



SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE / TIME: April 16, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: The Landing at MIA
 5 Star Conference Center (South Beach Room)
 7415 Corporate Center Drive, Suite H
 Miami, Florida 33126

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wjgml0TtSEu4r3ERRDichg

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Gibson called to order the regular meeting of the South Florida Workforce Investment Board at 9:38am on April 16, 2026.

2. ROLL CALL: 22 members; 12 required; 16 present: Quorum Attained

SFWIB Members Present	SFWIB Members Absent	SFWIB / CSSF Staff
Brecheisen, Bruce Brown, Clarence (Zoom) Canales, Dequasia Chi, Joe Ferradaz, Gilda Garza, Eddie (Zoom) Gibson, Charles, Chairman Glean-Jones, Camela Grice, Sonia Palacios, Carol Perez, Andy Pintado, Kirenia Rod, Denis Rolle, Andrei Scott, Jr., Kenneth	Bridges, Jeff Clayton, Lovey Whitaker, David SFWIB Members Excused del Valle, Juan Carlos, Vice Chairman Datorre, Roberto Mantilla, Rene'	Beasley, Rick Bennett, Renee Morgan, Ebony Perrin, Yian Petro, Basil Smith, Robert Washington, Jarvis Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office Gallo, Melissa
Guest Attendees Alexis, Carl, Youth Co-Op, Inc.		

Agenda items are recorded in the order they were discussed.



2. Public Comment

Public comments should be two minutes or less.

Chairman Gibson opened the floor for public comment. None were presented. The public comment period was closed.

4. Executive Director's Report

4A. Executive Director Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley reported that CareerSource South Florida (CSSF), in partnership with Miami Dade College, completed the first session of an internal artificial intelligence (Ai) training for staff, with a second session scheduled for the next Monday. He noted the training was well received and that CSSF intends to extend Ai training to service providers in the field to improve operational efficiency.

Mr. Beasley also reported on recent partnership activity, including a meeting with the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, a co-hosted Opportunity Zone meeting for Miami-Dade County focused on the creation and expansion of Opportunity Zones, and a meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development regarding Opportunity Zones.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

4B. Annual Board Refresher Training

In accordance with CareerSource Florida Policy G105, Mr. Beasley delivered the annual board refresher training. The training is required annually as part of the governance certification process enforced by FloridaCommerce and the State Board and is typically held in connection with a regular board meeting.

The presentation reviewed board governance and member responsibilities, including the following topics:

- Board composition and WIOA membership categories, including the requirement that a majority of members represent business and the minimums for labor, education, government and economic development, and other representation.
- Board appointments and term limits, including that all appointments are made by the Chief Local Elected Official, Mayor Daniella Levin Cava, and that this authority cannot be delegated to the Executive Director.



- Attendance requirements, including the schedule of six meetings per year and the rule that in-person attendance is required after two consecutive virtual meetings.
- Financial disclosure requirements under federal and state law, with a filing deadline of July 1 and reminders issued in advance; automatic fines accrue at \$25 per day after a stated grace period, up to a maximum of \$1,500.
- Sunshine Law and public access requirements, and the conflict-of-interest policy, including the requirement that a member with a potential conflict recuse from the related discussion and vote and that related-party transactions require a two-thirds vote and are submitted to the state for review.
- Administrative oversight structure, the roles of the Executive Director, the Chief Local Elected Official, staff, and the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office as legal counsel; the council and committee structure (Executive Committee, Global Talent and Competitiveness Council, Finance and Efficiency Council, and Performance Council); the WIOA framework; required funding partners; the customer service flow; the agency's automated monitoring tools; and the target industry sectors.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

5. Consent Agenda Items

Chairman Gibson announced the consent agenda items and invited members to pull any item warranting further discussion. The following items were presented for collective approval:

- 5A: Approval of the February 19, 2026 SFWIB Meeting Minutes
- 5B: Approval of the SFWIB Summer Youth Programs PY'26 (Cities of Homestead, Opa-Locka, and Miami Gardens)

During consideration of Item 5A, Ms. Gallo noted that she was present in person at the February 19, 2026 board meeting. A correction to the February 19, 2026 SFWIB meeting minutes was noted for staff to incorporate.

Motion: by Mr. Chi to approve the consent agenda items, with a correction to the February 19, 2026 SFWIB meeting minutes as mentioned. Mr. Rolle seconded the motion; **the items are passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

6. Executive Committee Update



Chairman Gibson presented a summary of key discussions and actions from the SFWIB Executive Committee meetings held on March 19, 2026 and April 9, 2026.

