



---

*Serving as the workforce investment board for the Lower Shore of Maryland*

The regular quarterly meeting of the Lower Shore Workforce Investment Board was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the One Stop Job Market in Salisbury.

**Members present:** Ruth Baker, Derek C. Bland, Greg Eberts, Paula Erdie, Jennifer Shahan, Zoraida Maldonado-Williams, Chair; Donna Weaver, Peggy Bradford, Renee Stephens, Maria Waller, Joey Gardner, EC Townsend, Freddy Mitchell and Bonita Porter.

**Members absent:** Robert McIntyre, Ted Doukas, Peggy Bradford, Danny Thompson, Margaret Dennis

**Staff present:** Milton Morris, Workforce Director; Eileen Cross, Jim Rapp and Rosemary Davis.

**Guests:** Carl Reavis, DLLR; Patti Mannion, Youth Council Chair; Mike Pennington, Tri-County Council Executive Director; David Macleod, Tri-County Council Chair.

Zoraida Maldonado-Williams, WIB chair, called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.; a quorum was present.

In recognition of her retirement, David Macleod, Chair Tri-County Council Executive Board, presented Nola Arnold with a plaque commemorating her participation on the Workforce Investment Board for 16 years since 1994.

Three new Board members were presented by Zoraida Maldonado-Williams: Joey Gardner – FotoJoe Photography representing Somerset County; Maria Waller – Quality Staffing Services representing Wicomico County and Ruth Baker representing Wor-Wic Community College.

**MOTION:** Milton Morris moved to approve the April 14, 2010 meeting minutes as submitted. Bonita Porter seconded motion. Corrections are requested to attendance to show Freddy Mitchell, Bonita Porter and EC Townsend present. Motion approved with said changes.

Zoraida announced four Steering Committee members who responded to her request for volunteers. They are Maria Waller, Donna Weaver, Greg Eberts and Jennifer. Zoraida asked for one more volunteer. **MOTION:** There being no volunteers Derek Bland moved to approve appointment of the four volunteers with one more member to be appointed at a later date. Bonita Porter seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Milton Morris requested the Board approve an increase from \$5000 to \$8800 in training funds available to individuals enrolled in 2-year programs. Although the current policy allows for the director to review each case and allow expenditures over \$5000 on his discretion, the request is happening more often which precipitated the request to change the policy.



---

*Serving as the workforce investment board for the Lower Shore of Maryland*

Discussion centered around the LSWA procedures, performance and how the student is made accountable for successful completion of classes. All 2-year classes are taken at Wor-Wic who applies the Pell grant before requesting WIA funds to pay for tuition, books and fees. There was lengthy discussion about the current billing process, performance monitoring, follow up and job placement. Renee Stephens questioned what steps are taken to measure success. Milton Morris informed the Board that LSWA is currently changing the process to maintain better contact with program participants during the training process. Milton explained to the Board how the system is automated and how staff checks MABS to verify employment. Paula Erdie said there also needs to be a way to provide assistance throughout the training process. Renee asked if the participants could be required to bring in their transcripts before registering for their next class. E.C. Townsend stated that DORS has a tremendous education policy that can be used as a basis for the WIA policy. It was suggested that the Steering Committee take up this issue. **MOTION:** Bonita Porter moved that this issue be referred to the Steering Committee for further discussion and to table a vote based on the Steering Committee recommendation. Paula Erdie seconded the motion. The motion approved.

Milton Morris asked the Board to consider waiving the higher education limitation for potential adult and dislocated worker participants.

Currently adults and dislocated workers cannot change disciplines if they hold a degree. This WIB could provide more services to dislocated workers if this requirement is waived. While the current policy does allow the director to use his discretion on a case by case basis, with the policy in place potential participants are turned away at the beginning of the process when it is discovered there is already a degree. Mike Pennington shared with the Board that he received additional training through PIC at a time when he was a dislocated worker. He pointed out there are situations where it is needed. Since in the current economic climate the dislocated worker money is not being used, this may help get more of it out the door. **MOTION:** Renee Stephens moved that all higher education limitations be removed from adult and dislocated worker policies. Paula Erdie seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Greg Eberts spoke about the One Stop partners' efforts to design a system universally accessible to everyone at the new building.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Rosemary Davis  
Operations Coordinator