

Goodwill Store & Career Center
3715 Mundy Mill Road, Oakwood, GA 30566

Meeting called to order at 1 p.m. by Chairman Jimmy DeFoor

Members Present:

- Greg Schmieg
- Jimmy DeFoor
- Sandy Adams
- Bob Green
- Tom Wilson
- Vincent Martin

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from GVRS board meeting on May 11 was made by DeFoor and seconded by Adams. Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Consumer Presentations

Cave Spring Director Russell Fleming introduced Cave Spring student Tekela Thomas who shared how she graduated from the center and began work at the Georgia School for the Deaf earlier this year.

Executive Director's Report (GVRA Executive Director Greg Schmieg)

WIOA Update/Final Regulations/Georgia WIOA Convening Conference

Release of the final WIOA regulations was made public on June 30. Schmieg reviewed highlights of the newly-released regulations and offered the board the option to attend the Georgia WIOA Convening Conference regarding the new regulations.

Project Horizon Update (Director of the VR East Quadrant Ken Hise)

The Project Horizon update consisted of two primary points: going over the new organizational charts and the implementation/rollout of the initiative, which will begin January 1, 2017.

Provider Management Update (Director of Provider Management Ronnesia Barker)

Barker discussed the Provider Management Plan, which consists of three work streams: spending analysis, provider profiles and the process team. This will ensure providers work towards client outcomes and that GVRA has access to providers across the state.

Federal Career Pathways Grant (E3) Update (Director of Transition Dale Arnold)

Arnold discussed the E3 Grant and the current efforts to engage the five pilot schools. He further discussed the development of the E3 website and mobile application.

SFY 17 Budget (CFO/COO Jimmy Wilson)

Wilson discussed the SFY 17 budget of roughly \$196 million. Of this, \$1.6 million has been given to Augusta University for management of the hospitals on the Roosevelt Warm Springs campus.

GDOL MOU Update (Jimmy Wilson)

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Wilson discussed the \$2.4 million spent with Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) this year for IT services. By the end of September, GVRA will have fully transitioned to internal IT support and will no longer require Labor to perform this function.

LIBERA/AWARE System Update (Jimmy Wilson)

Wilson further elaborated on the state of the current case management system (LIBERA) and the \$6 million dollar expense agency will incur prior to transitioning to the AWARE case management system.

BEP Update

Schmieg discussed the move towards encouraging blind small business owners through Business Enterprise Program (BEP). BEP clients have already begun the process of franchising a Jimmy's Seaside Fries as well as a Marcos Pizza. The possibility of food service franchises would help clients move towards financial independence and help them start their own business.

Leadership Summit

The GVRA Leadership Summit has been postponed until October 2016. It will be held at the Marriott Evergreen Conference Center in Atlanta, GA. The exact dates are to be announced.

Georgia Rehabilitation Association (GRA) Annual Conference

The GVRS board will hold their September meeting at the GRA conference in Savannah.

Old Business

Roosevelt Warm Springs (RWS) Master Plan

Schmieg said that on July 21 he will have a meeting with the Governor's Office of Planning & Budget to additional uses of the RWS campus. The ultimate goal, he said, is to utilize the campus to its fullest.

SRC/SILC Comments

State Independent Living Council (SILC) Director Shelly Simmons discussed the completion of the state plan for independent living. She thanked GVRA Executive Leadership for the recent meeting that covered the goals the various SILCS are trying to accomplish.

State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) Liaison Chris Moder said it is an exciting time to serve individuals with disabilities. He noted that dates and times are set for the public hearings that the SRC will be conducting in August.

New Business

Board Roster SFY 2017/Election of Board Officers for SFY 2017

DeFoor postponed the election of board officers until the Governor fills the current board vacancies. Tom Wilson will temporarily serve as the Vice Chair until then.

Board Calendar SFY 2017 (Discussion of monthly/bi-monthly options)

Considering the items and events in the near future, the board considered meeting on monthly basis. A motion was made to meet monthly by Green and was seconded by Adams. Vote: the motion passed unanimously. The next meeting will be August 10.

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Board Orientation/Training for SFY 2017

The board discussed the need to implement training to all newly appointed board members.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment