



Board Meeting
September 27, 2023
11:30
AIDT Maritime Center

Staff: Sydney Raine, Lisa Thomas, Laura Bethea, Todd Soward, Susan Kozlowski, Derrick Turner, Terrance Brown, Jennifer Lucasson, Angie Kelley, Shirley Salter, Vivian Havel, Tonya Faith

Present: Pouncey, Moses, Hare, Chavira, Pang, Morris, Peck, Cromer, Smith, Ely, Pharr, Tucker, Chavis, Hanks, Wilson, Guy, Akers, Johnson, Rogers

11:45 Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed Melinda Parker with AIDT. Parker gave a brief introduction of what is done at the Maritime Center regarding training. Training is industry driven (Welding, Shipping fitting, Overhead Crane, Arial Lift, Fire Watch, etc.) Training is open to the public and there is no cost. Once participants complete training they have the opportunity to be employed with any employer of their choosing.

Minutes: June 22, 2023 Board Meeting – **Chairperson Johnson asked for a motion to approve –Cromer made motion, 2nd – Approved**

Financial Report: Chairperson Johnson asked Ms. Thomas to review the financial reports. – See attached

Thomas gave 4th quarter financial report.

Thomas mentioned that SWAPTE received an AWSP payment, therefore payment would be made to employers this week.

Cromer asked what was considered the fiscal year – Thomas replied July – June

Johnson asked what the end date was with AWSP – Thomas replied September 30, 2024

Chairperson Johnson asked for a motion to approve –Moses made motion, Hare 2nd– Approved

Thomas went on to explain the Fiscal Allocation Report.

This report gives a starting point for training programs and will be reviewed as needed and money can be moved to what provider and training is in need.

No questions

Raine explained that Congress hasn't approved the budget. Thomas reached out to Dept of Commerce inquiring what would happen if no budget is approved. It has been stated that we have sufficient funds for 2 months, therefore Raine will keep everyone informed of a continued resolution.

Committee Status Report: Chairperson Johnson asked Bethea to give committee reports

See Report

Betha also shared some success stories with the board to show them the lives of individuals that we are touching.

Bethea asked if there were any questions and there was no

Region Program Activities: Chairperson Johnson asked Kozlowski to give update on program activities in the Career Center – See attached

Kozlowski stated that program that start slow will typically get busier and that is what she expects for the summer program next year.

Kozlowski also stated that the staff are working more virtually with clients since the pandemic when internet is available.

It was mentioned that Chatom, Gilbertown and Camden have low turnouts and Kozlowski explained that they are only opened one day a week and we need to have services available to those that need them in that area. She also mentioned that they were monitoring the traffic to see what could be done to increase or if the site needed to be terminated.

Pouncey did state that Gilbertown was located on their campus and there wasn't a charge.

Presidents Report: Chairperson Johnson asked Raine to give his report.

Raine introduced Soward to the Board as Oakley's replacement.

Raine discussed the performance within Region 7 – See Report

Raine asked Guy to give the nomination committee report

Guy gave the report (see attached) and asked if there were any other nominations – there were none.

Chairperson Johnson called for a vote – Hare made motion, Chavis 2nd – Approved

Raine thanked Johnson for his 2 – 2 ½ years as the Board Chairperson and presented him with a gift.

Raine indicated that 4 Board members attended SETA in Perdido and would like to ask them to speak on their experience.

Smith stated it was her first time and it was great information, good initiatives, she mentioned the electronic vehicle initiative, diversity/cultural/managing an overall the event was phenomenal.

Pang stated it was very nice (gave his secret to winning all the door prizes), he learned the most by talking to other attendees from other States and realized that they have the same issues as Alabama.

Chavira gave her Thanks for allowing her to attend because she was new to working with workforce coming from a medical background. She got ideas that she would like to implement within her own workplace and it was a great opportunity and learning experience.

Chavis stated that he had been involved with SETA years ago and members do learn from other States. He also noted that Raine and his staff does an excellent job by listening to what is going on in the other States. Stated that the staff did an excellent job by putting on this conference and the diversity was great.

Raine indicated that Chavis and Bethea sat in with him on a meeting with the Regional Administrator from Atlanta to discuss the initiative for Electric Vehicles. The State is focusing more on the northern part because of the automobile industries in that area. However, it was noted that SWAPTE would participate in anyway possible because of the charging stations that would be needed. Raine indicated

that there was a large amount of funds that would be received from this grant and we want to be included on the training needs.

Raine mentioned the Combined WIOA State Plan meeting on November 15, 2023 that will be held at Coastal and thanked Dr. Pouncey for hosting that meeting. This will be to prepare for the 2024 State Plan.

Johnson thanked everyone and Raine indicated that the gift was in a Red and White bag not the Black and Gold which is Johnson's fraternity colors.

Raine indicated that the next SETA conference would be in Cherokee, NC and we would evaluate the budget to see how many board members would be able to attend.

Johnson stated that he has had the pleasure of attending 2 SETA conferences and it isn't just Workforce that is offered that there is leadership and inspiration workshops. He has brought best practices back to his workplace.

Johnson did state that SWAPTE does have the best run workforce in the State. Thanks to Raine and his team.

Johnson recognized Tuck from DOL LMI as a visitor and welcomed her.

Pouncey announced that a new staff Career Coach, Prichard will be located in Thomasville. And that they have passed the first cohort of Respiratory Therapy Program, so be expecting to see that offered in the near future.

Chairperson Johnson asked if anyone had any additional comments and if not a motion to adjourn. Wilson made a motion to adjourn – 2nd by majority vote (1:10)

Submitted By:

Stevie Anderson