



**SANTEE-LYNCHES  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Virtual SC Works Committee Meeting via Zoom  
Tuesday, September 12, 2022 - 10:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present via Zoom:**

Bobby Anderson (Chairman), Janice Poplin, Berri Outlaw, Debra Young, John Hornsby, George General

**Workforce Development Staff Present:**

Dennis Cyphers, SLRCOG Executive Director  
Esmonde Levy, SLRCOG Workforce Development Manager  
Freda Amerson, SLRCOG Workforce Development Operations Coordinator  
Steve Berger, SLRCOG Business Services Lead  
Kourtney Page, SLRCOG Administrative Assistant I-PR

**Guests:**

Ray Jackson – Eckerd Connects - Workforce Development  
Deidre Smalls - Eckerd Connects –Workforce Development

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

Chairman Bobby Anderson called the Santee-Lynches Workforce Development Board's SC Works Committee Meeting to order at 8:38 AM. A quorum is present.

**II. Approval of Agenda – (M)**

Chairman Bobby Anderson called for a motion to approve the agenda. **A motion was made by Ms. Janice Poplin and seconded by Ms. Debra Young.** There being no discussion, Chairman Anderson called for the vote. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

**III. Approval of Minutes- April 18, 2022(M)**

Chairman Bobby Anderson called for a motion to approve the April 18, 2022 minutes. **A motion was made by Ms. Debra Young and seconded by Mr. John Hornsby.** There being no discussion, Chairman Anderson called for the vote. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

**IV. SC Works Operator Report**

Mr. Ray Jackson, One-Stop Manager, Eckerd Connects -Workforce Development, presented the SC Works Center Report for July 1 through August 31, 2022.

**Chart I: Santee-Lynches Region Job Placements**

2022: 219

Mr. Jackson stated that currently the region has 219 Job Placements as of August 31, 2022. Compared to the state's overall job placements, our region makes up 17.35% of 1,262 job placements statewide.

#### **Chart II: Santee-Lynches VOS Greeter Report**

Mr. Jackson shared with the Committee that 1,450 individuals visited the SC Works Centers. Of the 1,450 individuals, 39 visitors were identified as veterans.

He also highlighted the following data:

#### **Santee-Lynches Total Number of**

Total Number of Individuals that Registered - 174

Total Number of Individuals that Logged In - 1,327

Total Number of Distinct Individuals Receiving Services - 2,072

Total Number of Services Provided to Individuals - 60,644

Total Number of Internal Job Orders Created - 283

Total Number of Internal Job Referrals - 4,076

Total Number of Services Provided Employers - 2,463

#### **Chart III: Area Profile for Santee-Lynches, SC**

Next, Mr. Jackson informed the Committee that the Region ranks as #3 in the State as indicated on the Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Distribution Table for July 2022 with:

Civilian Labor Force - 89,052

Number Employed - 85,753

Number Unemployed - 3,299

Unemployment Rate - 3.7%

Preliminary - Yes

#### **Chart IV: Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Distribution Table (By County)**

Afterwards, Mr. Jackson presented the ranks of our 4 counties on the statewide Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Distribution Table for July 2022:

Rank	Area	Civilian Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	Preliminary
11	Lee	6,383	6,071	312	4.9%	Yes
15	Clarendon	11,883	11,409	474	4.0%	Yes
18	Sumter	41,664	40,095	1,569	3.8%	Yes
29	Kershaw	29,122	28,178	944	3.2%	Yes

This table compares our counties to other counties throughout the state.

#### **Chart V: SC Works Online Workshops**

Mr. Jackson stated that we are still providing these services [workshops] virtually. However, they are not receiving a lot of traffic at this time, but staff hopes to gain some improvement.

### **Job Fair Update:**

Mr. Jackson stated they had 55 employers in attendance and 153 job seekers. Out of the 153 jobseekers, 17 identified themselves as veterans. He stated that they will work closely with the employers to capture further information on how many individuals were hired. Chairman Anderson expressed his concern that employers may have felt disappointed with only 153 jobseekers attending the event. Mr. Jackson explained to that the Job Fairs prior to this year, had more jobseekers in attendance. For example, the 2019 Job Fair had nearly 300 jobseekers with 80 employers. Mr. Steve Berger added that most employers he spoke with stated that they were very pleased with the quality of candidates selected. He expressed that the number of prospects were very high in the 153 jobseekers who attended. Ms. Poplin asked if this event is held only once a year. Mr. Berger responded that in the past we have hosted 2 Job Fairs each year, 1-Bishopville, and 1-Sumter. However, this is the first in-person Job Fair that SC Works has held since 2019 [due to the pandemic]. He that this year, they took different route to gain sponsorship for the job fair. SKF, covered over a third of the expense due to budget cuts in WIOA. He stated that next year they are striving to gain two or three more sponsors to cover all costs to increase the likelihood of hosting more Job Fairs throughout the year. Ms. Poplin asked how we targeted the jobseekers. Mr. Berger responded that staff really invested a lot of time advertising for this event and explained that other COGs in the region has encountered the same results due to COVID. Mr. Jackson added that they advertised using digital billboards and social media. Chairman Anderson recommended that they should consider advertisement on the radio for a better chance to target a greater crowd of jobseekers.

