



UPSTATE WORKFORCE BOARD ONE STOP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 29, 2020

12:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present:

Mr. Craig Jacobs, Committee Member

Mr. Robbie Faucett, Committee Member

Ms. Betty Guzzo, Committee Member

Mr. Jim Cook, Committee Member

Mr. Doug Stephenson, SC Works

Mr. Deivis Henao, SC Works

Ms. Ann Angermeier, UWB

Ms. Nikoya Shaw, UWB

Ms. Dana Wood, UWB

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Robbie Faucett, Committee Chair, at 12:00 p.m.

SC Works Budget Update

Ms. Dana Wood, UWB Associate Director, reviewed financials for Program Year 19 (PY19) closing. She shared that there was \$89,411 remaining in the budget at the close of the program year. She also shared that COVID-19 had an impact on training and supportive service line items. Summer school participation was much lower than originally anticipated. There were no line items overspent. Mr. Doug Stephenson, SC Works Greater Upstate Project Director, shared that there was a drop in training due to school closures. He shared that virtual job fair funds were replenished by proceeds from the annual Showcase Event.

Dashboard Report/ COVID 19 & UI Update

Mr. Stephenson shared the Dashboard report and noted that Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) orientations are being conducted virtually. He also noted that there were 180 total enrollments for the year, many of those were done virtually. Mr. Stephenson highlighted the SC Works 101 update, which showed 39 staff/partner staff are still in need of training and 23 participants completed training online. He shared that the federal COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance benefits ended July 25, 2020. He noted there is a state benefits extension due to the pandemic that could give an additional 16 weeks to

eligible participants. Mr. Stephenson gave an update on center traffic. Cherokee County had an average of 100 more people than expected, Union had less than expected and Spartanburg remained constant. Sixty-five percent of traffic has been UI related. The committee discussed UI benefits and how the center will respond to those coming off of UI that may not qualify for the benefit extension. Mr. Stephenson shared that the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) will be shifting from UI claims to UI fraud. Ms. Ann Angermeier, UWB Executive Director, shared that food service companies are hurting since employees are not returning to work when asked while they are receiving benefits. Mr. Stephenson noted that his main concern is social distancing once the traffic increases. The committee briefly discussed ways to promote adequate social distancing.

Just in Time Report

Mr. Deivis Henao, SC Works Greater Upstate Operations Manager, shared the JIT report. He stated that there was no WIN testing provided for this report, but that will change. He noted the unemployment percentages for each county: Union County - 13%, Cherokee County - 11% and Spartanburg - 9.9%. Mr. Henao noted that all recent community engagements have been virtual. He briefly highlighted the participant success story of Charidy, a WIOA participant, who completed her Class-A CDL and received a job offer during COVID-19. Mr. Henao also gave an update that Union Talent Development Specialist (TDS) Ms. Nikki Burgess, has replaced Ms. Nancy Wilson as SC works TDS Supervisor.

General Updates

Ms. Wood shared that Spartanburg Community College (SCC) will no longer accept WIOA customers. She shared that currently, 23-25 participants are being affected by this change. SCC stated they would work with the participants to find alternative funding. Ms. Wood and Ms. Angermeier expressed that they do not want participants to have to take out loans to complete their programs. Ms. Wood noted that Greenville Tech is on the list as a training provider, but transportation could be an issue for a lot of the participants even with supportive services. Ms. Angermeier has requested that the state push for a waiver for ETPL (Eligible Training Provider List) reporting. Ms. Wood has also requested technical assistance from the state on how to meet the required participant cost rate without our main training provider.

Ms. Wood gave an update on the Participant Cost Rate. She shared that the goal for the Participant Cost Rate is 30%, but we came in at 29.1% for PY19. She expressed that this performance measure is going to be closely tracked for PY20. Ms. Angermeier shared that SC Works stopped obligating at 100% and reduced to 50%. She suggested that the obligation percentage be reevaluated at the next meeting and potentially reduced to 30%.

Ms. Wood shared that the committee sets targets by industry for spending training dollars. The goals vs. actual for PY19 were reviewed. These goals were not met during PY19. Ms. Angermeier suggested

that SC Works begin targeting recent college and high school graduates for On-the-Job Training (OJT) in the identified industries.

Ms. Wood updated the committee on state monitoring. She shared that this year's monitoring was virtual as a result of COVID. She shared that a substantial amount of documents was submitted electronically. She informed the committee that 13 staff members and Mr. Wade Ballard, UWB Board Chair, were interviewed as part of the process. According to state policy, we should have a report within 45 days.

Business Surveys Update

Ms. Nikoya Shaw, UWB Community Impact Director, gave an update on business surveys relating to job postings. Ms. Shaw shared that she and Mr. Brent Bishop, UWB CFO, made adjustments to the previously used survey to improve the quality of responses. She shared that they received five survey responses, and they will be making follow up calls to capture more. Ms. Shaw noted that the issue with responses stemmed from insufficient primary contact entries in SCWOS. Ms. Angermeier expounded on the information shared by Ms. Shaw to make the committee aware that this is an issue that cannot be remedied without SCDEW. Ms. Shaw shared that two of the five survey responses had negative feedback. Ms. Angermeier informed the group that the staff is looking into those cases.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting date will be September 30, 2020.

