



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 13, 2023

LOCATION: Virtual only
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gKA-m86nSZSxCXUhvJFhIg

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Gibson called to order the regular meeting of the SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting at 8:19AM on April 13, 2023.
2. **ROLL CALL:** 7 members; 4 required; 7 present: Quorum established.

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SFWIB MEMBERS ABSENT	SFWIB STAFF
Canales, Dequasia (Zoom) del Valle, Juan-Carlos, Vice-Chairman Chi, Joe Ferradaz, Gilda Gibson, Charles, Chair Loynaz, Oscar, M.D. Roth, Thomas "Tom" (Zoom)	None	Beasley, Rick Morgan, Ebony Smith, Renee ADMINISTRATION/IT Anderson, Francis
OTHER ATTENDEES		
Cooper, Jamie, TechLaunch		

Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

2A. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2023

Chairman Gibson presented agenda item 2A. March 9, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting minutes for approval.

No questions or comments were presented for consideration.

Motion by Vice-Chairman del Valle to approve the SFWIB Executive Committee meeting minutes from March 9, 2023.

Ms. Canales seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

Minutes Prepared by: Ebony Morgan
SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting
April 13, 2023, 8:15am

Status: **APPROVED**

Approval date: 05/11/2023

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3. Information – President Biden’s Employment and Training Budget Request

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley further presented.

President Biden submitted a budget proposal to the U.S. Department of Labor that proposes an 11% funding increase over the previous fiscal year. Mr. Beasley reminded the Committee that our funding is predicated on ASUs (areas of substantial unemployment). The unemployment rate in our region is approximately 1.7%; therefore, he projects that Florida may receive a slight decrease in funding next year.

Mr. Beasley presented the Committee with a synopsis of the proposed Federal funding for Employment and Training (p. 8; SFWIB Executive Committee Agenda – April 13, 2023). The State should have budget allocations available sometime next month; shortly thereafter, the SFWIB will be presented with our prepared budget for consideration and approval.

Mr. Roth inquired about the SFWIB's budget allocation and whether it will be comparable to the previous year. Mr. Beasley advised that we may receive an increase or level in Wagner-Peyser; however, we may receive a decrease in WIOA and TANF funding.

Ms. Ferradaz made reference to the Equitable Transition Model (ETM) initiatives and inquired as to whether or not CSSF had any projects that may fall within this scope. Mr. Beasley disclosed that the USDOL would issue an RFP for this special initiative; we will be on the lookout for it in the future. Further, he reminded the Committee that CSSF staff participated in a Grants webinar hosted by the United States Department of Labor about a month ago. Due to a decrease in applications from non-profit organizations, it was made evident during the call, that the USDOL is actively encouraging workforce committees to apply for available funds. Mr. Beasley stated that CSSF staff would submit applications for all available grants to increase funding.

No further comments or suggestions were submitted from the members. Item closed.

4. Information – SFWIB Audit RFQ Update

Mr. Beasley introduced the item; Mr. Smith further presented an update on the Request for Quote (RFQ) process for an independent external auditor.

Mr. Smith informed the Committee that the original RFP was issued on 17 February 2023, resulting in a single response. As the SFWIB Procurement standards require a minimum of three respondents, the initial response to the RFQ is deemed a failed response. The issuance of a second RFP occurred on April 3, 2023. Mr. Smith described the timeline and expectations of the SFWIB Finance and Efficiency Committee regarding Technical Response presentations. During the June 15, 2023 meeting, the SFWIB will be presented with final presentations and recommendations.

Mr. Roth questioned whether the Committee or Board members should reach out to auditors/accountants in their respective networks. Mr. Beasley advised that the SFWIB is limited to posting the RFP and awaiting responses. We are currently under a cone of silence, which prohibits us from discussing the open RFQ with potential vendors to avoid the appearance of giving respondents a competitive advantage, particularly if they win the offer. Notifications of RFQs are published in, among other places, community newspapers, the CSSF website, and the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB).

Mr. Roth inquired as to when the ad was first published in the Herald. Mr. Smith stated the first date listed in the Herald would be on April 5, 2023.

Mr. Roth expressed concern that the RFP is unknown to auditing firms. Mr. Beasley advised that CSSF staff can look at some of the associations commonly used by auditors/accounting firms and post an ad there; however, we must avoid reaching out to organizations directly, as doing so could result in an RFQ being challenged and subsequently discarded due to the appearance that we may have circumvented the rules.

Mr. Beasley added that he is confident we will receive more than two responses in the subsequent round of bids. Mr. Smith disclosed that the initial RFQ elicited a number of responses, all of which actively participated in the Offers Conference. However, we did not receive their documents before the RFP deadline. We were also awaiting confirmation from the State as to whether organizations that had previously collaborated with the SFWIB were eligible to reapply and what the guidelines for their participation were. According to the State, companies that have previously worked with SFWIB are eligible to reapply; however, the account manager over the contract cannot be the same person as before.

Mr. Roth advised that April 18th is the extended deadline for date the date taxes are due; firms may be more available to respond at that time.

No further questions or comments were presented for consideration. Item closed.

5. Information – Florida House Bill (HB) #5

Mr. Beasley introduced and further presented on the item.

The Florida House Commerce Committee introduced House Bill 5 that would transfer all Enterprise Florida responsibilities to DEO. Mr. Beasley walked through the bill's areas of concern, which include the film and entertainment industries. This can have a direct impact on the Chamber's future capacity to attract similar businesses to South Florida. Concerning Workforce Development, the proposed legislation would require the formation of a consortium comprised of educational providers and non-profit organizations to discuss

workforce issues. This may be removed from the bill moving forward, but it is essential to shed light on these concerns, which may have an impact on Florida's economic development.

No further questions or comments were presented for consideration. Item closed.

6. Informational – WIOA Performance Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley further presented.

Mr. Beasley reviewed second quarter Federal Performance outcomes and advised of the areas of improvement that staff is currently working on.

No further questions or comments were presented for consideration. Item closed.

New Business

Monroe County Realignment Update

Mr. Beasley described the many discussions that were held to discuss the realignment and transition of Monroe County into Region 24. Mr. Yian Perrin is responsible for overseeing the action items required to complete the transition. As previously stated, we would like to complete the realignment prior to the beginning of the next program year. The execution of the Interlocal Agreement between Monroe County and Region 24 and/or the Service Delivery Model that Region 24 implements, both of which have been accepted and approved by the County Commissioners, may impede progress. When Commissioner Lincoln was of the Service Delivery Model, she suggested that we speak with Dr. Gueverra, the President of the College of the Florida Keys.

Mr. Beasley added that the 30-day period for public comment ended last Friday. CareerSource Florida is collecting all comments for submission to the Governor, who will then sign off on the realignment plan.

Vice-Chairman del Valle inquired if the state has assigned a deadline for the completion of the transition. Mr. Beasley reported that the State's deadline for completion is early 2024. He went on to say that he does not believe it will take that long, given that we are only realigning one county into a new region, and that the transition will not be as extensive as in other areas of the state.

Ms. Ferradaz asked if Monroe County would be reflected in the budget for the coming year. Mr. Beasley clarified that they will be included in the budget until the transition is complete. If we are unable to complete the transition by the end of the fiscal year, they will remain part of our budgeting process.

With no further business presented to the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 am.