

**SOUTHERN GEORGIA
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (WDB) MEETING
Date: June 17, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m.
MEETING MINUTES**

The Southern Georgia Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Youth Committee (YC) met on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 11:00 AM at the Southern Georgia Regional Commission in Waycross, Georgia. The following were in attendance:

Workforce Development Board					
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Absence</u>	
Bannamon, Frank	WDB Member (EC)	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Bryant, Keith	Chairman (EC)	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☒ Excused	☐ Absent
Cole, Sandra	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Dark, Melissa	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Dixon, Elton	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Ellis, Kevin	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☒ Absent
Felder, Katrena	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☒ Absent
Gainey, Jennifer	Vice-Chairman (EC)	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Gove, Sarah	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Gray, Jonathan	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Griffin, Curtis	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☒ Absent
Howell, Ivy	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Johnson, Melvin	Parliamentarian (EC)	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Jones, Dr. Todd	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☒ Excused	☐ Absent
Mays, Kellie	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
McClain, La'Rona	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☒ Excused	☐ Absent
Moore, Christie	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Panizzi, Sean	WDB Member (EC)	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Tait, Darlene	WDB Member (EC)	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	☒ Excused	☐ Absent
Wallace, Leigh	WDB Member	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent
Williams, Jamon	WDB Member (EC)	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	☐ Excused	☐ Absent

Youth Committee (X Denotes Attendance)			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Bannamon, Frank	☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual	Felder, Katrena	☐ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Dixon, Adrienne	☐ In-Person ☒ Virtual	Peacock, Kelly	☐ In-Person ☒ Virtual
Gainey, Jennifer	☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual	Wallace, Leigh	☐ In-Person ☒ Virtual

Local Chief Elected Officials (LCEO) (X Denotes Attendance)					
Name	Attendance		Name	Attendance	
Baker, Henry	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Matheson, Scott	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Bennett, Neal	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	McDaniel, Zinda	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Brown, Travis	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Paulk, Tony	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Crews, Jesse	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Riley, Kaye	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Harris, Skipper	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Smith, Julie	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Holt, Jason	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	Staten, Jason	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
James, Michael-Angelo	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	Taylor, Shane	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Joyner, Jason	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Thompson, Vince	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual
Lee, Alex	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	Whiddon, Dana	☐ In-Person	☐ Virtual

Staff & Guests (X Denotes Attendance)			
Staff Name	Attendance		Guest Name Attendance
Cole, Michele	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Ambrose, Brittany ☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Courson, Scott	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Rollins, Ginger ☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Estep, Evi	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Walker, Dan ☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Howard, Bonnie	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	Glenn, Charmane ☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Lovett, Roberta	☐ In-Person	☒ Virtual	Smith, M'Lessha ☒ In-Person ☐ Virtual
Register, Urie	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	
Smith, Ashley	☒ In-Person	☐ Virtual	

Introduction

This meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, with participants attending both in person at the Southern Georgia Regional Commission Waycross office and virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Call to Order and Welcome

Vice Chairman Jennifer Gainey called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Review of Attendance

Vice Chairman Gainey asked Urie Register, Programs Manager, to provide a review of attendance. Urie stated that a quorum of the WDB was present.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2026, WDB Meeting

Vice Chairman Gainey referred members to the minutes of the May 20, 2026, WDB Meeting (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Vice Chairman Gainey asked if there were any questions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, she requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jonathan Gray made a motion to approve. Melvin Johnson provided the second. The motion carried.

PY25 Budget and Expenditures Report and PY26 Proposed Budget

Evi Estep, Fiscal Manager, referred the members to the handout "PY25 Budget and Expenditures Report" (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She noted the figures reflect 83% of the program year. Evi reviewed expenditures by funding stream. At the conclusion of the report, Evi asked if there were any questions.

Evi presented the proposed PY26 budget, referring members to pages 8-9 of the packet (a copy attached and made part of these minutes). Evi reviewed the proposed budget by funding stream. At the conclusion of the report, Evi asked if there were any questions.

