

**Governor’s State Workforce Development Board
August 24, 2021 Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jay Holloway
Ms. Felicia Johnson
Col. Craig Currey
Mr. Archie Maddox
Dr. Michael Mikota

MEMBERS EXECUSED:

Welcome and Opening RemarksMr. Jay Holloway, Committee Chair

Mr. Jay Holloway, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of May 27, 2021 Minutes*Mr. Holloway

A motion to approve the May 27, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Colonel Craig Currey, seconded by Mr. Archie Maddox, and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Final Review of Charter*Mr. Holloway

Mr. Holloway presented the proposed Committee Charter and recommendations stemming from the May 27, 2021 meeting. Col. Currey asked for clarification on which Committee functions are applicable to serving individuals with barriers and for a definition of the term “resiliency” as used in the charter. Ms. Nina Staggers explained that Committee functions 2-4 have implications on serving priority populations. The term “job seekers” as used in the Committee’s Charter includes all job seekers, especially those with barriers to employment, and the overarching goal of “strengthening the workforce system to increase effectiveness in serving job seekers” includes the need to identify strategies and practices that yield results for job seekers with barriers to employment.

Ms. Staggers also explained that the purpose of expanding access to employment and training resources through strategic innovation and technology is to build resilient rural communities that are positioned to withstand and bounce-back from times of crisis or economic downturns. Dr. Mike Mikota also shared his perspective, explaining that the goal is to create a strong infrastructure for rural areas enabling individuals to participate in the labor force through education and training, which will help ensure that rural communities are resilient. The Committee agreed to the name Workforce Committee on Innovation. Existing members of the Priority Populations Committee will continue to serve but as new members join the SWDB, there will be an opportunity to recruit new members to the Committee. The Committee unanimously approved the Committee name and Charter.

Discuss PY’21 PrioritiesMr. Holloway

In alignment with the Committee’s Charter, Mr. Holloway recommended four priorities for the Committee’s consideration: create labor market information training for board members; distribute relevant publications for awareness and strategic planning; provide opportunities for showcasing local innovation; and conduct an economic and workforce analysis. The Committee also discussed the importance of exposing youth to career opportunities. No additional priorities were identified.

*Denotes voting item

Governor’s State Workforce Development Board
August 24, 2021 Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes

Other Business/Adjourn.....Mr. Holloway

Mr. Holloway announced the resignation of Dr. Michael Mikota and reminded committee members of the SWDB meeting on Wednesday, September 30th at 11:00 a.m. The Committee did not discuss any other business and the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.