and take action on recommendations regarding RFPs, and any business that may come out of the meeting. Motion by Mr. Justin Wilkinson to approve, seconded by Ms. Phyllis Godwin. None opposed, motion adopted.

9:47: Discussion Concerning Standing Committees. Bylaws allow for ex-officio members of the Board to participate on committees. Standing Committees are engaged programmatically to interact with and improve economic development in each county. The Executive Committee is more of a governing committee than the other committees.

9:51: Discussion and Action Concerning Board Member Orientation. Board member orientation information will be sent out during the first quarter of next year, potential dates for orientations will also be sent out then as well.

9:54: Discussion Concerning Workforce Area Realignment Efforts. This began with the dissolution of the Triangle South Workforce area. NCWorks Commission memo on Workforce Development realignment displayed how there is a desire at the state level to reduce workforce boards, and they highly encourage the reduction of workforce boards across the state. The state will look more favorably among regions or boards that follow these guidelines. Sandhills prosperity zone is looking to realign with the Mid-Carolina Regional COG, particularly Moore and Montgomery counties. The decisions for realignment rests solely with the Board of Commissioners in each respective County and must be approved by the Board of Commissioners in each county already present on the Workforce Development Board. Richmond County has expressed interest in workforce alignment to Mid-Carolina, not in the best interests of the Board to pursue Richmond County because of how it may negatively impact the COG's relationship with Lumber River COG.

10:10: Update Concerning Regional Workforce Development Activities. The schedule has been released in advance, and reminders will be sent out to remind all Board members to attend meetings. Need enough members at each meeting to ensure that the Board can officially vote on items and get agendas passed at each quarterly meeting. State monitors conduct an audit of the WIOA program and do a site visit to the Career Center, where they will interview staff members and determine whether to grant certification. Audit and site visit scheduled for November. Additionally, the annual plan is almost complete and will be sent to the NC Department of Commerce to officially obtain funds for the Board. ARP grants have been submitted for substance abuse programs, reentry programs, and small business funds. These potential grants total \$1.4 million in funds. If awarded, these funds must be spent by the end of 2026 (awards will be announced October 24th). This would be a great opportunity to encompass partners within the community just as we're beginning these regional partnerships.

10:24: Resolution to Support the myFutureNC Attainment Goal. Motion to approve by Dr. Goodin, seconded by Mr. Kevin Brooks. None opposed, motion adopted.

10:27: Other Items. Introduction to Mid-Carolina staff members. Thanks to all members for attending.

10:32: Meeting adjourned.