

## GREEN RIVER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

August 6, 2025

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

The Green River Workforce Development Board (Board) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 12:30 p.m., at Bayside at The Party Space Place with the following in attendance:

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mickey Dunbar	Eddie Embry
Dr. Jason Warren	Isaac Murphy
Mike Baker	Keith Wells
Amanda Blohm-Thompson	Sonya Hendrix
Sheri Plain	Allyson Sanders
Brian Basham	David Benson, proxy for Jason Cole
Jill Switzer, proxy for Kenneth Calloway	
Paula Snyder, proxy for Jonathan Pendergrass	

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Luke Aull	Jason Curry
*Marybeth Henshaw	*Chris Geary
*Bart Darrell	*Greg Risch

\*Excused absence

### GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Honorable Charlie Castlen, Judge Executive  
Caroline Young, Commute with Enterprise  
Matt Bartlett, Equus Workforce Solutions  
Melissa Roberts, Equus Workforce Solutions  
Kim Shannon, Equus Workforce Solutions  
Michelle Drake, Director, Workforce Development, GRADD  
Jill Gray, Assistant Director, Workforce Development, GRADD

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



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Alisha Smith, Youth Coordinator, Workforce Development, GRADD  
Paula Payne, Coordinator, Workforce Development, GRADD  
Monica Taylor, Career Development Office  
Angel Hill, Planter's Bank  
Joanna Shake, Executive Director, GRADD  
Bill Banczak, Victory CNC Plasma Systems  
Stacia Cole, Vocational Rehabilitation  
Naomi Sutton, Office of Employer & Apprenticeships  
Kala Bowen, Audubon Area Community Services

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mickey Dunbar called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. It was determined that a quorum was present. Chairperson Dunbar recognized Honorable Charlie Castlen, County Judge Executive, Daviess County, and thanked him for his attendance.

Chairperson Dunbar stated the following requests for proxy were made:

Kenneth Calloway designated Jill Switzer  
Jason Cole designated David Benson  
Jonathan Pendergrass designated Paula Snyder

Chairperson Dunbar asked for a motion that Ms. Switzer be accepted proxies as stated.

Mr. Eddie Embry made the motion to accept proxies as stated. Mr. Isaac Murphy seconded the motion carried.

A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

II. BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Century Aluminum was recognized as the lunch sponsor.

Mr. Marshall and Mrs. Allyson Sanders provided the venue, Bayside at The Party Space Place, for the meeting today, and shared how they started their business as an investment in the community.

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Chairperson Dunbar presented minutes of the May 7, 2025, Green River Workforce Development Board meeting for approval in the absence of Mr. Bart Darrell, Secretary.

Motion was made by Mrs. Allyson Sanders to approve the minutes of May 7, 2025, Green River Workforce Development Board meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Mike Baker.

A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Chairperson Dunbar also presented April 8, 2025, minutes of the Workforce Board Executive Committee meeting for consideration.

#### IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Isaac Murphy, Treasurer, presented the FY26 financial report. He stated July 2025 expenditures are not available yet.

The motion was made by Mr. Brian Basham and seconded by Mr. Keith Wells to accept the FY26 financial report.

A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

#### V. GUEST PRESENTER

Chairperson Dunbar invited Caroline Young to present information regarding Commute with Enterprise. Ms. Young shared details of the service available for providing transportation to and from work. Materials and contact information were shared.

#### VI. FINAL QUEST MONITORING REPORT

Chairperson Dunbar shared that a letter was received from the Education and Labor Cabinet of final QUEST monitoring. There were no findings or observations, and Green River was commended for several best practices noted in the report.

#### VII. REGIONAL AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Chairperson Dunbar shared that a letter from the Education and Labor Cabinet was received approving the Local Workforce Development Plan. The Plan meets all WIOA requirements and aligns with the Kentucky State Plan.

#### VIII. YOUTH REPORT

Chairperson Dunbar invited Ms. Alisha Smith to share an update regarding the Putting Young Kentuckians to Work project. Ms. Smith stated she continues youth outreach. There are currently 45 youths in work-based learning experiences and twelve have been hired full-time by their host employer. Special focus is being placed on youth in recovery, and Ms. Smith is working with fifteen youth for re-entry into the workforce. She is attending back-to-school events to distribute information about the program.

IX. EQUUS QUARTERLY DELIVERABLES

Chairperson Dunbar stated that Equus quarterly deliverables were met and are payable. Mr. Matthew Bartlett shared quarterly data and stated the monitoring rate was 99.65%. Of note, the goal was for 140 participants to attend workshops, and the actual number attending was 624.

X. KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER PARTNER UPDATES

Mr. David Benson shared a participant success story from Vocational Rehabilitation. Vocational Rehabilitation data is included in the meeting packet.

Ms. Paula Snyder shared a participant success story from the Career Development Office and data is included in the packet.

Mr. Bartlett shared a video of a recent success story.

XI. WORKFORCE HIGHLIGHTS:

No additional Workforce highlights were shared.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Dunbar stated that Ms. Sonya Hendrix has agreed to serve on the Executive Committee of the Green River Workforce Development Board.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/pep

  
Chairperson