

**LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA TEN
SOUTH CENTRAL TENNESSEE WORKFORCE BOARD
SOUTH CENTRAL TENNESSEE CAREER CENTER
APRIL 27, 2005
MINUTES**

A meeting of the South Central Tennessee Workforce Board was held on April 27, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at the South Central Tennessee Career Center Lewis County Office, Hohenwald, Tennessee. Members present were as follows:

Rick Alexander	Tony Beyer	Jimmy Copley	Dwayne Cornelison
Bruce Cotton	Guy Derryberry	James Dixon	Tommy Floyd
Carolyn Franks	Glenn Gordon	Beth Keaton	Sam Kennedy
William Kirk	Victor Lay	Robert Mitchell, Jr.	Robby Moore
Pame Moore-Morrow	Pamela Morris	John Rawe	Don Reeves, Jr.
Randy Short	Marvin Sandrell	Jim Sloan	Janet Turner
Joe Max Williams			

Barbara Beltz, Dr. Rebecca Hawkins, Sam Outlaw, Linda Rochell, John Stephens, Rick Sykes, Tim Webb, and Shirley Williams submitted their proxies. Guests present were Hickman County Mayor Steve Gregory, Jennifer Baltz, Shelia Carrall, Benny Pace, Garry Craig, Mindy Hull, Jack Irby, Teresa Stalling, Roma Powis, and Lois Stone. Staff present included Jan McKeel, Rick Molder, Sheryl Jordan, Elaine Newcomb, Joe Beard, Terry Bunch, Dean Dickey, Nancy Townsend, Brenda Sewell, Vivian Cathey, Garry Barnett, Donna Luna, and Patricia Lymon.

The “Let’s Go to Work” video presentation featuring the Incumbent Worker Grant Program was viewed. Discussion followed. Ms. McKeel mentioned that Smelter Inc. in Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee recently received approximately \$49,000 from the incumbent worker grant program to assist with upgrades of employee skills. Board Member Dwayne Cornelison with Magotteaux in Pulaski, Tennessee commented on how funds from the incumbent worker grant program helped his organization.

Terry Bunch, South Central Tennessee Career Center Employer Relations Coordinator, presented the Employer Recognition Award to Atys US, Inc. in Centerville, Tennessee. Jennifer Baltz, Human Resource Director, accepted the award. Atys came to Centerville in the spring of 2004 and now has 57 employees. It is the world leader in the supply of fruit preparation for dairy and frozen desserts industries. Atys recently received a check for \$15,040 for twelve On-the-Job (OJT) training slots that were converted to 12 positions.

Rick Molder, Director of Program Oversight, deferred to Garry Craig, instructor of Lewis County Youth Program, to present the Youth of the Quarter Award to Mindy Hull. Mindy is an eighth grade student at the Lewis County Middle School. While in the Youth Program, Ms. Hull had been successful in increasing her Math and Reading skills three educational levels. The purpose of this program is to provide additional educational support for students prior to entering the high school program.

Terry Bunch presented the Partner Recognition Award to the Hohenwald/Lewis County Economic Development Council. Shelia Carroll accepted the award on behalf of Phillip Griner, Mayor Robert Burklow, and County Mayor Kenneth Turnbow. This council has supported the Career Center and the community.

Tony Beyer, South Central Tennessee Workforce Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

A plaque was presented to Rick Alexander to honor him for his dedication and service as Board Chairman for the last three years. It was announced that \$1,000 was contributed to the Rick Alexander Scholarship which was to be given to a senior at Hampshire High School.

Mr. Beyer introduced Janet Turner and Don Reeves as new Board Members. Ms. Turner and Mr. Reeves represent Lewis and Maury Counties respectively.

Hickman, Perry, and Lewis county board members gave a brief overview of employment activities in each of their counties.

Robby Moore gave an update on activities in Perry County. Mr. Moore stated that the Fisher Company in Linden continues to expand. He mentioned that plans are being made to work with Bethel College to conduct some classes at the Career Center in Linden.

