CareerSource Southwest Florida Business & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes June 26, 2025 3pm

Members Present:

John Talmage-Chair Keitha Daniels Rosemay Fllori Mike Wukitsch

Members Absent:

Sarah Harrington Adrian Llanes
Brent Kettler Sloan Nagy
Adrian Kerr

Interested Parties Present:

Amir B Ferreira Neto James Parish

Guest Present:

Jennie Goffe, Director, Workforce Development Career & Technical Education-Hendry County Schools

Kathryn Kelly, Founder & President CEO, The Heights Foundation Deb Mathinos, The Heights Foundation

Aaron Paquette, Director, Immokalee Technical College-Collier County Schools Charlie Pease, Director, Cape Coral Technical College-Lee County Schools Anthony Rivera, College & Career Specialist-Lee County Schools

Staff Present:

Bill Welch- Staff Liaison Peg Elmore Lyntoria Thomas

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Chair, John Talmage. Quorum was confirmed.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

"Thank you for coming everyone and welcome!"- John Talmage.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT-None

IV. APPROVAL OF APRIL 23, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Keitha Daniels made a motion to approve the March 27, 2025 meeting minutes; Rosemary Fllori seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

V. 2025-2026 COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

- August 21, 2025-3pm
- September 11, 2025-830am
- November 5, 2025-830am
- January 22, 2026-3pm
- March 26, 2026-3pm
- May 21, 2026-3pm

Mike Wukitsch made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 committee meeting schedule as presented; Keitha Daniels seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

VI. TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

There was discussion on key developments in education and funding challenges. The discussion emphasized there is an ongoing struggle with underfunding in K-12 education with the reliance on operational dollars and the competition for resources within the General Appropriations Act. The discussion included a call for strategic planning and legislative engagement to secure necessary funding for public education initiatives.

VII. OPEN FORUM- None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting adjourned at 423pm.