## **V. SC Works Performance Update**

**Ms. Deidre Smalls, Eckerd Connects-Area Manager** presented the Adult and Dislocated Worker Performance Reports for July 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022.

### **Chart I: Total Active Enrollments**

New Enrollments: 17

PY 21' Carry-In: 79

Ms. Smalls specified that they have enrolled 96 participants total.

### **Chart II: Occupational Skills Training**

Received Training - 25

Transportation & Healthcare Sector:

CDL

Patient Care Technician

Medical Assistant

Phlebotomy

Ms. Smalls explained that 16 of those participants are still in training (which some are just waiting for certification testing). She added that a large portion of the individuals are under the CDL sector.

### **Chart III: Performance Outcomes Update for Adult & Dislocated Workers (DW)**

Credentials: 12

Measurable Skills Gain: 40

Adult Program Highlight

## **Ms. Davida Major**

Ms. Davida Major enrolled into the WIOA program on March 16, 2022. Ms. Major was unemployed and seeking employment in the medical field. Davida had previous medical experience as a Nursing Assistant. After working with her Career Coach, Ms. Major decided that she wanted to pursue EKG training. She successfully completed her EKG training and obtained her National EKG Certification. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Major secured fulltime employment with Prisma Health Tuomey as an EKG Technician, \$15.00 per hour with benefits.

## **VI. Financial Report**

Mr. Esmonde Levy, SLRCOG Workforce Development Manager presented the Year End Review Financial Report for Program Year 2021 through June 30, 2022.

### **Chart I: Program 2021 Percent Expended**

Eckerd Adult - 91.52%

Eckerd DW - 55.00%

### **Chart II: Eckerd Adult Total**

Eckerd spent \$449,413 of \$491,066 (91.52% expended) with a remaining balance of \$41,653.

### **Chart III: Eckerd DW Total**

Eckerd spent \$114,924 of \$208,933 (55% expended) with a remaining balance of \$94,009.

Mr. Levy also presented to the Committee the Financial Reporting for Program Year 2022 through August 31, 2022.

### **Chart I: Eckerd Adult Total**

Eckerd spent \$29,698 of \$320,000 (9.28% expended) with a remaining balance of \$290,302.

### **Chart II: Eckerd DW Total**

Eckerd spent \$8,095 of \$100,000 (8% expended) with a remaining balance of \$91,905.

### **Chart III: Resiliency Total**

Eckerd spent \$116,351 of \$288,812 (40.3% expended) with a remaining balance of \$172,461.

Mr. Levy stated that the Resiliency Funds are supplemental to continue serving the individuals of our region due to budget cuts received this year. This funding will need to be utilized by May 2023. He explained that staff are heavily monitoring this funding as they work through the program year.

## **VII. Other Business**

### **CEDS Goals**

Mr. Dennis Cyphers, SLRCOG Executive Director presented the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies to the SC Works Committee. He stated that this strategic plan requires a lot of outreach to obtain a well-rounded scope to achieve the challenges throughout that we face in infrastructure throughout our region. It allows our region to apply directly for Economic Development Funding (EDA).

He also highlighted that the draft plan can be found on the Santee-Lynches COG's website for a public comment period until October 7<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged the Committee members to spread the word and help increase the exposure to the region.

During his presentation, Mr. Cyphers shared the goal and objectives set for Educational Attainment in Workforce Development:

Objective 1.A- Enable employers to find qualified prospective employees.

Objective 1.B- Enable jobseekers to maximize their employability.

Objective 1.C- Enhance preparation of students for today's and tomorrow's workplace.

Objective 1.D- Provide opportunities for the region's high-school graduates to pursue higher education.

Chairman Anderson explained that he is aware that a lot of students are being transferred out of the public school system into a private school. He expressed his concern that we would be more involved in the election of the School Board of Trustees to ensure that the schools get back in top shape. Ms. Young stated that she does agree with Chairman Anderson and that our Workforce should be more involved in the school systems to ensure that the students are prepared for 2-year or 4-year college or the workforce.

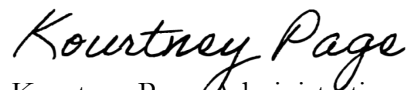
#### **Other Discussion Topics by Committee Members**

There was no other discussion Topics by Committee Members.

#### **VIII: Adjournment**

Chairman Bobby Anderson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion was made by Ms. Debra Young and seconded by Ms. Janice Poplin.** There being no discussion, Chairman Anderson called for the vote. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 AM.

Recorded by,



Kourtney Page Administrative Assistant I-PR  
Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments