



**Governor’s State Workforce Development Board
June 25, 2024, State Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Thomas Freeland	Ms. Felicia Johnson
Mr. William Floyd	Mr. Mike King
Mr. Charles Brave, Jr.	Rep. Randy Ligon
Mr. Gregory C. Clark	Ms. Elaine Morgan
Ms. Susan Cohen	Ms. Swati Patel
Col. Craig Currey	Mr. Tyler Servant
Ms. Darline Graham	Dr. Windsor Sherrill
Dr. Tim Hardee	Mr. Warren Snead
Mr. Jay Holloway	

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Cliff Bourke, Jr.
Mr. Chris Hall
Mr. Pat Michaels
Mr. Michael W. Sexton
Mr. Gregory L. Tinnell
Mr. John Uprichard
Senator Ross Turner

Welcome and Opening Remarks **Mr. Thomas Freeland, SWDB Chair**
Chairman Thomas Freeland called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Chairman Freeland welcomed Mr. Calton McArthur and Mr. Maydad Cohen, guest presenters with Gartner Consulting, Inc.

State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) members and guests were encouraged to review the 4th Quarter Progress Report in the meeting packet.

Director’s Report **Mr. William Floyd**
Mr. William Floyd, Executive Director, South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW), presented the state’s employment situation, including employment rates and current agency projects. His presentation covered the following points:

- As of April 2024, 2,406,000 individuals were employed in South Carolina. The unemployment adjusted rate is at 3.4%, which is lower than surrounding states and the national unemployment rate of 4%.
- South Carolina’s Labor Force Participation Rate is 57.1%, a decrease of 0.1% from January 2024.

The Education and Workforce Development Act (Act 67) mandated that the State develop the Unified State Plan (USP), a comprehensive education and workforce development plan for the entire state. The USP establishes workforce development metrics around awareness, skills development, and removal of obstacles. Mr. Floyd reported that the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD) approved the USP on June 17, 2024.

Mr. Floyd announced the SC@Work Explore campaign that will showcase high-priority occupations across the state, bringing awareness to South Carolina job seekers about the educational and skill requirements needed for industry-specific jobs.



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He also provided an update on the SC@Works Rural Connections Initiative to ensure DEW and SC Works services are accessible to job seekers in Tier III and IV counties and underserved areas. As of June 2024, the Rural Initiatives team has aided or hosted 122 rural events attended by 4,252 job seekers, contributing to 1,324 potential hires.

Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2024***Mr. Freeland**
Col. Craig Currey motioned to approve the March 28, 2024, meeting minutes. Mr. Gregory C. Clark seconded the motion. The SWDB unanimously voted to approve the meeting minutes.

SC Works Certification Standards* **Mr. Adam Paige**
Every three years, the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires the SWDB to establish objective criteria and procedures for Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) to assess one-stop centers in three categories: management, job seeker services, and business services. Mr. Adam Paige, Director of Workforce Initiatives, presented the updated SC Works Certification Standards, providing an overview of the revisions made and comments received from Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs) during the public comment period.

Mr. Warren Snead motioned to approve the updates. Mr. Charles Brave, Jr. seconded the motion and the SWDB unanimously approved the updated SC Works Certification Standards.
The updated SC Works Certification Standards are effective July 1, 2024.

High-Performance Board Incentive* **Ms. Pamela Jones**
Ms. Pamela Jones presented the High-Performance Board Incentive Award, created to encourage, and reward LWDBs that achieve performance levels. The criteria and eligibility includes meeting federal and state-specific performance measures and WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance, promoting regionalism, and employing innovative practices that align with the WIOA State Plan goals.

Eligible LWDBs will receive a minimum of \$50,000 through a reimbursable grant for WIOA-approved activities for a 12-month period to be awarded during PY’25 based on PY’24 performance. Application instructions will be distributed at the end of PY’24.

Discussion: SWDB will review the High-Performance Board Incentive Award on an ongoing basis, receiving updates annually.

Mr. Charles Brave, Jr. motioned to approve the High-Performance Board Incentive Award. Mr. King seconded the motion and the SWDB unanimously approved the High-Performance Board Incentive Award.

Shared Case Management Phase II Update **Gartner Consulting, Inc.**
SWDB allocated funding to support Phase II of the Shared Case Management System (known also as the Case Management and Labor Exchange Modernization project), which includes preparation



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of the scope of work and functional requirements for the case management and labor exchange vendor/product solicitation and market engagement. Mr. Calton McArthur, Managing Partner, and Mr. Maydad Cohen, Sr. Managing Partner with Gartner Consulting, presented Phase II activities and the updated Modernization Roadmap that reflects the Case Management/Labor Exchange Modernization recommendations and sequence.

During Phase II, Gartner Consulting helped to develop the RFP Scope of Work and procurement approach, including the vendor response evaluation/scoring model, criteria and weights, and facilitated workshops with DEW to identify and validate functional requirements, developing a Requirements Traceability Matrix. Next, DEW will finalize the procurement approach and begin modernization readiness activities, with Gartner's assistance, including an EPMO Capability Needs Assessment and developing an Organizational Change Management (OCM) Strategy and Plan.

Staff will continue to update the SWDB on the Case Management and Labor Exchange Modernization project.

SWDB Member Recognition.....Mr. Freeland

Ms. Elaine Morgan has led the "Computers in Berkeley County" project for several years. On May 23, 2024, the Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the grand opening of the first of five Berkeley County Resource Hubs at the Keith School Museum. The hub features computers, printers, and desks, providing users access to resources, including telehealth and online education services, access to SC Works online services, and training on how to use these devices.

Dr. Windsor Sherrill was invited to speak at the 2024 Clemson Tire Conference, representing the State Workforce Development Board. On April 23, 2024, Dr. Sherrill presented ‘Training the Workforce of Tomorrow and Investing in the PEOPLE of SC’.

Cooper Standard was highlighted in the SC@Work Explore campaign that features Mr. Floyd gaining hands-on work experience in target industries. Cooper Standard, with, surprised Mr. Floyd with the product of his hard work that day to keep and remember his time at Cooper Standard.

Ms. Val Richardson, SWDB Vice-Chair, announced her retirement during the Executive Committee Meeting on June 6, 2024. The SWDB will formally recognize her service and contribution to South Carolina in Q2 PY’24.

Other Business/Adjourn.....Mr. Freeland

Mr. Freeland reminded members and guests that in place of a first-quarter full board meeting, everyone is encouraged to attend the 2024 Workforce Development Symposium on September 12, 2024, at the Columbia Metropolitan Center. The next full board meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. in the C. Lem Harper Building.



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Mr. Freeland reminded members that the SWDB Strategic Planning Workshop will begin at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

APPROVED