



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: August 13, 2026

LOCATION: VIA Zoom Only

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

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS In the absence of Chairman Gibson, Vice-Chairman del Valle called to order the regular meeting of the SFWIB Executive Committee at approximately 8:20 a.m. on August 13, 2026.

ROLL CALL: 7 members; 4 required; 5 present at roll call: Quorum established. Mr. Chi joined the meeting in progress during Other Business, bringing total attendance to 6 members.

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT (VIA ZOOM)	SFWIB MEMBERS EXCUSED	SFWIB STAFF
Canales, Dequasia Chi, Joe del Valle, Juan-Carlos, Vice-Chairman Ferradaz, Gilda Mantilla, Rene Scott, Jr., Kenneth “Kenny”	Gibson, Charles, Chair SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT None	Beasley, Rick Morgan, Ebony 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.

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

Minutes Prepared by: Ebony Morgan
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August 13, 2026, 8:15am

Status: **APPROVAL**

Approval date: 09/10/2026

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3A. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2026

Vice-Chairman del Valle presented the SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes from the July 9, 2026 meeting for review in advance of approval.

Motion for approval of July 9, 2026 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. Informational – Supplemental Nutrition Program Waiver Request

Vice-Chairman del Valle introduced the item; Mr. Beasley presented an informational update on the statewide WIOA waiver request the Committee approved for transmittal on July 9, 2026. He offered a clarification on the agenda title, advising that the request is not a waiver of the SNAP rule. It is a WIOA performance accountability waiver addressing the effect that expanded SNAP work requirements have on federal performance measures. He noted that the Department of Children and Families administers SNAP and that CSSF administers WIOA.

Mr. Beasley emphasized that every SNAP participant the Board serves will continue to be counted and reported across all performance measures. What the waiver changes is the benchmark against which one defined cohort is measured. Staff will continue to engage individuals who are working part-time or short-term to document benefit compliance while they pursue a career pathway. He stated that the request does not carve the cohort out of performance; it asks that the cohort be measured differently within the performance negotiation, in order to create an incentive for workforce boards across Florida to serve this population rather than a disincentive.

Mr. Beasley reminded the Committee that, under the Board's provider contracts, a minimum of 75 percent of SNAP and TANF participants must be co-enrolled under WIOA, and that this region will serve the population regardless of the effect on its performance results. The purpose of the waiver is to remove the disincentive for other boards to do the same.

Mr. Beasley reported that staff met with the state on Monday, August 10, 2026, and that the state advised that Illinois has submitted a waiver request to the U.S. Department of Labor seeking to exclude the SNAP population from performance. Following that discussion, he finalized a revised briefing presenting a side-by-side comparison and identifying the weakness in the Illinois approach, since performance under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act cannot be waived away. The CSSF request, by contrast, measures the

cohort differently within all six primary performance indicators rather than excluding it. He advised that the revised briefing was transmitted to the state late the previous evening and is not included in the meeting materials, which contain the earlier version. He further reported that Secretary Kelly received the concept favorably and that the state will pull data to quantify the basis for measuring the cohort within the six performance measures.

Mr. del Valle commended staff for taking a statewide lead and for continuing to serve the population regardless of the effect on performance. Mr. Beasley added that state data indicate a majority of boards are serving individuals who hold a degree or a master's degree, while more than 85 percent of the individuals CSSF serves are low income and hold a high school diploma or less. He stated his concern that other boards are meeting performance on the backs of individuals who may have little difficulty obtaining employment on their own.

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

5. Informational – Foster Youth Apprenticeship Legislative Proposal – Status Update

Vice-Chairman del Valle introduced the item; Mr. Beasley presented a status update on the legislative proposal to align Florida's foster youth benefit statutes with the State's apprenticeship strategy. He reported that he met with Senator Alexis Calatayud, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education Postsecondary, who has agreed to sponsor the measure for the 2027 Legislative Session. He noted that, as committee chair, she holds jurisdiction over the two statutes being amended and is the strongest sponsor the Board could ask for.

Mr. Beasley advised that Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava has directed that the proposal be included in the County's legislative package and has encouraged the Board to pursue the support of the Board of County Commissioners. Staff is working with the County's Intergovernmental Affairs Department to assist in identifying sponsors.

Mr. Beasley reviewed the substance of the proposal, which amends two subparagraphs, in Sections 409.1451 and 1009.25, Florida Statutes. The first clarifies that enrollment in an approved apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program will be considered the vocational school equivalent of full-time enrollment, using definitions the Legislature has already adopted in Chapter 446, Florida Statutes. The second extends the existing tuition and fee exemption to pre-apprentices. He emphasized that the proposal creates no new program, no new eligibility category, and requires no additional appropriation. Both benefits already exist, are already funded, and already serve the exact population the Board is seeking to reach.

Mr. Beasley explained that youth who have aged out of foster care may participate in apprenticeship programs under current law, but that the current structure does not allow those participants to receive the housing benefit available to youth enrolled in college under the Postsecondary Education Services and Support (PESS) program. Absent the amendment, the participant is disadvantaged for selecting the apprenticeship pathway.

Mr. Beasley reviewed the supporting data, noting that approximately 20 percent of foster youth attend postsecondary education statewide, compared with 66 percent of their peers; that housing is the single greatest unmet need identified in the OPPAGA report; and that, of those who do attend college, roughly 1 in 10 obtain a degree. He advised that Washington is the only other state to have legislated this alignment, that its program has been in operation approximately three to four years, and that Florida's program, with the proposed language added, would be stronger than Washington's.

Mr. Beasley reported that staff has met with Citrus Family Care Network, the lead agency in Miami-Dade County, and with Ms. Katie Black and staff of Voices for Children, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for August 20, 2026. He advised that both organizations support the proposal because it affords them another career pathway for the youth they serve. Ms. Ferradaz reported that she had spoken with Ms. Marta Torres of Citrus, who leads that area and was receptive to learning more, and she offered a Tallahassee contact, Mr. Cal Walton. Mr. Beasley agreed to forward the briefing and schedule time with him. In response to Mr. Beasley's question, Ms. Ferradaz stated that she saw no issues with the proposal and viewed it as a good opportunity and an additional option for youth who may not currently qualify under PESS.

Mr. Beasley stated that his intent is for the Board to focus on foster care this year and to propose language next year addressing youth involved with the Department of Juvenile Justice, exploring whether pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs could serve as a diversion program at the state level, removing those youth from the system and placing them on a pathway toward self-sufficiency. He noted that not every matter before the Board is about funding, and that the Board can help populations directly and indirectly through policy adjustments.

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

6. Informational – SFWIB Proposed Policy Amendments – Documentation of Low-Income Status for the WIOA Adult Statutory Priority

Vice-Chairman del Valle introduced the item; Mr. Beasley presented an update on the proposed policy amendments governing documentation of low-income status for the WIOA

Adult statutory priority. He explained that the rationale is to minimize the administrative paperwork providers must complete in order to enroll individuals into the program.

Mr. Beasley reported that, of approximately 637 actively enrolled Adult and Dislocated Worker participants, 537, or roughly 84 percent, established low-income priority status through a public assistance record. Participants receiving TANF or SNAP qualify automatically, and their status can be gathered through the system and documented accordingly. The remaining applicants must complete an income calculation and assemble supporting documents in order to establish priority status.

Mr. Beasley advised that staff submitted a formal letter to the Secretary of Labor and received a response dated July 13, 2026 confirming three points: low-income status is not an eligibility requirement for WIOA Adult participants; documentation of low-income status must not be used as a factor in determining eligibility; and services may commence before a participant provides that documentation. The proposed amendments implement that construction in Florida policy.

Mr. Beasley identified two operational realities staff is working through with the state. First, Element 802 is a required field in Employ Florida, and the system will not record a priority category while that field remains blank, which is why the amendments rely on a high-poverty-area case note as the source for that element. Second, Employ Florida has no geocoder, so the census tract lookup is completed outside the system; staff has asked that the function be encoded within Employ Florida.

Mr. Beasley reported that staff has held a number of meetings with the state to codify these policies at the state level so that the Board may continue to serve individuals without requiring them to jump through a series of hoops to prove eligibility for services. He stated that the question staff applies to this work is why individuals who are poor should have to prove they are poor in order to receive services.

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

Other Business & Announcements

Mr. Beasley provided an update on the Program Year 2026-2027 local performance negotiations previously approved by the Committee. He advised that staff submitted the approved measures, that the state returned a counteroffer on several measures, and that staff resubmitted a counteroffer, with some measures accepted. He reported receiving notice that the state wishes to schedule a meeting to ratify the measures not yet agreed to.

Once negotiations conclude, the final measures will be brought back for the Board's approval and acceptance and then forwarded for the Mayor's approval and acceptance.

Mr. Chi joined the meeting in progress and reported that he is in Guatemala on mission with the World Bank and the Organization of American States. He advised that CAMACOL has become a liaison center for the Organization of American States and stated that he looks forward to re-engaging in Miami.

Mr. Beasley announced a business outreach event on Thursday, August 27, 2026 in South Dade, held in partnership with Commissioner Cohen Higgins and Commission Vice Chairman McGhee. The event will showcase the services the Board can offer employers in support of hiring and the development of apprenticeship programs. Invitations will be distributed to members, and Mr. Beasley encouraged members to attend and to offer comments on how the Board's services have assisted businesses.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Chi; Ms. Canales seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

The Executive Committee meeting ended at approximately 8:50 a.m.

The next SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting is anticipated on Thursday, September 10, 2026. Location to be announced.