



**WorkLink Workforce Development Board
Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom
4/3/2020 Minutes**

Attendees:

Chair Mike Wallace Jeromy Arnett Emily Hodge Grayson Kelly
Stephanie Collins Teri Gilstrap

Staff:

Trent Acker Meredith Durham Jennifer Kelly

Chair Mike Wallace welcomed everyone to the conference call at 11:01 a.m.

The minutes from the March 19, 2020 and March 26, 2020 meetings were emailed to committee members for review. Chair Wallace called for any corrections or amendments to the minutes.

ACTION TAKEN: Jeromy Arnett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Emily Hodge. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Trent Acker stated the circumstances have not improved in the COVID 19 outbreak. Wagner Peyser staff and any other DEW staff are currently taking calls that come in to centers, and 2 staff members are helping with Unemployment Insurance calls. Board staff is largely working remotely but can come in as necessary. Eckerd staff is serving participants virtually and orientations are online.

ACTION TAKEN: Emily Hodge made a motion to keep the SC Works WorkLink centers closed through the end of the month pending additional developments, Stephanie Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Teri Gilstrap noted that Wi-Fi connectivity continues to be an issue with rural areas. She asked for anyone who has recommendations or best practices to pass them along to her.

Ms. Jennifer Kelly Eckerd stated that Eckerd is requesting carryover funds in the amount of \$80,000 to provide additional training and supportive services to program participants. That will increase the current budget of \$842,000 to \$922,000 and will include a true up of costs through February 2020. This went before OneStop Operations Committee in March and was approved by them. Ms. Kelly discussed details of the budget modification, which can be seen in the budget summary that was included in the meeting information.



ACTION TAKEN: OneStop Operations Committee made a motion to approve the Adult/Dislocated Worker Modification 2 as presented, Stephanie Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Acker stated Eckerd is asking for a letter saying they will not be penalized for not meeting the 90% expenditure goal for circumstances outside of their control due to the coronavirus. Ms. Kelly currently meets with Eckerd staff at least monthly to for budget discussions.

ACTION TAKEN: Emily Hodge made a motion to cancel the April 15, 2020 Board meeting due to unusual and uncertain circumstances surrounding COVID-19 and hold an Executive Committee meeting in its place at 1 p.m. on April 15, 2020 to address action items, Teri Gilstrap seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The first of two instruction letters with initial guidance in regards to expanded UI benefits were sent to states yesterday from the Department of Labor. From a functional perspective, each state will have to refine their systems for eligibility requirements.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.