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Henry McMaster
Governor

William H. Floyd, III
Executive Director

Upper Savannah Regional Education Center Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda

July 11, 2025

8:30am

BiltWise

Vision: To connect education, industry, and economic development to create an educated, prepared, and skilled workforce.

Those in attendance:

Lynn Finley, Rusty Denning (in lieu of Hope Rivers), Mary Kate Leggieri, and Stephen Taylor. Guest presenter: Samie Worthington

Absent:

Lynette Lindell, Josie Kate Haupfear, Meg Davis, Kal Kunkel, Yolanda Moore, Kyle Oronzio, John Ryan, Kay Self, Mark Warner, Tara Alexander.

I. Welcome & Introductions Stephen Taylor, RECAB President

II. Approval of December 17, 2024 meeting minutes Stephen Taylor
Quorum was not met; no vote taken.

III. Overview of the 2024-2025 Academic Year Shelby Dominick Reed, RWA
Upper Savannah Region: January-June 2025 in Numbers:

Student: 6,249

Educator: 1,233

Parent: 4,807

Community Representative: 673

Business Partners: 581

School District: 172

2025 Hire Summit Events:

Abbeville/Greenwood/McCormick/Saluda- 37 Students/16 Business Partners

Aiken/Edgefield/Barnwell- 20 Students/6 Business Partners

Laurens: 35 Students/12 Business Partners- 27 On-the-spot Interviews!

Business & Menus, educator summer series to connect educators with a wide variety of industries, including the hospitality industry.

IV.	Smart Growth Meets Smart Talent: How AI is Transforming Business Development & the Workforce	Samie Worthington, Co-Founder, Emily Revolutionary Marketing Group
		<i>Samie shared the value of knowing how to ask the “right questions” as AI is only as smart as its prompt. From education to healthcare and economic development, Samie shared how AI is “completely tanking organic traffic” and the “discoverability” of businesses on the web.</i>
V.	Upcoming Event Dates	Shelby Dominick Reed, RWA
	<i>Upper Savannah Invitational: Building Construction Competition</i>	
	<i>Friday, October 24, 2025; 8am-2pm, Sponsorship is needed</i>	
VI.	Adjourn	Stephen Taylor

Next meeting: TBA