



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: October 9, 2025

LOCATION: Zoom Only

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS:** Mr. Joe Chi, in the absence of Chairman Gibson, called to order the regular meeting of the SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting at 8:21AM on October 9, 2025.

ROLL CALL: 8 members; 5 required; 6 present: **Quorum established.**

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT (VIA ZOOM)	SFWIB MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED	SFWIB STAFF
Canales, Dequasia Chi, Joe del Valle, Juan-Carlos, Vice-Chairman Ferradaz, Gilda Gibson, Charles, Chair Mantilla, Rene	Loynaz, Oscar, M.D. Scott, Kenneth "Kenny"	Beasley, Rick Morgan, Ebony Perrin, Yian Smith, Robert ADMINISTRATION/IT
OTHER ATTENDEES		

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.

3. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2025

Minutes Prepared by: Ebony Morgan
SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting
October 9, 2025, 8:15am
Status: APPROVED
Approval date: 11/13/2025
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Chairman Gibson presented SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes for review in advance of approval.

Motion for approval of August 14, 2025, SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes by Mr. Mantilla; Ms. Canales seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

4. Information – America’s Talent Strategy: Building a Workforce for the Golden Age

Mr. Beasley introduced the item and presented updates on the American Talent Strategy, which aims to re-industrialize the nation and enhance workforce investments through five pillars including industry-driven strategies and AI literacy.

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

5. Information – South Dade Rural Workforce Advancement Initiative

Mr. Beasley introduced and presented a proposal for the South Dade Rural Workforce Advancement Initiative, which aims to serve up to 125 residents in rural South Dade through short-term training, apprenticeships, and on-the-job training, along with support services and job placements in high-demand sectors like construction, trade, healthcare, agriculture, and advanced manufacturing.

The initiative, which targets veterans and low-income individuals, has a proposed budget of \$1.1 million for indirect costs and \$6,800 per participant. The proposal was recently submitted to Florida Commerce and CareerSource Florida for review and further consideration.

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

6. Information – Reach Act PY 2024-2025 Quarter 3 Update

Mr. Beasley introduced and presented the REACH Act program results for Q3 2024-25, where CareerSource South Florida achieved an A+ composite score of 103.92, the only workforce board statewide to receive this ranking.

The performance metrics revealed that CSSF meet 100% of the target across all graded metrics; extra credit was given because we service those individuals on public assistance.

Mr. Beasley reviewed the tools that CSSF will sustain and extend throughout PY 2025-2026, including the Common Measures Tool, EconoVue, and performance governance for ongoing monitoring and data analysis at the American Job Centers (AJCs).

Mr. Beasley acknowledged the hard work and efforts of the staff.

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

7. Informational – FloridaCommerce Opportunity Zone Workgroup

Mr. Beasley introduced and provided an update on the start of a newly formed Opportunity Zone Work Group for the state of Florida; the workgroup aims to offer policy recommendations to the governor. This group includes various state and regional organizations, such as two workforce boards, CSSF, and representatives from the Florida Panhandle. Their focus will be on redesignating Opportunity Zones for the 2026-2027 program year, prioritizing rural areas and those with high child poverty rates, while also ensuring that workforce education aligns with job creation.

Mr. Beasley emphasized the importance of protecting and optimizing high-need areas. He highlighted the necessity of gathering evidence to either retain or redefine Opportunity Zone designations in Miami-Dade, aiming to direct capital toward fostering inclusive growth in distressed neighborhoods. Additionally, he discussed the significance of using available funding to synchronize resources, which would accelerate job placements and increase wage levels.

He further explained why it is essential for the CSSF to participate in the state workgroup and to establish a specific group for Miami-Dade County. He mentioned his plans to coordinate efforts with the mayor's office and other stakeholders, including economic developers, education partners, and chambers of commerce, to create a Miami-Dade Workgroup. This group will focus on protecting and optimizing high-need areas, gathering evidence to retain or redefine Opportunity Zone designations in our regions, developing project pipelines, identifying operating businesses and tangible property opportunities linked to local industries, integrating the workforce, pairing Opportunity Zone investments with available tools, and building rural partnerships, particularly in South Dade.



The newly established work group plans to deliver its recommendations to the governor by July 26th.

There was further discussion around the geographical parameters for Miami-Dade rural areas and additional opportunity zones under development.

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

8. Approval – U.S. Department of Labor Approves 100% On-the-Job (OJT) Reimbursement

Mr. Beasley introduced and announced that the Opportunity Zone waiver, approved by the State of Florida, and subsequently was submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor for review has been approved. The waiver allows up to 100% wage reimbursement for employers in Opportunity Zones and up to 90% for employers outside Opportunity Zones employing residents from those areas.

Staff recommend the approval to implement the federally approved WIOA Opportunity Zone On-the-Job Training Waiver, authorizing up to 90% employer reimbursement region wide and up to 100% reimbursement for employers located in or employing residents of Opportunity Zones in WDA 23.

He further advised that we will be revising our OJT policy to include the waiver and the employer reimbursement amounts as approved in the approved waiver request.

Motion to approve the implementation of the federally approved WIOA Opportunity Zone On-the-Job Training Waiver, authorizing up to 90% employer reimbursement region wide and up to 100% reimbursement for employers located in or employing residents of Opportunity Zones in WDA 23; Mr. Mantilla seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

With no further business presented to the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 am.

The next SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 8:15am.