

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.

November 10, 2021

3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Directors Present via ZOOM:

Mike Biskie - PRESENT
Drummond Camel
Bill Diamond
Brian Hirsch
Mike Jackson - PRESENT
Brad Myers
Aaron Stitt
Michael Wukitsch

B.J. Brundage
Keitha Daniels
Dave Gammon
Kim Hustad
Brent Kettler - PRESENT
Dr. Thomas Norman
John Talmage - PRESENT

Directors Absent:

Diana Bello
Michael Dalby
Mike Nagle
Joe Wheeler

James Coalwell
Jim Lamb
Dr. Amy Teproovich

Guests Present via ZOOM:

Curtis Brown, Ace Hardware Corp.
Greg Urbancic, Board Attorney

Patrick Gillen, TPM, Assoc.
Roy Vanderford, TPM, Assoc.

Staff Present:

Alfonso Bailey
Benita Richards

Joe Paterno
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 September 10, 2021, minutes; Keitha Daniels 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. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Action Required

Board Attorney reviewed September discussion regarding Board attendance and membership. Curtis Brown, Ace Hardware Corporation, representing the Business Sector, membership was terminated at the 9/10/21 Board Meeting. Since the meeting, Mr. Brown has been in touch with Board Staff and expressed his desire to remain on the Board of Directors. Mr. Brown was present via ZOOM for the 11/10/21 meeting and was afforded the opportunity to speak on his behalf. He shared communications from CareerSource Southwest Florida and Board Attorney had not been received due to a firewall routing issue within his company IT Department. Board members present encouraged reinstating his membership.

Mike Jackson made a **motion** to approve the reinstatement of Board Member Curtis Brown; Michael Wutitsch seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment – N/A

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Regional Economic Development Ad-Hoc – John Talmage, Chair, shared Dr. Thomas Norman reported on FSW goals alignment with Economic Development and Workforce.

Finance – Bill Diamond, Chair, shared the Committee reviewed September Funding Report, ITA Report, and WIOA Youth Report, all meet compliance requirements. The Committee also reviewed the lease for the CareerSource Southwest Florida, Clewiston Center, which ends June 2022. The Committee, along with staff and Board Attorney, are reviewing options for relocating vs. renovating.

Action Required

Program and Planning – Brent Kettler, Chair, shared the Committee discussed request to reinstate Rasmussen College to the Eligible Training Provider List. Discussion to approve reinstatement of school and two of the three programs - those that meet the Board's performance standards: Professional Nursing (AS) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). Committee concluded not approving Practical Nursing due to lack of program performance but will review at a future meeting if an improved program performance report is submitted.

Brent Kettler made a **motion** to approve the reinstatement of Rasmussen College, and two of its programs, Professional Nursing (RN) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN); Mike Jackson seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Committee also briefly discussed, and tabled, adding occupations to the Regional Targeted Occupations List and Online Training. The Committee will meet 12/8/21, 2pm.

Public Relations – Keitha Daniels, Chair, introduced new member of the Communications Division, Alfonso Bailey. Incremental growth in social medial activity and decline in website traffic due to 2020 numbers being higher due to Virtual Covid year. The Website has been updated/streamlined with resources, such as, funding, calendars of events, contact form, etc. In addition, Keitha passed around media coverage to those present.

Service Delivery – N/A

Youth Council – Aaron Stitt, Chair, shared the meeting focus was on the next Career Exploration Event, to be held once again at the STARS Complex in Dunbar. Tentative dates are 3/31/22 or 4/7/22.

VI. OPEN FORUM

Thomas P. Miller, One Stop Operator, shared they had a nice first visit to the Region.

Mike Biskie reported on the Credential Review Committee. After the first meeting in September, CareerSource Florida staff contacted each member individually for feedback. From the feedback, CareerSource Florida staff created a detailed workshop outlining the role, responsibilities, and foundation of the Committee, which was held in October. Next meeting is in December.

REACH has suggested stacking credentials, from entry level and work your way up, such as, apprenticeship to trade school, to college. They will not stack credentials at this time, they start where they start, and if it meets criteria/recognized by State of Florida, they move on. Credentials will be recognized by industries. The Committee is not tasked with College Degree credentials. The future is to bridge credentialing to higher education.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.