

# **New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Area Consortium Board**

## **MEETING MINUTES – Informational Only**

**September 20, 2017**

A meeting of the NR/MR WDA Consortium Board was held on September 20, 2017 at the Wytheville Meeting Center, Wytheville VA. Those in attendance were as follows:

### **Board Members**

John Garner – Chair  
Rex Hill – Carroll  
Terri Morris – Floyd  
Mary Biggs – Montgomery  
Joseph Guthrie – Pulaski

### **Guests**

Mike Miller – WDB Chair  
Darrell Blankenship – People Inc.  
Mary Ann Gilmer – Goodwill Valleys  
Stephanie Hoer – Goodwill Valleys

### **Staff**

Marty Holliday  
Ronnie Martin  
Della Wheeler

At 10:06AM, Chair Garner called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with a moment of reflection. Chair Garner led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Garner asked Ms. Holliday to call the roll. A quorum was not present.

Chair Garner opened the floor to public comment. Hearing none, he proceeded with the next item on the agenda.

Since a quorum was not present, no action was taken.

Ms. Holliday gave the board an overview of the WDB openings. A discussion followed on how best to fill open positions.

Mr. Miller updated the Board on Workforce Development Board activities.

Mr. Blankenship, updated the Board on the One Stop Operator report. He stated that POWER was on hold until new funding is available. Ms. Gilmer highlighted the Success Story.

Mr. Blankenship gave an update on the People Inc. T2C project. He stated that they still had participants working toward their Medical Coding certification, as it was more difficult than originally thought. Ms. Gilmer gave an update on the Goodwill T2C project, noting that in the NRV they were having difficulty getting short-term training options.

Ms. Holliday updated the Board on current Grants as follows:

- DEI completed July 31, 2017. DEI staff have transitioned to new positions with the Pathways to the American Dream project. CPID is focusing on Advanced Manufacturing for individuals with disabilities and an Exploration Academy is planned at the Center of Excellence in Abingdon at the beginning of October.
- Rapid Response ended August 31, 2017. Ms. Holliday noted that several components would continue: SARA, the artificial intelligence Case Manager assistant that is being piloted with Dislocated Workers; B2B Engage, a CRM system being used for Business services and the ROI report which will be completed in the fall. A brief discussion followed.
- HEART is a grant from the Center of Excellence in Abingdon. The focus of this grant is to assist smaller supply chain companies who are affected by layoffs in the region. Several companies in the region have already been served by this project.
- The Pathways report is located in the packet for review. Ms. Meadows also connected to the Board's web page to show where the Quarterly Reports would be posted for a more detailed report of the project.

Chair Garner discussed the Travel Voucher that each Board member must complete and sign if they want to be reimbursed for their travel. The 2017 Consortium Board meeting schedule was also highlighted.

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the WDB on December 13, 2017 at the Wytheville Meeting Center beginning at 10:00 AM. Lunch will follow the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marty Holliday  
Executive Director