



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 13, 2025

LOCATION: CareerSource South Florida Headquarters
(Conference Room 2)
7300 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 500
Miami, FL 33126

ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ISSH7LAzTdywsrtfD2Q3IA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS:** Chairman Gibson called to order the regular meeting of the SFWIB Executive Committee & Finance and Efficiency Council Meeting at 8:25AM on March 13, 2025.

ROLL CALL: 8 members; 5 required; 5 present: **Quorum established.**

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT <i>(All members attended via Zoom)</i>	SFWIB MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED	SFWIB STAFF
Canales, Dequasia (Zoom) Chi, Joe del Valle, Juan-Carlos, Vice-Chairman Ferradaz, Gilda Gibson, Charles, Chair Scott, Kenneth “Kenny” FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY MEMBERS Datorre, Roberto (Zoom) Glean-Jones, Camela Perez, Andy (Zoom) Pintado, Kirenica	Loynaz, Oscar, M.D. Mantilla, Rene’	Beasley, Rick Bennett, Renee Morgan, Ebony Perrin, Yian (Zoom) Petro, Basil Smith, Robert ADMINISTRATION/IT Gonzalez, Yoandy McFarland, Cassie
OTHER ATTENDEES		
Allison, Carshena, External Auditor, Watson Rice		

Minutes Prepared by: Ebony Morgan
SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting
March 13, 2025, 8:15am

Status: APPROVED

Approval date: 04/10/2025

Page 1 of 4

Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

2. Public Comment

Public comments should be two minutes or less.

Chairman Gibson opened the floor for comments from the public. No requests to speak were received by the Executive Office. None presented. Item closed.

4. Information – Careers & Workforce Subcommittee Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley provided an overview of the presentation given by Ms. Adrienne Johnston, the President and CEO of CareerSource Florida, to the Florida House of Representatives on March 5th. Ms. Johnston outlined the critical role of CareerSource, detailing its relationship with the Florida Department of Commerce as its administrative entity and its direct oversight of the twenty-one (21) local workforce development boards throughout the state. The briefing emphasized the significant differences between the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act, along with the essential services they provide. Furthermore, substantial updates were presented on the number of Floridians served, and an increased emphasis on the successful implementation of apprenticeship programs statewide.

Ms. Johnston concluded by discussing the evaluation of workforce boards and the potential modification of the letter grading system. Mr. Beasley explained the methodology behind the letter grading system and mentioned that a workgroup has been formed to assess possible revisions to the grading process. The conversation wrapped up with a discussion about future funding allocation changes from the Department of Labor to the state of Florida.

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

3. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2025

Chairman Gibson presented agenda item 3A. February 13, 2025 Executive Committee Meeting minutes for review in advance of approval.

Motion for approval of the February 13, 2025 SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes by Mr. Chi; Mr. Perez seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

5. Approval – Aviation Workforce Services Provider

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley presented a recommendation to contract with Barrington Irving Technical Training School to help develop a skilled workforce pipeline that meets the unique demands of the aviation sector. On January 9, 2025, CSSF staff released a Request for Quote (RFQ) and received a single response from Barrington Irving Technical Training School, which specializes in aviation and workforce development.

Motion for approval to contract with Barrington Irving Technical Training School for aviation-related training and workforce development by Vice Chairman del Valle; Ms. Canales seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

6. Approval – New Program for an Existing Provider

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley shared that CSSF has recently engaged in multiple meetings with the Florida Department of Commerce and CareerSource Florida, in partnership with Miami Dade College and Mas-Tech, to drive the advancement of a much needed broadband training initiative in South Florida. As a result of these discussions, CSSF is recommending to the Executive Committee to recommend to the board the approval of two new training programs: Fiber Optics Installer and Fiber Optics Technician.

Motion for approval of recommendation to present to the Board the two Fiber Optics training programs, as so mentioned, by Mr. Scott; Ms. Pintado seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

Further discussions centered on the demand for broadband service technicians from major companies like Verizon and FPL, as well as how Miami Dade College will recruit students for said programs.

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

7. Approval – Fund a Fiber Optics Training Cohort

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley presented a recommendation to allocate up to \$86,000 in Workforce System funding for the Miami Dade College Fiber Optics Training Program. This specialized program, created by Miami Dade College and MasTec, focuses on training and hiring 20 skilled fiber optics professionals at a cost of \$4,280 per participant.

The program consists of 340 hours of training, including 4 hours of OSHA training, 140 hours of overhead construction, RF repair, and fiber optic services training, as well as 160 hours focused on fiber optic splicing and cable blowing. Upon graduation, participants will be employed by MasTec, earning a starting wage of \$20.00 to \$24.00 per hour.

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Page 3 of 4

Motion to approve the recommendation to allocate an amount not exceeding \$86,000 for the Miami Dade College Fiber Optics Training Program by Mr. Scott; Mr. Chi seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

There was further discussion on the significant challenges of recruiting and training young individuals for apprenticeship programs, as many fail to appreciate the value of trade jobs. Committee members emphasized the importance of career fairs and increased visibility on college campuses to attract youth. Moreover, it is crucial to convince employers to take a more active role in these initiatives.

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

8. Approval - Fiscal Year 2023-2024 SFWIB Agency-wide Audit

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley introduced Ms. Carshena Allison, Managing Partner of Watson Rice Accountants & Advisors, and our designated external auditors, to present the agency-wide audit results for FY 2023-2024.

Ms. Allison reported a clean, unmodified opinion on the financial statements, with no reportable issues in internal controls or compliance. No material findings were reported, and the financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Independent Auditors Report is accessible for public review in the SFWIB Executive Committee agenda packet dated March 13, 2025.

There was continued discussion about a new lease accounting standard that affects how leases are reported on the balance sheet.

Motion for approval of the FY 2023-2024 SFWIB audit by Mr. Scott; Ms. Glean-Jones seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

With no further business presented to the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 am.

The next SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 8:15am.