

# Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports

## Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

Virtually held via Zoom

July 24, 2020

### Board members present:

Mike Wilson	Joel Prawucki
Lynn Smith	Dave Ward
Larry Gluth	Rasheeda Wilkins
Myndi Kuhlmann Pryor	Carrie Edwards

### Other GATES Members and Guests:

Kelvin Taylor	Dawn Randolph
Charles Hall	Shawn Pursley
Caitlin Hyatt	

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

A quorum of the Board membership was established. President Ward commenced the Board of Directors meeting at 10:20 AM with a welcome to everyone. All Board members and guests introduced themselves.

#### II. Approval of Board Minutes

President Ward called for approval of April 24, 2020 minutes. On a motion by Myndi Kuhlmann and a second by Larry Gluth, the minutes were approved as presented.

#### III. Program Updates

##### Finance Committee

Mike Wilson, Treasurer, and Charles Hall, GATES CEO, provided financial updates through the third Quarter of FY20. The Finance Committee reviewed the financials on July 13th. GATES will end the year with a loss. ASG reduced the FY20 management fee by \$50,000 for the year beginning in February but this reduction was not enough to keep GISN in a positive position. GEPS has had a significant year because of COVID-19 and the number of increases in orders for cleaning/sanitation supplies. GEPS will have a small increase in products for the 2020 – 2021 budget to account for a continuation of the pandemic-style orders (\$3,000,000). There will be some increases in the budget for service contracts as well (to around \$1,400,000)

GISN will end the 2020 FY year down over \$150,000 compared to 2019. This is due to the stay-at-home order and COVID-19's impact on in-person meetings. Charles

Hall and April Culpepper are working to try and promote more virtual interpreting (VRI) with GVRA and other agencies.

ASG has reduced GISN staff time (4 employees will go to 50% furlough). Each employee will work one week on, one week off. The weeks the employees are not working, they will be able to file for unemployment. This will reduce the management fee from \$677,000 in FY20 to \$455,000 for FY21. Accounting staff time will be reduced as well due to the decrease in GISN interpreting assignments.

Expenses for FY21 is expected to be less than the FY20 expenses and was budgeted accordingly. Dawn Randolph's fee will be reduced by 14% for the upcoming year as well.

Mike Wilson, on behalf of the Finance committee, moved that the Board approve of the proposed budget for FY21. Lynn Smith seconded the motion and the budget was passed as presented.

**GVRA Updates:**

The Board discussed FY 21 contracts, and provider manual questions.

Quarterly Meetings with GVRA Leadership were discussed. The next GVRA/GATES Leadership meeting will be held on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 – 3:30 PM.

**Government Affairs/Legislative Update:**

Dawn Randolph reported the Governor had not provided any budget direction for 2021, or the full fiscal year for 2022. Agencies normally report their budget requests to the OMB by September. This will likely be pushed later this year as well.

GVRA's budget reduction never changed. The agency still took the full 14% cut.

Georgia, like many states, are reviewing their fiscal situation on a monthly basis. Payroll and sales taxes are down. Gas taxes are down. State has spent almost \$1 billion dollars just towards COVID-19 issues.

Following the run-off elections Dawn reported she will identify the important General Election races for CRPs to invite the candidates to a ZOOM or in person tour of GATES members facilities. This is an excellent time to get to know legislators and make them aware of Georgians with disabilities needs at the state level. While these are informational meetings and educating the legislator as to the needs of their constituency she did reference 501c3 organizations need to be aware of the requirements for legislative engagement and lobbying.

Dawn also recommended GATES become more closely aligned with the GVRA Board. Dave Ward suggested doing a Town Hall between the two groups. September was proposed as a time to do this.

**GEPS – STATE USE Program Report:**

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

GATES Board reviewed the proposed change to the State Use Council Policy on Product Development and there were no objections.

**GISN Report:**

Board reviewed the Board packet materials detailing the benefits of virtual interpreting (VRI). This was created as a tool for marketing this new GISN services as an option for GVRA and other state agencies.

**IV. New Business**

**Approval of the 2020 – 2022 Calendar:**

Dave Ward recommended the FY20-FY22 calendar be accepted as presented. Lynn Smith motioned to accept the calendar and Larry Gluth seconded. MOTION was approved.

**Review of Whistleblower Policy:**

Charles Hall reviewed the Whistleblower Policy, and instructed the Board to familiarize themselves with this.

**Review of Conflict of Interest Policy:**

Charles Hall asked the Board to review the Conflict of Interest Policy and it will be sent to the full Board following the meeting for each member to complete and return to GATES CEO.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leigh McIntosh,  
Secretary of the Board

Minutes prepared by,  
Charles Hall, CEO, GATES