



**Upstate Workforce Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 30, 2023 - 8:30 a.m. – OneSpartanburg, Inc. Milliken Board Room**

**Board Members Present**

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. Rhonda Rogers

**Board Members Absent**

Mr. Wade Ballard  
Mr. Robbie Faucett  
Ms. Robyn Hill  
Mr. Marion Littlejohn  
Ms. Jennie Thomas

**UWB Staff Present**

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

**Guests Present**

Ms. Nikki Burgess  
Ms. Anna Oswald  
Ms. Kathy Stanton  
Ms. Mary Beth Walters

**Welcome**

Mr. Craig Jacobs, Board Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. He asked attendees to introduce themselves since there were new members present.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the August 28, 2023, meeting were reviewed. ***Mr. Nathan Norris made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Josh Cleapor seconded the motion. With no abstentions, the motion carried.***

**One Stop Committee Report**

Mr. Nathan Norris, Committee Chair, reported that the One Stop Committee met on October 6, 2023. He shared that the August 2023 budget report was reviewed and spending in a few lines was low as some qualified expenses were applied to other grants during the first part of the program year. He noted that Mr. Kenneth Taylor, SC Works Greater Upstate Operations Manager, presented the JIT and the Dashboard reports for August 2023. He highlighted that SC Works has 104 enrollments so far in PY23. Mr. Norris stated that the committee discussed the struggles with reporting soft skills activities in SCWOS. He added that SCDEW has requested a meeting with local staff, but no date has been set. Staff will continue to work on soft skills activities with WIOA customers. Mr. Norris shared that the committee also discussed the recent changes to BST surveys and noted that staff are still working to improve the reports used for this task. He highlighted that

SC Works has partnered with the Union County Detention Facility to offer NCCER Core Construction training to eleven state trustees. They will receive a national credential upon completion. This project was funded by the Engage, Build and Serve grant from the State Workforce Development Board. Mr. Norris informed the board that the committee did go into Executive Session, but no action was taken.

Mr. Norris gave the floor to Ms. Dana Hudgins, UWB Associate Director, to present a recommendation from staff to the board to modify the SC Works budget to allow for an additional Case Manager. This modification does not include an increase to the grant. It is shifting line items as well as shifting funds from Dislocated Worker to Adult. ***Ms. Judy Horton made a motion to approve the modification. Mr. Nathan Norris seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.***

### **Youth Committee Report**

Ms. Erin Black, Committee Chair, reported that the Youth Committee met on September 26, 2023. She stated that the committee reviewed the financial reports for July and August and noted that spending is tracking well. Ms. Black reported that Ms. Cherie Pressley retired and would no longer be serving on the Upstate Workforce Board but will continue to serve on the Youth Committee. Ms. Black shared that enrollments and partnerships are strong. Most importantly, Ms. Black informed the committee that the van funded by the Women Giving Grant is on the ground at USC Upstate. Ms. Black reported that the committee discussed delays with the future SC Works location in the Northside. Discussions will be held on whether it is possible to move the ACHIEVE Program to a different suite in the current BTC building. She also shared that the cost of GEDs is increasing statewide. The board was reminded that the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) is offering a \$500 incentive for those over the age of 19 that complete their GED. With no questions, the report was concluded.

### **Disabilities Committee Report**

Ms. Hudgins stated that she is presenting the Disabilities Committee report for Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair. Ms. Hudgins shared that Ms. Thomas is away receiving an award for the Bryant Center (Lyman Vocational Rehabilitation). Ms. Hudgins reported that the Disabilities Committee met on September 18, 2023. Ms. Hudgins shared that the group discussed in detail the creation of an advisory group that would meet once a year to assist with guiding the committee's work. The committee identified three populations to include on the advisory board: employers, education partners and agency partners. The committee selected January 23, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. for a breakfast meeting with this group. She also reported that the committee discussed the need to offer local agency staff and partners a disabilities etiquette training. It has been several years since the committee coordinated staff training and many of the staff in the partner agencies have changed. It was agreed that it would be best to offer two sessions on November 15, 2023. ABLE SC has been secured to offer this training. With no questions, the report was concluded.

### **Executive Committee Report**

Mr. Jacobs, Committee Chair, reported that the Executive Committee met on October 16, 2023. He reported that the committee reviewed the August 2023 UWB office budget report. Mr. Jacobs reported that Ms. Ann Angermeier, UWB Executive Director, and Ms. Hudgins were approached by SCDEW to pilot a youth program

at the local DJJ facility in Union, SC. He noted that this program's focus is career exploration, and that SCDEW would provide funding for the project. He also shared that Mr. Ron Garner, OneSpartanburg, Inc. Chief Talent Officer, is really interested in the Intentional Program that served ten high school students in Spartanburg District Three that didn't have a plan for college or work during their senior year. Ms. Angermeier has another meeting scheduled with him to get deeper into the discussion on how to implement this project county wide. Mr. Jacobs gave a brief overview of market trends he is noticing in real estate for Spartanburg regarding industrial property rentals, sales, and vacancies. He noted that he wanted to share this with the group as this might be relevant for local employers. With no questions, the report was concluded.

### **Executive Director Update**

Ms. Angermeier shared that the Mayors of Spartanburg County Committee for People with Disabilities held the 2023 Walk and Roll Event on October 25, 2023, at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium. She explained that staff from the Workforce Board office are members of this committee. She gave an overview of the event, and a few event photos were shared with board members.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Jacobs shared that a Zoom meeting was held on October 25, 2023, with Mr. Charles Appleby, SC Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) Senior Advisor, Coordinating Council for Workforce Development, as the guest speaker to cover the Statewide Education and Workforce Act – Act 67 and address workforce related issues in South Carolina.

Mr. Jacobs also asked for ways to fundraise to continue to support funding the Danny Allen Scholarships through the Upstate Workforce Board's non-profit organization, Upstate Workforce Futures Corporation (UWFC).

### **Adjournment**

With no other business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

**Next meeting date: January 22, 2024.**