



**Upstate Workforce Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2023 - 8:30 a.m. - Thomas E. Hannah YMCA – Community Room**

**Board Members Present**

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. Wade Ballard       | Ms. Robyn Hill      |
| Ms. Erin Black         | Ms. Judy Horton     |
| Mr. Bill Brasington    | Mr. Craig Jacobs    |
| Ms. Anne Brock – Trail | Mr. Jerome Kirkland |
| Mr. Josh Cleapor       | Mr. Ken Moon        |
| Mr. Jay Coffey         | Mr. Nathan Norris   |
| Ms. Betty Guzzo        | Ms. Jennie Thomas   |

**Board Members Absent**

Mr. Robbie Faucett  
Mr. Marion Littlejohn  
Ms. Rhonda Rogers

**UWB Staff Present**

Ms. Ann Angermeier  
Mr. Brent Bishop  
Ms. Dana Hudgins  
Ms. Nikoya Shaw

**Guests Present**

Ms. Nikki Burgess  
Mr. Rob Howell  
Ms. Anna Oswald  
Ms. Leah Price  
Ms. Melissa Rodgers  
Mr. Kenneth Taylor  
Mr. Simon Tuohy  
Ms. Mary Beth Walters

**Welcome**

Mr. Craig Jacobs, Board Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the May 15, 2023, meeting were reviewed. ***Ms. Jennie Thomas made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Nathan Norris seconded the motion. With no abstentions, the motion carried.***

**SC Works at Northside - Update**

Mr. Rob Howell, with Avison Young shared the layout of the Aden Bonded Warehouse space. He gave an update on the tenants and the spaces already committed. Mr. Howell shared that this space is a multi-use space and will have indoor entertainment as well as studio spaces for small entrepreneurs. He noted that space would be like Hampton Station located in Greenville. Mr. Howell informed the board that construction is scheduled to start February 2024 and take approximately 1 year.

**Introduction – SC DEW Workforce Insights Analyst**

Ms. Leah Price, SC Department of Employment and Workforce - Workforce Insights Analyst, introduced herself and gave a presentation of current labor market information.

### **End of Year Review**

Ms. Nikki Burgess, SC Works Greater Upstate Project Director, gave an overview of participant and business engagement activities for Program Year 2022. She shared end-of-year data, goals met and successes from the year.

### **One Stop Committee Report**

Mr. Nathan Norris, Committee Chair, reported that the One Stop Committee met on August 4, 2023.

He shared the committee reviewed the June 2023 budget report and noted that the spending in a few lines was low as some qualified expenses were applied to other grants during the program year.

During the committee meeting, Mr. Kenneth Taylor, SC Works Greater Upstate Operations Manager, shared details on center traffic, scheduled and attended workshops, customer satisfaction reports and community engagement events for June. He reported that he anticipates increases in attendance since there is a new facilitator now on staff.

Mr. Norris shared that the business survey process changed recently, and the committee will continue to monitor to ensure that the new process is measuring employer satisfaction properly. He informed the board that Ms. Ann Angermeier, UWB Executive Director, stated that she and Ms. Dana Hudgins, UWB Associate Director, were approached by SC DEW staff about piloting a program that will incorporate virtual reality at the Union County Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Mr. Norris shared that Ms. Angermeier and Ms. Hudgins also met with BMW staff to talk about assisting their suppliers through a pilot training program to address recruitment challenges. With no questions, the report concluded.

### **Executive Committee Report**

Mr. Jacobs, Committee Chair, reported that the Executive Committee met on August 14, 2023. He noted that the June 2023 UWB office budget report tracked well for the year. He shared that the committee reviewed and approved a proposed budget modification of line-item shifts. ***The committee made a recommendation to the full board to approve the proposed budget modification for the UWB Office. All board members were in favor of approving the budget modification. There were no abstentions.***

Mr. Jacobs shared that staff is requesting two blanket approvals for PY23. The first will allow staff to transfer funds between Dislocated Worker and Adult funding as needed. The second will allow staff to request Rapid Response training dollars from the state as needed should layoffs occur. ***The committee made a recommendation to the full board to approve the transfers between Dislocated Worker and Adult for PY23 and to approve Rapid Response requests for PY23. All were in favor of approving both items. There were no abstentions.***

Mr. Jacobs reported that Ms. Angermeier was able to get approval to purchase a used van from Women Giving for the ACHIEVE program. She stated that funds must be returned if the vehicle is not purchased in

September 2023. He shared the fourth quarter Dislocated Worker credential measure failed due to a cohort of three individuals where two did not complete. While the measure failed for the quarter, staff anticipate passing the measure for the year. With no questions, the report was concluded.

#### **New Workforce Council Briefing**

Mr. Jacobs gave an update on the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD). He shared that thirty-seven organizations are represented on this council. He reported that he attended the first meeting and will be representing local workforce boards.

#### **Adjournment**

With no other business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

**Next meeting date: October 30, 2023.**