

Greenville County Workforce Development Board
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GREENVILLE COUNTY
Workforce Development Board

Preparing the workforce, growing our economy

Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)
SC Works Committee Meeting, Tuesday, May 26, 2026, from 9 – 10 am
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89053032683?pwd=cS62tKJ4ZsNZMEbaSlggnbFpfJbO57.1>
Meeting ID: 890 5303 2683
Passcode: 024337

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------------------------------|
| I. | Welcome and Call to Order | Committee Chair |
| II. | Quorum Validation (5 of 9) | |
| III. | <i>Minutes Approval (March 24, 2026)*</i> | |
| IV. | Director's Report | Mr. Dean Jones, GCWD Director |
| V. | Action Items /New Business | Dr. Laura Bogardus, Side by Side |
| VI. | Roundtable Updates Discussion | SC Works Partners |
| VII. | Other Business | |
| VIII. | Adjourn | |

*** Denotes an action item.**

Presentation documents will be available via <http://www.greenvillewib.com>

Future Meeting Schedule – 4th Tuesday every other month, 9 am – 10 am, breakfast meetings
August 25 (in place of July) – in person at SC Works, McAlister Square
September 22 – VIRTUAL
November 17 (third Tuesday) – in person at Greenville Tech McAlister Square

Public Law 101-166, Section 511: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$626,046 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$608,959 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$644,660 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds.



Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)
SC Works Committee Meeting, March 24, 2026, 9 – 10 am
Greenville Housing Authority, 122 Edinburgh Ct, Greenville, SC 29607

MEETING MINUTES

Attended: Weyland Burns, Deric Shuman, Victoria Novak, Bruce Forbes, Sandy White, Jenneh Jones, Brian Morrison for Beverly James, Dean Jones and Laura Bogardus

Absent: Tammy Galindo, Beverly James (Brian attended)

Quick recap. The SC Works Committee meeting focused on updates from various partners and discussions about workforce development initiatives. Dean provided updates on Eckert Connects to provide SC Works operations and introduced upcoming workforce Pell grants for shorter-term training programs (150 contact hours, 6-8 weeks) starting July 1st. The committee discussed challenges with WorkKeys testing and WIN certification, and explored alternative assessment methods for job-training readiness. Partners shared updates on ongoing programs, including entrepreneurship training, apprenticeship initiatives, and library services expansion. The conversation ended with discussions about launching a new committee website and social media presence.

Action Items

- **All Committee Members:**
 - Send Sam member profile info (name, photo, bio) for the new website.
 - Provide Sam with information/announcements about upcoming events, programs, or success stories for inclusion on the website and social media.
- **Victoria:** Share the FC Public Radio spot about the entrepreneurship program with the committee once it is available.
- **Bruce and Weyland:** Coordinate on WIN testing logistics to increase testing capacity.
- **Deric:** Continue discussions with Apprenticeship Carolina to improve information flow and advertising of apprenticeships to job seekers.
- **Dean:**
 - Working with WD Board Chair Robyn Knox to select a new committee member from Gvl Tech, and also a new committee chair.

