

300 GRADD Way Owensboro, Kentucky 42301-0200 **GRADD.COM** 

#### GREEN RIVER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

February 7, 2024

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Workforce Development Board (Board) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 12:30 p.m., at GRADD with the following in attendance:

# MEMBERS PRESENT

Jason Cole Mickey Dunbar

Kim Humphrey

Isaac Murphy

Dr. Jason Warren Kenneth Calloway Marybeth Henshaw Bart Darrell

Eddie Embry

Amanda Blohm-Thompson

Jonathan Pendergrass

Luke Aull Cindy Fiorella

Mike Baker

### MEMBERS ABSENT

\*Amanda Curry

\*Alexa Bowling \*Jason Curry

Chasity Nance

\*Dan Douglas

\*Camron Knott Chris Geary

Tom Mitzel

#### **GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT**

Judge/Executive David Johnston, Ohio County Judge/Executive Charlie Castlen, Daviess County Matt Bartlett, Equus Workforce Solutions Naomi Sutton, Education and Labor Cabinet Paula Snyder, Career Development Office Beth Ferguson, Accounting Clerk, GRADD

Michelle Drake, Director, Workforce Development, GRADD

Steve Henry, Chairman | Adam O'Nan, Vice Chairman | Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Secretary | Curtis Dame, Treasurer | Joanna Shake, Executive Director



<sup>\*</sup>Excused absence

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Jill Gray, Assistant Director, Workforce Development, GRADD
Paula Payne, Coordinator, Workforce Development, GRADD
Stacia Cole, Vocational Rehabilitation
Julia Brown, Audubon Area Community Services
Melissa Coker, Union County First
Monica Rice, College and Career Readiness Counselor, Owensboro Public Schools
Amanda Porter, Equus Workforce Solutions
Andrea McGehee, Equus Workforce Solutions
Brian Basham, Local Employment Veteran's Representative

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mickey Dunbar called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. A quorum was confirmed. Judge/Executive David Johnston and Judge/Executive Charlie Castlen were recognized and thanked for attending.

## II. BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Planter's Bank was recognized as the lunch sponsor. Chairperson Dunbar gave a brief overview of services provided by Planter's Bank.

### III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Bart Darrell presented the minutes of the November 1, 2023, Green River Workforce Development Board meeting and made the motion for acceptance of the minutes.

Motion seconded by Jonathon Pendergrass to approve minutes of the November 1, 2023, meeting of the Green River Workforce Development Board. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Secretary Darrell also presented Executive Committee minutes of October 10, 2023, for consideration.

### IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Bart Darrell presented the financial report.

A motion was made by Kenneth Calloway and seconded by Jason Cole to accept the FY24 Budget to date.

A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

## V. <u>GUEST SPEAKER</u>

Ms. Monica Rice, College and Career Readiness Counselor for Owensboro Public Schools shared information regarding Career & Technical Education (CTE). With CTE, students spend classroom time at Owensboro Community and Technical College while earning both high

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school and college credits. This provides students the opportunity to graduate high school with an associate degree in the areas of computer science, construction technology, education, engineering, family and consumer science, health science, JROTC, and marketing. Discussion ensued regarding a youth outreach committee of the Workforce Board collaborating with local schools to promote college and career readiness. Attendees were asked to reach out to Michelle Drake if interested in serving on the committee.

### V. KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER PARTNER UPDATES

Jason Cole shared Office of Vocational Rehabilitation data for Quarter 4, 2023, as well as year-to-date statistics and a recent success story.

Paula Snyder shared Career Development Office updates including Veteran's Services, Career Development Office, and Office of Unemployment data for 2023 to date, and a success story for a recent client.

Matt Bartlett shared Equus Workforce Solutions updates including the Skills to Succeed (S2S) grant and recent hiring events and outreach. Additionally, Mr. Bartlett shared details of a recent success story.

# VI. EQUUS QUARTERLY DELIVERABLES

Chairperson Dunbar stated that Equus met all deliverables for Quarter 4 FY23. He expressed appreciation to the Equus team for their continued dedication to providing excellent service to those seeking jobs and training.

# VII. WORKFORCE HIGHLIGHTS:

Michelle Drake shared that the final Rapid Response event will be held for Diacel employees on February 15, 2024. This Ohio County business closure involves a total of 251 employees. Assistance is available for displaced employees through WIOA funds or the QUEST grant as the S2S grant winds down.

#### XI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business for discussion.

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/pep

Chairperson