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| **Members Present:** | **Members Absent:** |
| Mr. Warren Snead\* | Mr. William Floyd\* |
| Mr. Gregory Cannon Clark | Mr. John Uprichard\* |
| Ms. Darline Graham | Ms. Swati Patel |
| Mr. Mike King | Mr. Gregory L. Tinnell |
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**Welcome and Opening Remarks Mr. Warren Snead, Committee Chair**

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

**Approval of Minutes from October 24, 2023\* Mr. Snead**

Mr. Gregory Clark motioned to approve the October 24, 2023, meeting minutes. Mr. Mike King seconded the motion. No vote was taken to approve the meeting minutes.

**SC Soft Skills and Career Readiness Mr. Adam Paige**

Mr. Adam Paige, Director of Workforce Initiatives, presented on the SC Professional Skills Credential, sharing that the number of credentials earned continues to increase. The network where the Professional Skills Credential can be accessed also continues to broaden with locations at Adult Education, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, and State Technical College sites. Various employers across the state now offer the digital and soft skills assessments that make up the SC Professional Skills Credential.

The WIN Career Readiness Initiative was launched in October 2023 to increase employer interest in recognizing the SC Professional Skills Certificate as a value-added asset for job applicants. The initiative emphasizes an applicant's soft skills capabilities. It is currently available for the adult population and is looking to expand its target to include grade schools.

Mr. Paige previewed the South Carolina Career Readiness page on the SC Works website. The page will include a geographical map showing credential obtainers by county and locations where individuals can access credentials. Staff will continue to provide updates on these initiatives.

**Business Services Model Mr. Adam Wagoner**

In alignment with the SC Works Management Committee's 'Outreach to Employers' priority, Mr. Adam Wagoner, Director of Business and Federal Programs, presented the Business Service Model, restructuring business service delivery to a more regionalized approach to maximize impact and efficiency for South Carolina's employers.

Each of the four workforce regions will have a Senior Business Service Consultant who will be the direct points-of-contact for DEW Business Services, such as hiring events and job fairs, Career Readiness Assessments, Specialized Veteran Services, and the Career Coach, streamlining operations to serving our customers, employers, and job seekers.

The Business Service Model aims to match each employer with the services needed. A Business Services Menu was built to give employers quick access to assistance on items such as application screening, Federal Bonding, and Labor Market Information.

**SC Works Certification Standards Mr. Adam Paige**

Every three years, the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act requires the SWDB to establish objective criteria and procedures for Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) to assess one-stop centers. Mr. Adam Paige, Director of Workforce Initiatives, provided an overview of this process and the board’s responsibilities.

The SC Works Certification Standards have three categories: management, job seeker services, and business services, on which one-stop centers are assessed. The LWDBs are required to develop objective policies and procedures that align with these standards to evaluate their respective SC Works Centers and SC Works delivery systems, submitting their chosen evaluation criteria to DEW by June 30, 2025.

DEW is currently reviewing the 2022 SC Works Certification Standards submitted by LWDBs. These revised Standards will be distributed for public comment in March and incorporate applicable recommendations. The finalized standards will be presented to the SC Works Management Committee in May 2024.

**Other Business/Adjourn Mr. Snead**

Mr. Snead reminded members of the next full Board meeting, which will be held on March 28, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. The board will vote on the 2024-2027 WIOA State Plan.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 a.m.