Vice Chairman Gainey called for a motion to approve both the PY25 Budget and Expenditures Report and the PY26 Proposed Budget as presented. Johnathan Gray made a motion to approve, and Sean Panizzi provided the second. The motion carried.

Transfer Approval for 75% DW to Adult

Evi requested that the WDB authorize staff to transfer up to 75% of Dislocated Worker funding into the Adult funding stream for PY26. The proposed PY26 budget is based on transferring this amount. Evi explained that we ask for this authorization each year during the June meeting. Sean Panizzi made a motion to approve, and Travis Brown provided the second. The motion carried.

PY25-PY26 Income Guidelines

Urie referred members to the revised Income Guidelines on pages 10-14 of the packet (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She reminded members that the income guidelines are updated annually in accordance with federal and state guidance. Following Urie's review of the new income guideline table used to determine eligibility, a motion was made to approve the updated guidelines. Jonathan Gray made the motion to approve, and Sean Panizzi provided the second. The motion carried.

PY2026–PY2028 MOU/IFA

Urie provided an update on the PY2026–PY2028 MOU and IFA. She explained that the update is still in progress due to the relocation of the Georgia Department of Labor's Valdosta office. Because the MOU/IFA is directly related to the Comprehensive One-Stop Certification process, work on the agreement has been temporarily delayed until the relocation is finalized. An extension has been granted until July 31, 2026.

PY25 Monitoring Closeout Report / PY26 Monitoring Schedule

Bonnie Howard, Compliance and Performance Analyst, referred members to the PY25 Monitoring Closeout Report and the PY26 Monitoring Schedule on pages 15-16 of the handouts (copies attached and made a part of these minutes). Bonnie presented the PY25 Monitoring Schedule-Closeout Report and indicated that all planned monitoring activities for the program year have been completed, except for the One-Stop Certification review, which is expected to be completed by July 31, due to the closure and relocation of the Georgia Department of Labor office in Valdosta. Bonnie also presented the PY26 Monitoring Schedule for the upcoming program year.

PY25 Q3 Performance Report

Bonnie referred members to the handout titled "PY25 Q3 Performance Report" (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She reviewed the performance measures by funding stream, noting that overall program performance remains strong, with most performance measures meeting or exceeding negotiated goals. She noted that the youth credential rate was slightly low, but staff would continue working closely with service providers to improve these outcomes. Board members acknowledged that youth performance has historically been one of the more challenging performance areas within the region. With no additional comments or questions, Jonathan Gray made a motion to approve the PY25 Monitoring Closeout Report, PY26 Monitoring Schedule, and PY25 Q3 Performance Report. Travis Brown provided the second. The motion carried.

PY2024–PY2027 Regional Plan Draft Update

Urie presented the Regional Plan Update for PY2024-2027. She explained that the Regional Plan serves as the strategic framework for workforce development activities across the region. The draft

plan reflects updated labor market information, regional priorities, workforce partnerships, and workforce development strategies. She requested WDB approval to allow staff to move forward with submitting the draft. Board member Jonathan Gray asked whether Board members would have an opportunity to review the plan prior to submission and if there were any significant changes. Scott Courson, Deputy Director of Human Services, explained that the completed draft, consisting of more than 300 pages, would be distributed electronically to Board members. Mr. Courson also responded that the revisions primarily consist of updated labor market information and formatting changes required by the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). Roberta Lovett, Deputy Executive Director, indicated she would provide a basic summary of the revisions to the Board prior to the 30-day comment period. She clarified that the Board's action at this meeting was to authorize staff to move forward with the draft, with final approval to be given at the next meeting after any public input is received. Jonathan Gray made a motion to approve. Sean Panizzi provided the second. The motion carried.

Partner Updates

None

Adjourn

Vice Chairman Gainey thanked members and guests for their participation and continued commitment to workforce development efforts across the region. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Smith

Workforce Development Board Staff

Southern Georgia Regional Commission