

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.

January 12, 2022

3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Directors Present via ZOOM:

Diana Bello
Curtis Brown
Drummond Camel
Keitha Daniels
Dave Gammon
Kim Hustad
Brent Kettler
Brad Myers
Dr. Thomas Norman
John Talmage – PRESENT
Michael Wukitsch

Mike Biskie - PRESENT
B.J. Brundage
Michael Dalby – PRESENT
Bill Diamond
Brian Hirsch
Mike Jackson – PRESENT
Jim Lamb
Mike Nagle – PRESENT
Aaron Stitt
Dr. Amy Teproovich

Directors Absent:

James Coalwell

Joe Wheeler

Guests Present via ZOOM:

Leigh Bellamy, DOB
Patrick Gillen, TPM, Assoc.
Greg Urbancic, Board Attorney

Rosemary Flori, Glades EDC
Dr. Amir Ferreira Neto, FGCU

Staff Present:

Mike Egan
Thais Kuoman – ZOOM
Benita Richards
Carmen Woywod – ZOOM

Peg Elmore
Joe Paterno
Barbara Short – ZOOM
Mary Anne Zurn

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mike Biskie, Chair, 3:30 p.m., at CareerSource Southwest Florida, 6800 Shoppes at Plantation Drive, Fort Myers. Roll call was conducted to confirm quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Jackson made a **motion** to approve the November 10, 2021, minutes; Michael Wutkitch seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

State Law, Right to be Heard: 286, will be offered following each motion. Public Comment: N/A

IV. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

Dr. Amir Ferreira Neto, Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) reviewed a presentation provided to the Board in meeting packets and via email prior to the meeting. The presentation reviewed Labor Force statistics, such as, unemployment rates, trends, pandemic, population, active job seekers, Florida vs. National statistics; Labor Force via gender, age, race, education, and citizenship. The data does not reflect employer mandated vaccinations.

What can CareerSource Southwest Florida do to assist? Are those in the citizenship category authorized to work? What are the non-English speaking statistics? Dr. Neto will follow-up on these questions and submit to CareerSource Southwest Florida. The Executive Committee will make this an Agenda item for their February meeting.

V. CREDENTIALING REPORT

Mike Biskie provided Credentialing Committee updates from the December 2021 meeting. Still working on differences between the Committee and the Department of Education regarding college credentials/non-college credentials. The next meeting is scheduled for end of January/first of February and Agenda topics include framework for credentials and budget disbursement. The Committee's goal is to have something to present to the Governor by June 2022.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Regional Economic Development Ad-Hoc – John Talmage, Chair, shared this Program Year meeting schedule will be touring each County. Each County EDC will host a meeting and provide a tour of significant development in their community.

Action Required

Finance – Bill Diamond, Chair, shared the Committee reviewed December Funding Report, ITA Report, and WIOA Youth Report, all meet compliance requirements. The Committee also reviewed Unique Funds, such as, Recovery Navigation Program-placement for rehab/addiction individuals returning to the workforce. Funding was provided by the State to have Security Equipment-additional security for reception areas in all our One Stops. The Committee reviewed and approved leases for the CareerSource Southwest Florida, Clewiston and LaBelle Centers.

The Powell and Jones Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021, was provided to the Board in meeting packets and via email prior to the meeting. There are no findings to report.

Mike Jackson made a **motion** to accept the Powell and Jones Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021; Michael Dalby seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment – N/A

The Committee also discussed Powell and Jones. They have completed four of the five year RFP and may only provide one more year of audit services as directed by CareerSource Florida. A new RFP will be issued in the future for these services.

Bill Diamond made a **motion** to approve the renewal of Powell and Jones for one more/final year of audit services; Michael Dalby seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment – N/A

Action Required

Program and Planning – Kim Hustad reported on behalf of Brent Kettler, Chair, that the Committee discussed adding two schools to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). Copies of both schools were provided to the Board in meeting packets and via email prior to the meeting. First school is Galen College of Nursing-Miami Campus. This program offers both Associate (AS) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

Kim Hustad made a **motion** to recommend Board approval of Galen College of Nursing-Miami Campus to the ETPL; Brian Hirsch seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment – N/A

The Second school is American Vocational Academy in Bradenton. The program offered is HVAC at 240 hours. This is a new school, newly licensed/commissioned via DOE; therefore, it does not have data/performance history for guidance. This school has also applied for Region 18 ETPL and awaiting a decision. The Committee concluded not to approve American Vocational Academy at this time, await the decision of Region 18, then revisit. Not recommending Board approval at this time.

Brent Kettler, Chair, reported the Committee, thorough a discussion about online training and what percentage threshold for online training. It has been waived since the pandemic, but institutions have seen an influx in students returning to the classroom.

Brent Kettler made a **motion** to recommend Board approval of the original 50% threshold for online training be reinstated; Mike Jackson seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment – N/A

Service Delivery – Mike Nagle, Chair, shared the Committee reviewed the Region Performance Reports and WP/WIOA did not meet the requirements this past quarter. The Committee also reviewed unemployment statistics and the Florida average is now 3.5%.

Youth Council – Aaron Stitt, Chair, shared the meeting focus was once again on the next Career Exploration Event, to be held once again at the STARS Complex in Dunbar. Event date has tentatively changed to May 13, 2022, 6 p.m., pending re-opening due to pandemic. To date, we have received five event sponsors; thank you! Picture This As A Career Poster Contest Voting is OPEN! Check the CareerSource Southwest Florida website for the link, also included in the Board meeting chat, and Benita Richards will email out website link.

VII. OPEN FORUM

Copies of Southwest Florida Business Today was provided to those in attendance. Inside was a four-page spread of the CareerSource Southwest Florida Trilogy Summary.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.