

**GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD, INC. d/b/a CareerSource Gulf
Coast GENERAL MEETING
March 7, 2023**

CareerSource Gulf Coast held an in-person and Zoom meeting / General Meeting at 10:00 a.m. (CST) on Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

Members Present:

Ms. Elinor Mount-Simmons (V)	Dr. Pat Hardman (V)
Mr. John Deegins (V)	Mr. Joey Ginn (V)
Mr. Fred Croon (V)	Ms. Sheila Hauser (V)
Mrs. Becca Hardin (V)	Ms. Lisa Barnes-Tapscott (V)
Mr. Derrick Henderson (V)	Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman (V)
Mr. Aaron Little (V)	Ms. Shelley Scarborough (V)
	Ms. Rebekah Vassar (V)
	Mrs. Alex Murphy

Members not present:

Mr. Steve Jordan (V)
Mr. Christian Johnson (V)
Mr. Glen McDonald (V) designee
Mr. Jim McKnight (V)

Also present were Ms. Gail Emerich, NCBA, Ms. Tameka Austin (DEO), CareerSource Gulf Coast board staff: Mrs. Kim Bodine, Executive Director, Ms. Jennifer German, Mr. Lee Ellzey, Mrs. Deb Blair, Mrs. Maria Goodwin, Mrs. Shannon Walding, Mrs. Becky Samarripa, Ms. Janine Dexter, Mr. Corbett Hines, Ms. Cathy Harrell and Ms. Donna Stapleton.

The purpose of the meeting was to review/take action on the following items:

- **Consent Agenda Approval**
 - **Approval to Accept/Rescind New Funds for PY 2022-2023**
 - **Approval of Recission of Service Provider Contract Funds – GCSC PY 2022-2023**
 - **Approval of Budget Mod 4 – PY 2022-2023**
 - **Approval of Revised Board Policy 1, board meeting/schedule of operations-retro 1/31/2023**
 - **Approval of January 10, 2023 Executive Committee and General Board meeting minutes**
 - **Approval of the February 15, 2023 Telephonic Executive Committee meeting**
 - Acknowledgment of Form 8 Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and Other Local Public Officers – Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, 1/10/2023
- **New Business**
 - **Approval of the Second Harvest monitoring report**
 - Update on workforce board consolidation
- **Old Business**
 - Marketing & Communication Report – through February 2023
 - One Stop Services Report
 - Performance Reports
- **Chair/Executive Director Report**
- **Public Comment**

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Elinor Mount-Simmons, Board Chair, called the meeting to order and confirmed there was a quorum present by attendee introductions.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Kim Bodine gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Ms. Elinor Mount-Simmons asked if there were any questions from the board regarding the Consent Agenda and asked if any member wanted to pull any item from the Consent Agenda for discussion. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and previously discussed and approved by the Executive/Finance Committee.

A motion was made by Mrs. Becca Hardin to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Joey Ginn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman stated that she would abstain from discussion and voting on this item, citing a conflict of interest.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Lee Ellzey reviewed the Second Harvest Monitoring Report from May 13, 2022, and indicated that it went exceptionally well. Mrs. Kim Bodine asked how many families are currently enrolled. Mr. Ellzey said there are Currently 300 registered families 4 years into the program and anywhere from 120 to 160 families are served per month. Mr. Ellzey said that some families only subsidize their food when needed while some of the families regularly depend on the support monthly. Ms. Elinor Mount-Simmons asked for a motion to approve and accept the Second Harvest Monitoring Review.

A motion was made by Dr. Pat Hardman to approve the Second Harvest Monitoring Report. Mrs. Alex Murphy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Update on Board Consolidation:

Mrs. Kim Bodine said that the possibility of consolidation was a great distraction over the previous year and a lot of work went into meetings and receiving support for people that advocated for us The Consultants Ernst & Young had proposed the options of consolidating into 21, 19 or 16 boards. Their recommendation was for 21 boards. Six Regions were affected by the proposed consolidation. Those regions are: Region 7, 9, 11, 13, 14 & 15. Two regions were affected by proposed re-alignment, those regions are Region 6 & 23. Region 6 will be losing Jefferson County to Region 5 (Tallahassee area) & Region 23 will be losing Monroe County to Region 24 (Southwest Florida-Naples, Ft Myers).

Mrs. Elinor Mount-Simmons asked how long consolidation has been an issue and if it could be a possibility again in the future. Mrs. Bodine that consolidation has been talked about for almost as long as she has been the director, however the REACH act was the first law to require it in her tenure. Mrs. Bodine said that this time, consolidation had been in talks for at least a year and a half and that it could possibly happen again.

Marketing Report

Mrs. Becky Samarripa reviewed social media data from the timeframe of December 2022 through February 2023. She also reviewed the marketing that went into the successful Job Fair that took place February 4, 2023 that had 730 attendees. She also highlighted Suit up for Success which was an event providing free business attire from January 3rd to February 3rd that provided clothing for job seekers, 59 individuals were served with business clothing.

Mrs. Becca Hardin asked if there was a way to track how many jobs had been filled because of the Job Fair. Mrs. Maria Goodwin said that CareerSource tries to track the successes through surveys and following up with the employer participants of the job fair. In conclusion, Mrs. Alex Murphy wanted to thank all involved in the Job Fair.

One Stop Services Report

Mrs. Maria Goodwin reviewed the January 2023 One Stop Services report, pointing out that regionally, there were 1,311 visitors to the region's one stop centers and staff provided over 1,369 services and approximately 300 employers were served.

Performance Reports

Mrs. Goodwin stated that there were 36 customers served year to date in the Welfare Transition Program, with five exiting for work, with an average wage of \$13.50 upon placement. There were 76 SNAP customers served year to date, 14 are currently active and eight in a work activity.

For the WIOA customers, there were 113 adults enrolled in a training activity with an average wage of \$24.45 at placement. For the dislocated worker side, there were nine enrolled in training, with an average wage at placement of \$25.72.

For the out of school youth, there were 13 new youth enrolled this fiscal year with 20 carry-forward students for a total of 33 students enrolled. Three have earned GEDs and 17 exited with an average wage of \$13.30.

The Covid-19 grant had 70 enrolled under the grant with 53 exiting and 22 placed at an average wage of \$12.91 and the Opioid Recovery grant has 67 enrolled, with 46 exiting and 45 placed in a position with an average wage at placement of \$15.05.

Chair/Executive Director Report

Mrs. Kim Bodine said that CareerSource is busy preparing for the state monitoring by DEO which will be in April. She also said we continue to recruit and hire in our finance department and will be working with our Northwest Florida Brother and Sister boards to develop a framework for a regional planning area, and input will be requested once that process evolves.

Mrs. Bodine gave an update on the progress of our youth program. At the end of the program year 21-22, there were approximately 16 participants, this year there are approximately 13 so far and with ongoing marketing and recruitment, more participants are anticipated as we enter Spring and Summer. We also enrolled our first Franklin County Participant and are sharing this program with other regions who also face challenges with out of school youth programs.

Mrs. Bodine announced that Jennifer German has decided to retire on or before June 30, 2023. She has been a part of this team for close to 25 years and had a career in workforce for three years before joining the board. Plans for a retirement celebration will be announced at a later date, but in the meantime, there will be planning for the future of the organization in terms of structure and re-focusing efforts to assess where we are, what we do well and where improvements are needed.

Mrs. Kim Bodine asked Dr. Cheryl-Flax Hyman to give an overview of the presidential search for Gulf Coast State College as well as any other college events/programs that are currently taking place.

Dr. Cheryl-Flax Hyman said that an advertisement for the Presidential search was placed on March 3, 2023 and will be published for 7 weeks. She explained the hiring process by stating the candidates are anonymous until the field has been narrowed down. She said the college hopes to have the position filled by August 1, 2023. She also stated that enrollment was up 6% with 84% retention.

Mrs. Bodine thanked Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman for her report and also thanked her for her support and the special relationship we have with the college.

Chair Mount-Simmons thanked the board and board staff/providers for hanging in there during the board consolidation and re-alignment process. She also announced there are some board seats open, 3 seats in Bay County and 1 seat in Gulf County. She asked for support by providing some names of private sector business leaders who would make good board members. She also stated that we will also be selecting an audit firm next month and will need two members to be part of the rating committee. Joey Ginn and Beka Vassar agreed to serve in that group.

Ms. Mount-Simmons congratulated Jennifer German on her time with CareerSource Gulf Coast.

Mrs. Bodine said the next Executive Committee and General Board meeting will be held in May.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Articles to read are an attachment to the agenda packet.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was given.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Chair, Elinor Mount-Simmons adjourned the meeting.