

# Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports

## Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

Center for the Visually Impaired  
Atlanta, GA

October 25, 2019

### Board members present:

Dave Ward	Meredith Champagne (via phone)
Lynn Smith	Larry Gluth (via phone)
Fontaine Huey	Mike Wilson
Myndi Kuhlman (via phone)	Tricia Konan (via phone)
Leigh McIntosh	Carrie Edwards

### Other GATES Members and Guests:

Shawn Pursley  
Dawn Randolph (via phone)  
Charles Hall

#### I. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

A quorum of the Board membership was established. President Ward commenced the Board of Directors meeting at 10:00 AM.

#### II. Approval of Board Minutes

President Ward called for approval of July 26, 2019 minutes. On a motion by Fontaine Huey and second by Lynn Smith the minutes were approved as presented.

#### III. Program Updates

##### Finance Committee

Mike Wilson, Treasurer, and Charles Hall, GATES CEO provided financial updates for First Quarter FY20. Hall outlined the current financial statements noting a projected gross revenue of \$1.59 million with \$210,702 in operational expenses. As of 9/30/2019 GATES has an operating loss of (\$52,573). According to Hall this is normal for the first quarter of the fiscal year; although it is higher than projected in the FY20 budget.

Mr. Wilson noted the Finance Committee had a call with the auditor and he reported no errors or notes from the Audit Report. The Finance Committee recommends the Board accepting the FY19 Audit. Motion passed.

Mr. Wilson also noted the Board was provided a copy of the 990 prior to the meeting and asked if there were any questions. Having no questions, Mr. Wilson noted the Finance Committee recommends the Board accepting the 990 and authorizing Mr. Wilson to submit the 990 to the IRS. Motion passed.

**GVRA Update:**

Provider Management Working Group - Mr. Ward thanked all the CRP's involved with the Provider Management Working Group, and their hard work provided on the 'VR Outsourcing Manual'. He noted this was the first time GATES has been offered a seat at the table in GVRA planning activities and he appreciated all the CRP's participating to show our interest and involvement.

Intake Assistance Task Force – Members of the task force reviewed the activities and discussions during the previous task force meetings. Overall GATES Board members want to be helpful to GVRA with intake; however, most GATES members did not have sufficient staff resources to provide assistance on a volunteer/free basis. The following motion was offered by Lynn Smith and seconded by Mike Wilson,

Move to communicate to the VR leadership the GATES membership are willing to help VR offices that need assistance with intake needs but most GATES member CRPs are unable to provide this assistance in a pro-bono offering. Most CRP's have a staff shortage themselves. Those CRP's that can provide some assistance are too reach out to GVRA leadership individually. MOTION PASSED.

President Ward noted the next GVRA/GATES Leadership will be in the Winter Quarter.

**Strategic Planning Task Force:**

President Ward called on the Working Group Chairs to report on activities,

**Education** – Lynn Smith reported the Task Force is working on a survey as to CRP training needs.

**Finance and Operations** – No Report.

**Advocacy** – No Report.

**GEPS/State Use Program Report:**

Shawn Pursley updated the Board on the State Use program and reviewed the contract status report.

**GISN Report:**

April Smith, GISN Manager, was not able to attend the BOARD meeting and Charles Hall reported in her place. Hall noted that GISN has now completely installed the new assignment software system, GridCheck.

**Legislative UPDATE:**

Dawn Randolph reported on recent legislative activities as the legislators begin planning for 2020, and expected leadership changes in the next session.

Ms. Randolph noted work would begin soon on the 2019 Economic Impact Report. Mr. Hall asked for a motion to engage Gay and Joseph as a third party to collect the data needed for the report. Leigh McIntosh made the motion, Carrie Edwards seconded. Motion Passed.

**Customized Employment Training:**

The Board heard a report from Mr. Lee Davis with GVRA regarding a Customized Employment Training Program GVRA is implementing across the state during 2020. Mr. Davis encouraged CRP staff to attend when the training program is in their area.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

The Board engaged in a discussion of offering a new VR services model in which the private sector could serve as the development and training providers. It was suggested the Board spend some time discussing this model during the Winter Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

The next quarterly Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2020 with the location to be determined.

Respectively Submitted,

Leigh McIntosh,  
Secretary of the Board

Minutes prepared by,  
Charles Hall  
CEO, GATES