- Continue working with Gvl Tech to identify and solidify which programs will qualify for Pell Grants, with initial focus on manufacturing, QuickJobs, and more. Will communicate with committee. Will also establish methods for tracking wage records, placement rates, etc. for accountability requirements.
 - Seeking to add Calvin Bird (sp?) from Gvl Tech to the committee to support Workforce Pell Grant implementation.
 - Coordinating with partners (including GCS, Career Centers) to build a bridge program for grads to transition into Pell Grant-eligible programs at Gvl Tech.
 - Investigate the possibility of combining Workforce Pell with traditional Pell for students who wish to continue their education, and report findings.
 - Explore the possibility of Eckerd Connects providing additional WIN testing locations to address current testing backlogs.
 - Add representative from Eckerd Connects to the SC Works Committee.
 - Send written confirmation requests to all partners by April 15th regarding agreement to the sq footage cost-sharing methodology for center operations.
- **Sam**
 - Set up the SC Works Committee website, similar to sites for CSID and Youth Committees, and launch associated shared social media for all three committees.
 - Request and collect information (e.g., organizational info, highlights, events, member profiles/photos) from committee members for website & social.
 - Provide a draft of the website for committee review and feedback before final launch.
- I. **Meeting Opened.** Meeting opened at 9:02 am. A quorum was established. Group made introductions. A motion to accept the October minutes as presented was made by Victoria. Seconded. Minutes accepted. Group acknowledged receipt of January meeting notes (no quorum in January).
 - II. **Meeting Updates and Leadership Changes.** Dean provided updates, including the search for a new meeting chair to replace Jennifer Morefield, and announced that Eckert Connects is now operating the SC Works McAllister Square Center and WIOA programs.
 - III. **Workforce Pell Grant Initiative.** Dean discussed the new workforce initiative that will provide Pell Grants for shorter-term training programs, starting with manufacturing. The program will offer grants for programs with 150 contact hours over 6-8 weeks. Dean is working with Gvl Tech to

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identify eligible programs. Noted the need for workshops on the Pell Grant application process and plans to collaborate with GCS and career centers to create bridge programs for individuals not attending four-year institutions. The initiative aims to combine continuing education and curriculum training programs, with requirements for a 70% placement rate and earning requirements to ensure living wages.

- IV. Calvin Bird (need name spelling) at Gvl Tech will be asked to become a committee member who will provide expertise on Pell Grant processes and requirements. The discussion addressed questions about combining workforce Pell grants with traditional Pell grants and the potential effects on WIOA training funds, though specific answers were not yet available. The group also explored the possibility of redirecting WIOA funding toward supportive services for individuals, including transportation and emergency assistance, to help participants succeed.
- V. **Cost-Sharing.** Cost-sharing methodology for center operations was briefly addressed, with the group using square footage as the basis for cost-sharing rather than FTE with time equivalent. A written confirmation of this agreement will be sent out by April 15th.
- VI. **Website.** The discussion included new website development for SC Works Committee, CSID Committee, and Youth Committee, along with plans to launch social media accounts on Instagram, LinkedIn, and TikTok to reach different age groups. The website will include member organization information, events, and success stories, with a soft launch planned for April 1st.
- VII. **ESL Collaborative.** Information about ESL providers and their quarterly meetings was shared. Members can reach out to the ESL collaboration coordinator; Laura will continue to forward as appropriate.
- VIII. **Entrepreneurship Program Pilot Review.** Victoria reported on GLA's entrepreneurship program pilot that ran from February to May. The program, which served 9 students, will conclude with a pitch event in May, and discussions are underway about creating synergy for next steps, including potential funding from various sources. The conversation also touched on the need to plan for self-sustainability once a private grant expires after June.
- IX. **WorkKeys and WIN Testing Challenges.** The group discussed challenges with WorkKeys and WIN testing for job placement and training programs, including capacity issues at testing locations and the potential for Eckerd Connects to provide additional testing services. They also addressed the transition from WorkKeys to WIN testing and the challenges of integrating these assessments into training programs, particularly noting that a 3 on WorkKeys was previously a good indicator of success, and with WIN the rating is 2. Some preferred WorkKeys to WIN. They discussed the need to

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scale up business partnerships. Deric mentioned an upcoming job fair on April 15th with approximately 25 companies seeking apprenticeships, and noted outreach efforts to surrounding counties, including Spartanburg, Anderson, and Lawrence.

- X. **Other programs.** The group discussed piloting a workforce program for individuals aged 65 and older, with plans for a job fair on May 14th in collaboration with the Center for Aging. The group discussed challenges with advertising apprenticeships to students and the need for better information dissemination about available opportunities. Updates were shared about new library locations and partnerships, including Clemson's manufacturing program with Greenville Tech.

- XI. **Adjourned at 10 am. Next meeting May 26, 9 am to 10 am, virtual via Zoom.**