

Minutes
CareerSource Northeast Florida Executive Board Meeting
February 22, 2017

A meeting of the FCWD, Inc., Executive Board was called to order by Vice Chair Elaine Johnson on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The following members participated, representing a quorum:

Elaine Johnson	Lad Daniels
Brian Keith	Eda Edgerton
Jake Schickel	Dan Vohs

Excused: Darryl Register (Chair)

Staff: Bruce Ferguson, Bryan Stone, Candace Moody, Cheryl Taylor, Jay Loy, Steven Dionisio, Dianna Davis, Judy Hahn, and Diane Nevison

Others: None

Public Comment: None.

***Action Items**

***Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Lad Daniels and seconded by Dan Vohs to move approval the December 14, 2016 Executive Board minutes as written; motion carried.

Discussion

Legislature Update

Senate Bill 908 & House Bill 803: Senate Bill 908 and House Bill 803 are companion bills that if passed would allow people with concealed weapon carry permits to bring weapons and firearms into areas that are currently on a prohibited list, one of the being career centers. Workforce Boards are opposed to the bill due to some irate customers that come into the centers and are asking the legislature not to approve the bill or at least include career centers on the prohibited area list. If passed, internal staff policies would need to be changed to allow staff with concealed permits to bring firearms into the centers. Board members were also asked to speak to their respective delegation members regarding the same.

Economic Development: The House of Representatives, in particular Richard Corcoran Speaker of the House, is on a mission to eliminate state economic development activities; there is a bill that would eliminate Enterprise Florida as well as Visit Florida (our Tourism Bureau). Enterprise Florida's functions would transfer to DEO; incentive state contracts would be honored until they are done and Enterprise Florida would cease to exist. There is no companion bill in the Senate. The bill will impact the budget fight throughout the session; the prediction is it will go into special session to get the budget done. The Governor is traveling the state in support of Enterprise Florida visiting House districts where non-support is strongest and Chris Hart, former CEO of CareerSource Florida and now current CEO of Enterprise Florida, is leading the Enterprise Florida fight on behalf of the Governor. At the February CSFL State Board meeting, Michelle Dennard was appointed CEO of CareerSource Florida. We are pleased with the selection as she is very familiar with Florida, the system and the implementation of WIOA (her primary role at CSFL). Session will be very interesting. The House Full Appropriation

Committee passed the bill yesterday and it will be voted on by the House floor the first week of session.

Finance Update

Preliminary WIOA Planning Allocations for PY 2017-2018: Preliminary numbers released by USDOL to the state for planning allocations are in the packet but the numbers will change. They are based on the current Continuing Resolution that expires April 1, 2017 and show the following funding reductions: 4.5% less Adult, 10% less Dislocated Workers and 5% less Youth. Staff is preparing for the reductions and is budgeting carry forward to offset them. The new administration in DC is focused on expanding and improving our national defense which means they will be taking the money from domestic funds, the funding that workforce development falls under. Therefore further reductions are anticipated but we just aren't sure if that will happen with the July 2017 or July 2018 budget. Congress will make those decisions in the next few months. Hopefully they will keep the system funds based on the passage of WIOA 2.5 years ago which had the best support from the House, Senate, Democrats and Republicans of any bill that has been passed in the last 10 years. Staff is following it closely, and should also find out about the Continuing Resolution in the next month or so.

50/50 Training Requirement: We are on track with our 50% expenditure requirement of adult and dislocated funds on direct training and are at 66% with a 40% waiver. This year most training has been front loaded and a lot of training dollars already spent. Since we are having difficulty getting individuals to go into college and take scholarships to get trained, we are increasing our efforts to do customized training and move entry and mid-level workers up to work experience to get them more skills, get them in a job, get them some experience and move them in like that. In doing that, the 66% should come down closer to our target. Staff tracks this monthly to ensure and we should be able to reach our target. If funding reductions continue that task becomes harder and we may need to get a 35% waiver next year.

President's Report

Summer Youth Employment Partnership: CSNEFL is working with the City of Jacksonville, Duval County Public Schools and the United Way to do a broader summer youth employment program to include more private sector business jobs, as well as city and government jobs. We also want to look at a regional summer youth effort and have buy-ins from the COJ and the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce; 350 children will be served (50 more than last year) (100 within City of Jacksonville jobs and 250 with not-for-profit and private sector jobs). Agreements are in place with several hospitals to take a group of kids. AT&T provided \$50,000 and COJ \$200,000. A full time Coordinator will be hired to do this year round, to grow it, make it regional and get more private sector involvement. However due to the late timing of the project this year it will be done in Duval County, and future years regionally, targeting economically disadvantaged kids, and right now dovetail with career academies. The program will be designed to take economically disadvantaged youth and give them internships and summer jobs within the industries they are studying in the career academies. **Question:** How many kids are there and do you know their names? **Reply:** A total of 550 students will be served (350 by us and 200 by DCPS). We do not know which students yet, but feel we can get most of the kids we need through the career academies and if not we will then open up the on line application process for the public. **Comment:** My whole point was that it is easy to identify those in the academies but harder to identify those that are economically disadvantaged. **Reply:** The good part about working with the schools is they have that information on which kids are eligible because they know which kids are getting free school lunches and which ones are below the poverty level and we believe they will give it to us because we have worked with them in the

past and there were no issues.

Fall 2017 Workforce Summit: Staff would like to plan a Regional Workforce Summit in the Fall of 2017 with the focus on “Automation – How it will Affect Businesses in the Future, what Business are at Risk of being Eliminated and What Jobs will be Created as a result of Automation”. We wanted to center it around Amazon but had difficulty getting through to them to getting a keynote speaker. Question: Does automation tie in with Amazon because of the shift from traditional retail to on-line buying? Reply: Yes it can, which brings up another question “If Amazon needs 1,500 people today to run the first distribution center in Jacksonville, how many people will they need 10 years from now...what changes will there be in a 10 year period”?

CSX Management Layoffs: CSX is eliminating 1,000 (half) of their white collared management staff in Jacksonville effective March 31, 2017. Chatter around town sounds like it is a wholesale takeover. WARN notices have yet been filed. Severance packages and enhanced incentive packages (seeking buyout volunteers eligible for retirement) are being offered. This will negatively impact every county in the region. Once more is known about the layoffs, staff will apply for a national emergency grant because our current dislocated worker funds will not be enough to help people.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Executive Board is Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 9 a.m. at the CareerSource NEFL Corporate Office, 1845 Town Center Boulevard, suite 250, Fleming Island, FL. An Outlook Invite will be sent.

The next Full Board meeting is Thursday, April 27, 2017 from **9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** at the University of North Florida, Adam W. Herbert University Center, and 12000 Alumni Drive, Jacksonville, FL.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.