



Board Meeting  
March 23, 2023  
11:30  
PowerSouth, McIntosh, AL

**Staff:** Sydney Raine, Lisa Thomas, Monica Oakley, Laura Bethea, Susan Kozlowski

**Present:** Anderson, O'Shea, Pouncey, Morris, Taylor, Wilson, Black, Chavis, Dixon, Albritten, Guy, Moses, Barber, Hare, Hanks, Smith, Moore, Chavier, Olivier, Thomas, Pinegar

11:40 Raine welcomed special guests Albritten, Smith and Pinegar  
Raine thanked PowerSouth for the nice setup of food and having us

Anderson apologized for us not being able to take a tour due to an outage, however played a video about PowerSouth and how they produce energy.

Anderson also asked that everyone start eating. Food was provided by Shuckers Seafood.

Anderson introduced Plant Manager Gabe Cartee

Cartee welcomed the board to their site and discussed the need to find valuable employees. Cartee stated that he appreciates the work that everyone on the board does. Cartee explained the process of producing energy through PowerSouth and the areas that they serve.

Secretary Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:12 a quorum present. Anderson stated that Chairperson Johnson and Vice Chair Smith were both traveling with work and could not be present.

**Minutes:** December 15, 2022 minutes from Board Meeting – **Sec Anderson asked for a motion to approve – Moore made motion, Hare 2<sup>nd</sup> – Approved**

**Financial Report:** Sec Anderson asked Ms. Thomas to review the financial reports. – See attached

**Sec Anderson asked for a motion to approve – Guy made motion, Moses 2<sup>nd</sup> – Approved**

Thomas discussed the issue that occurred with Regions Bank with the AWSP account. That a check cleared the account that clearly the name had been changed from Infirmary Health to West Cooling & Air for \$50,000.00. Since this Regions has been requesting SWAPTE to purchase a protection plan which would be at a cost. This was discussed with the Finance Committee and Executive Committee and it was determined that it would not be sufficient for SWAPTE to do this. AWSP Grant offers no administrative funds and WIOA can't pay for fees.

**Committee Status Report:** Sec Anderson asked Ms. Bethea to give this report. – (See attached)  
Bethea discussed the AWSP Grant and reviewed the report. She stated that the State monitors visited 9 different employers in Mobile and Baldwin County and they were very impressed with the employers, employees, and the job that was being done. Bethea stated how well this grant is doing with getting SWAPTE's name in the community and how well we are partnering with Coastal, Bishop and ATN.

Bethea mentioned the Human Capital fund. Bethea explained the Human Capital fund of \$499.99 per participant for items they need to get or stay on the job. The state will be issuing SWAPTE \$30,000.00 to spend all within Region 7. This is money that can't be spent in the other parts of the State.

She also stated that the Youth RFP was ready and would be issued Friday. Bethea stated that there has been some changes in the request and we would be reviewing the responses closely so that we can produce better performance.

Bethea mentioned the Summer Youth Program and that we would be starting the program this summer paying the youth \$13.50 per hour for 20-40 hours per week. She explained that we are leaning heavily on the CTE Instructors for recommendations for the youth and employers. She also stated that we would be hiring 3 new contract employees to assist with the program and they would be employed through October then our staff would have to take over follow up on all of the youth.

**Region Program Activities:** Sec Anderson asked Kozlowski to give update on program activities in the Career Center – See attached

Kozlowski gave the breakdown of the report and stated it was only for the two-year colleges. She also gave out a percentage report on the top three programs to show the percentage of successful completion, etc. – See attached

Kozlowski also corrected the monthly count for Jackson and stated that the in person count was slowly increasing.

#### **New Business – None**

**Presidents Report:** Sec Anderson asked Raine if he had anything more to offer.

Raine mentioned that the audit is being conducted and Lisa is still with us – Laughed  
Everything so far is good and he doesn't see any issues at this time.

Raine made the board aware of Jefferson Co being disbanded and that region would be consolidated in with the State under Phee Friend. He stated this is because of the structure that Region 4 and that the elected officials controlled instead of the board. When the news of this came out he called Montgomery to see if it was their position to do the same with Region 7. He was assured that is not the case.

Raine also reminded that SETA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is this year and the conference will be in Alabama at Perdido Beach. He stated if any board members would like to attend to contact SWAPTE and they will see about the registration. He encouraged attendance and stated that there are many interesting topics that are discussed. Also if Coastal / Bishop wanted to serve on a panel on a particular topic to please get something together and send to us and we will present to the committee.

Raine mentioned returning from Memphis SETA Meeting and 8 States were representative and told the story of the motivational speaker being the 1<sup>st</sup> female official in NFL. That she was a graduate of Mobile College and the various trails she had to overcome being a female.

Raine also informed the board that he was asked and agreed to be the Vice Chair over the State Workforce Board.

Raine mentioned that we were partnering with Fox10 News for outreach on job opportunities and training with 8-10 various local businesses and that he thinks the board will be pleased with what we are working on.

Success stories need to be published because this is what people want to see. Success depends on how well we all work together. He told the story of the young man that was in the Lineman program with Alabama Power at Bishop and the barriers that he overcame to complete the program.

Sec Anderson asked if there were any other questions.

Moses asked the dates of SETA – Bethea responded Sept 17-20

Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 Motion by Chavis and seconded by O'Shea

Submitted By: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stevie Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

Stevie Anderson