Robert Mitchell and Jimmy Copley gave an update on Hickman County. Mr. Mitchell stated that as of the last board meeting Hickman County has approved the extension of the sewer system in East Hickman County and it will connect on to the city of Dickson. Mr. Copley reported about information he gathered from three manufacturers in the area. He stated manufacturers listed computer skills, work ethics, willingness to work, dependability, and the ability to work with others as skills and attributes they are looking for in employees. Discussion followed.

Ms. McKeel briefly talked about the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library initiative. The Governor's Books from Birth Foundation is set to match local funds raised for that initiative dollar for dollar which provides a book a month to children from birth to the age of five. All eight of our counties in the eight-county area are involved in this program. Ms. McKeel stated that Lewis County has been operating this program in its county for four years. Discussion followed.

The minutes from the January 12, 2005 meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Beyer briefly talked about the 2004 Audit Report prepared by Joe Osterfield, CPA. He asked for a motion to accept the 2004 audit report. He passed on compliments from the auditor as to the condition of the audit considering this is the first full audit for the South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance. Rick Alexander made the motion to accept the 2004 audit report. Sam Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Mr. Beyer briefly reviewed a special request for customer support. Guy Derryberry made the motion to approve the request. Pame Moore-Morrow seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion was passed.

Mr. Beyer deferred to Ms. McKeel to discuss the Proposed Article 005 – Committee Bylaws change. Ms. McKeel stated the change to the Article 005 – Committee Bylaws are to align the committees with the new bylaws. The committee meetings will start in May. Mr. Beyer asked for a motion to approve the proposed Article 005 – Committee Bylaws change. Jim Sloan made the motion to approve the change. Victor Lay seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Mr. Beyer briefly discussed the approval of the OJT Contract with Sandrell Heating and Cooling as Marvin Sandrell is a board member. Since a board member is requesting an OJT, it requires approval by the Board. Mr. Beyer asked for a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kennedy made the motion to approve the OJT Contract for Board Member Marvin Sandrell. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Mr. Sandrell abstained from the motion.

Mr. Beyer updated the Board on the status of the joint meetings between the School Boards and County Commissioners in. Currently, four of the eight counties within our area have met to hold discussion on issues and possible solutions for their counties concerning the development of their workforce for the future. Mr. Beyer mentioned efforts are being made to work with the four remaining county officials to schedule meetings in their counties.

Mr. Beyer and Mr. Derryberry gave brief comments on the National Association of Workforce Board (NAWB) Forum 2005 Conference they attended in Washington, DC.

Ms. McKeel deferred to Sheryl Jordan, Director of Career Centers, to present the Dislocated Worker Update. Ms. Jordan reported that Sunday, May 1st will be the first mass meeting for the employees from Murray, Inc. to provide information on available services. Representatives from the Lawrence County Career Center will be on site weekly starting in May to assist employees. She reported that they will be assisting 183 workers who have been laid off from Texas Boot in Wayne County also. In addition, Ms. Jordan stated PlusMark, in Williamson County, laid off 500 workers of which 300 workers reside in our area and our plan is to serve 100 people. Eaton in Lewis County had shut down in February. They are down to at least 5 or 6 workers with more to be laid off first week in May. She stated that approximately \$420,000 in National Emergency Grant funds was received to work with the 280 workers dislocated from Eaton and we have met our goal to serve 140 workers.

Nancy Townsend, National Emergency Program Manager, talked about the National Emergency Grant (NEG) program and showed a video presentation of Eaton employees.

The Unemployment Rate Analysis was reviewed and discussed.

Discussion was held concerning Workforce Board Orientation. The Board was asked to forward any suggestions for orientation to Patricia Lymon, Recording Secretary.

The Performance Standards Report was reviewed and discussed. It was mentioned that all performance standards were met.

The remaining informational items on the agenda were deferred for the Board members to review at their convenience.

The next Workforce Board Meeting will be July 13, 2005 in Lawrence County.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.