



**SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**DATE: November 12, 2015**

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 2A**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**October 8, 2015, 2015 at 8:15 A.M**

**CareerSource South Florida Headquarters**

7300 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 705

Miami, FL 33126

<p><b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Piedra, Obdulio, <i>Chairman</i></li> <li>2. Bridges, Jeff, <i>Vice-Chairman</i></li> <li>3. Garza, Maria</li> <li>4. Gaber, Cynthia</li> <li>5. Gibson, Charles</li> <li>6. Perez, Andy</li> </ol>	<p><b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Ferradaz, Gilda</li> <li>8. del Valle, Juan Carlos</li> </ol> <p>*****</p> <p><b>SFWIB STAFF</b></p> <p>Beasley, Rick          Alonso, Gustavo          Garcia, Christine          Graham , Tomara          Hernandez, Juan          Jean-Baptiste, Antoinette          Kavehersi, Cheri          Smith, Marian</p> <p><b>Legal Counsel</b>          Shaneka Graves, Miami-Dade          Assistant County Attorney</p>	<p><b>AUDIENCE:</b></p> <p>Quiros, Vivian – <i>Sullivan &amp; Cogliano Training Centers</i></p>
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Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairman Obdulio Piedra called the meeting to order at 8:15am, asked all those present introduce themselves, and noted into record that a quorum had been achieved. He briefly advised all that an additional item would be discussed prior to adjourning today's meeting.

**2. A. Approval of August 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Charles Gibson moved the approval of August 13, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Ms. Maria Garza; **Motion Passed Unanimously**

**5. Recommendation as to Approval of Refugee Program Allocations**

Chairman Piedra introduced the item. Executive Director Rick Beasley further discussed and read the item into record staff's recommendation for the Executive Committee's approval to recommend to the Board the acceptance and allocation of \$12,522,250 in Refugee Employment and Training funds.

Vice-Chairman Jeff Bridges moved the approval to accept and allocate \$12,522,250 in Refugee Employment and Training funds. Motion seconded by Ms. Maria Garza; **Further Discussion(s):**

Chairman Piedra requested a follow-up on the current budget for refugee employment and training services as a result of the substantial number of Cuban migrants arriving in the U.S. Chairman Piedra noted that the numbers have surged more than four times the average amount from prior years. Mr. Beasley briefly provided an update on the recent negotiation with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) for the above allocation. He advised that this year's increase had been due to current number of refugee intakes that has doubled in size in this region. He further explained the refugee employment and training design for determining the amount to be allocated to each region. And he advised that staff will continue seeking adjustments for additional resources.

Chairman Piedra briefly discussed a social service agency called World Relief that provides assistance to migrants. He informed the Committee that both World Relief and Camillus House are receiving substantial number of Cuban migrants without sponsors or housing. Ms. Maria Garza requested information on how many have been arriving. Chairman Piedra responded an average total of 50 people a day registering at Camillus House.

Chairman Piedra briefly discussed a current issue regarding Cubans of Spanish decent holding dual citizenships that are arriving to the U.S as well.

SFWIB Programs Manager, Juan Hernandez added that the refugee centers currently contracted with SFWIB are also experiencing massive number of migrants.

Mr. Perez inquired about the sudden increase in Cuban migrants arriving in the U.S. Chairman Piedra explained that there have been rumors regarding the Wet Foot Dry Foot policy be potentially obsolete in the near future.

Mr. Perez inquired about current media coverage concerning these issues. Chairman Piedra stated these issues have been broadcasted by Univision 23 and Telemundo 51.

**4. Information Approval – Veterans Performance Incentive Award**

Chairman Piedra introduced the item. Mr. Beasley further discussed and noted into record this item is an approval to accept an award of \$37,666.67. He additionally read the item into record and provided information on potential incentives to veterans.

Mr. Piedra inquired about the allocation and Mr. Beasley explained. He additionally noted that although it is prohibited to issue bonuses (direct cash payout) to veteran employees, merit increase would be given instead.

Vice-Chairman Bridges moved the approval to accept an award totaling \$37,666.67. Motion seconded by Mr. Andy Perez; **Motion Passed Unanimously**

### **3. Information – Fiscal Audit Update**

Chairman Piedra introduced the item. Executive Director Rick Beasley further discussed then introduced Ms. Carsheena Allison of BCA Watson Rice, LLP who appeared before the Committee and presented.

No further questions or discussions.

#### **Add-On Item:**

Prior to meeting adjournment, Chairman Piedra briefly discussed an issue related to a recent issue. He encouraged the members to remain focused on with the great work this agency is doing to serve the community. He stated should anyone have any questions to contact Miami-Dade Assistant County Attorney Shanika Graves. Attorney Graves further shared into record the following with the Executive Committee:

- The charging party was provided a right to sue letter from the EEOC; however, it's not a factual finding
- The EEOC has terminated its handling of the matter and the charging party has the right to sue
- If the litigation is ensues, the party has to prove in court the allegations that were made.

Ms. Graves suggests members refrain from speaking about this matter as anything that is said could be held against the Board. She again advised that if board members should have any questions, members can contact her individually to discuss related issues and either she or the Attorney who is handling the labor component of the case, would respond accordingly.

Vice-Chairman Bridges asked whether board members should be notified of the recommendation. He further asked if so, how the process would be done. Ms. Graves responded that she will be present at the full board meeting to reiterate what had been advised today. Mr. Beasley inquired the media contacting members. Ms. Graves suggested refraining from sending notifications advising board members at this may create a dialog, which may potentially be a Sunshine Violation.

Ms. Garza inquired about e-mail communication related to this issue, and/ or communication with the media. Ms. Graves again suggested board members refrain from doing so, however stated it is at the individual member's discretion.

Mr. Perez inquired about the attorney that would represent should this issue become a litigation to ensue. Ms. Graves advised that would more than likely be a Labor representative of Miami-Dade County Attorney's office.

Mr. Gibson asked for confirmation as to whether there have been any actions filed. Ms. Graves responded, "No." Mr. Gibson also requested clarification regarding the "right to sue" letter. Ms. Graves explained that the EEOC is giving the legal right to file employment action.

Ms. Garza asked whether there's a specific time frame to file. Ms. Graves responded that she believe it's 90 days. Ms. Garza subsequently inquired about whether if it's filed after the 90-day period. Ms. Graves responded that the right would be exhausted following the 90-day.

There being no further business, to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 10:56am.

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