



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: February 12, 2026

LOCATION: Zoom Only

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 Meeting at 8:18AM on February 12, 2026.

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

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

Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

Before the start of the meeting, Mr. Beasley conveyed the sad news of the passing of Chairman Gibson’s grandmother, Ms. Thelma Gibson. He also informed the Committee about Mr. Joe Chi's upcoming surgery. Mr. Beasley kindly requested that the Committee keep both individuals in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

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 – January 8, 2026

Chairman Gibson presented SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes for review in advance of approval.

Motion for approval of January 8, 2026, SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes by Mr. Mantilla; Mr. Chi seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

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

[Mr. Chi joined the meeting.]

4. Information – Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley provided an update on filings under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act. He noted that two companies have submitted WARN notifications for layoffs: Ambridge, a significant player in the food industry, is laying off 66 employees, while SMBC Manubank, a subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, is laying off 14 employees. Mr. Beasley noted that even though the numbers are small, they still affect the local workforce. He confirmed that the team will keep monitoring the situation and will update the Committee on any mass layoffs and WARN notifications.

No further comments or suggestions were submitted. Item closed.

5. Information – Florida Legislative Update, SB 528 Manufacturing

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley provided a brief overview of the topic for discussion and handed it over to Mr. Smith for further elaboration. Senate Bill 528, effective July 1, 2026, establishes the position of Chief Manufacturing Officer within the Florida Department of Commerce and creates the Florida Manufacturer's Workforce Development Grant Program. This new role will coordinate manufacturing strategies among state, regional, and local entities. All state and local government organizations, including local workforce boards, will be required to support the establishment of this new office, which will oversee the grant program focused on managing K-12 career awareness, work-based learning, and post-secondary alignment.



Mr. Beasley further shared that Jason Mahone, Deputy Secretary, FloridaCommerce, has been appointed as the CMO and is also leading efforts for the Opportunity Zones 2.0 project.

There was additional discussion about manufacturing opportunities with Space Coast in Florida, as well as prospects in South Florida through various Korean organizations interested in data center opportunities. Mr. Chi mentioned that a proposal may be forthcoming once the \$350 billion package is finalized in the South Korean Congress.

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

6. Information – Florida Legislative Update, HB 221 Minimum Wage Requirements

Mr. Beasley introduced the agenda item and requested Mr. Smith to provide an update on the "On-the-Job Workforce Training Act," which is set to take effect on July 1, 2026.

Mr. Smith explained the bill's key provisions, limitations, and implementation requirements. This legislation will affect internships, paid work experiences, and pre-apprenticeship programs. It includes requirements for waivers, consent, and eligibility documentation for young adults over the age of 18, as well as parental consent for minors participating in pre-apprenticeship, training, or on-the-job training (OJT) programs.

He noted that the bill aims to attract employers by reducing costs while ensuring safeguards are in place to protect youth participants.

Further discussion ensued regarding reduced wages and their impact on Florida residents, especially in areas with high living costs. It was suggested that the minimum wage should be between \$20 and \$25 to keep pace with inflation. Mr. Scott and Ms. Canales shared the measures they have implemented to attract and retain employees amidst the region's rising costs of living. Mr. Mantilla commented that small businesses might benefit from the provisions in this legislation, but larger companies may exploit them.

Mr. Beasley mentioned that Mr. Smith would send a copy of the bill to all Executive Committee members and assured everyone that CSSF staff would keep the Committee updated on developments regarding this legislation.

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

7. Informational – Florida Legislative Update, SB 1300 and HB 325 Education and Workforce Development for Current and Former Inmates

Beasley introduced the agenda item and requested that Mr. Smith share the update on Senate Bill 1300, slated to take effect July 1, 2026. The bill aims to strengthen education and



workforce reentry pathways for current and former inmates, having a strong emphasis on transportation careers and CDL programs. The bill expands workforce development funds and creates incentives for small employers to hire formerly incarcerated individuals.

Mr. Smith further reviewed the key provisions of the bill and key consideration for the board including sector strategy implications, employer engagement opportunities, and data performance alignment.

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

8. Informational – South Dade Rural Initiative Award

Mr. Beasley introduced and presented an update on the South Dade Rural Initiative award, which runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The awarded funds will support workforce development activities targeted toward individuals and employers in designated rural areas of South Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Beasley advised that the award is state funded and does not require WIOA requirements. The initiative aims to address local workforce needs, reduce administrative barriers, and improve training completion and employment outcomes for residents of rural communities.

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

9. Informational – WIOA Waiver Request for Youth Program Elements

Mr. Beasley introduced and presented a request to submit a waiver to the Florida Department of Commerce to be flexible with regarding the fourteen (14) Youth Program Elements aimed at education completion, skill development, and employment. The waiver, if approved, would allow CSSF to consolidate and prioritize youth program elements within an integrated, employer-driven service delivery model, focusing on pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships to meet labor market demands.

Mr. Beasley further emphasized the benefits of increased flexibility, faster pathways to employment, stronger employer engagement, and improved participant outcomes. An update on the waiver request will be discussed further at the next meeting.

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



10. 2026 Youth Build Grant

Chairman Gibson introduced the agenda item, and Mr. Beasley provided an update on a YouthBuild grant application from the U.S. Department of Labor. This grant aims to train participants in construction while renovating housing for low-income families and homeless individuals.

The grant opportunity has a maximum funding amount of \$1.5 million, and the application deadline is March 2nd. The YouthBuild Grant would support a 40-month program designed to expand and transition youth programs into pre-apprenticeships and registered apprenticeships.

The grant requires that participants spend at least 50% of their program time receiving educational services that could lead to either a high school diploma or a state-recognized equivalent. The remaining 40% of their time must be dedicated to workforce and skill development.

The YouthBuild program will train participants in construction while they build or significantly renovate at least one housing unit for homeless individuals, low-income families, or transitional housing for the homeless.

Mr. Beasley acknowledged the organizations partnering with CSSF on the YouthBuild Grant, which include Miami-Dade County Public Schools, M-DC Public Housing, the Department of Juvenile Justice, Habitat for Humanity, and the 10 North Group.

Additionally, he mentioned plans to work with foster care youth programs and stated that he will reach out to Ms. Ferradaz for further discussion.

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

The Executive Committee meeting ended at 9:05 am with no additional business. Staff and guests were asked to leave the call while the Executive Director held a closed session for his annual performance review.

11. Executive Director's Review – CLOSED SESSION

The next SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 8:15am. Location to be announced.