Federal and State Legislative Updates

- The 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, highlighting approximately \$95 billion in federal funding, including investments in workforce development, apprenticeships, and career and technical education, and noted alignment with CSSF strategic goals and potential future funding and partnership opportunities.
- House Bill 221, which would allow a limited voluntary exemption from the state minimum wage for certain work-based learning participants, remains under review.
- Senate Bill 528, related to manufacturing workforce strategy, did not pass.
- Legislation expanding CDL training and reentry pathways for current and former inmates, with emphasis on transportation-sector careers, awaits the Governor's signature, with a July 1 effective date if signed.

Performance and Rapid Response

- The Committee received an update on second-quarter performance measures, to be detailed further by the Performance Council.
- In response to Amazon's planned temporary closure of its South Dade fulfillment facility, effective July 1, staff outlined ongoing rapid response efforts. The closure is associated with a facility modernization project affecting approximately 900 workers, with a stated commitment to rehire at least 1,000 employees when operations resume in 2028.

Closed Session and Approvals

- A closed session was held to discuss the Executive Director's performance review, consistent with Florida Statutes and public notice requirements.
- The Committee approved the creation of an Artificial Intelligence Sub-Committee and approved up to \$30,000 in WIOA Adult program funds to support ten participants in the 2026 Mayor's Summer Internship Program.
- The Committee approved the submission of a formal inquiry to the U.S. Department of Labor regarding WIOA eligibility criteria flexibility, the submission of public comments on the RESEA combined plan two-year modification, the submission of required compliance documentation for board recertification, and the advancement of two new board members for mayoral approval.



No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

7. Finance and Efficiency Council Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; provided the following overview of the topics discussed during today's SFWIB Finance and Efficiency Council Meeting:

Financial Review

- The unaudited financial report for July 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 reflects total expenditures at 51.2% of the annual budget, below the projected 67% for this point in the year. Variances are attributed primarily to timing differences rather than structural issues.
- Expenditure rates by category: Headquarters 61.7%, Adult Services 52.7%, Youth Services 53.6%, and Facilities 52.2%. Other Programs and Projects is the only category above projection at 70.4%, driven by the early completion of summer youth employment activities.
- The unrestricted fund balance is \$384,215.

Bank Reconciliations

- The February and March 2026 bank reconciliations were reviewed and reconciled cleanly with no discrepancies, reflecting strong internal controls and compliance with FloridaCommerce financial oversight practices.

Fiscal Monitoring

- Staff presented the internal fiscal monitoring activity report covering the period February 19, 2025 through April 3, 2026. The OIC unit completed a monitoring review of the Community Coalition Corporation youth program contract, resulting in one finding and one observation, with no disallowed costs and no repeat findings, indicating sound fiscal management by the provider.

Federal FY 2027 Budget Proposal (Informational)

The Council received an informational update on the federal FY 2027 budget proposal released April 3, 2026. The proposal would increase national defense funding to \$1.5 trillion while reducing non-defense discretionary spending by roughly 10%. Items affecting workforce development include:



- A reduction of approximately \$3.5 billion (26%) to the U.S. Department of Labor discretionary budget.
- Proposed elimination of Job Corps, a reduction of approximately \$1.6 billion, citing high per-graduate costs.
- Proposed elimination of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (approximately \$395 million) citing duplication with other programs.
- Proposed elimination of adult education under the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, and restructuring of career and technical education programs with a proposed move to the Department of Labor.
- Introduction of a new “Make America Skilled Again” block grant consolidating multiple workforce programs into a single state award, with no funding level specified. Staff noted that Congress rejected similar consolidation proposals in the FY 2026 cycle and that it is unlikely all proposed reductions will be adopted as written. Staff will continue to monitor developments.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

8. Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Ms. Ferradaz provided an overview of the following items discussed and recommended for board approval during today’s Global Talent & Competitiveness Meeting:

The Council reviewed six items, including an informational update from the U.S. Department of Labor, training provider approvals, and a recommendation to support municipal summer youth employment programs.

U.S. Department of Labor – Make America AI Ready

- Staff provided an overview of the U.S. Department of Labor’s new “Make America AI Ready” initiative, a free national AI literacy course delivered entirely by text message over seven days at approximately 10 minutes per day, requiring no laptop or internet access. Workers can enroll by texting “READY” to 20202, requiring no laptop or internet access. Staff will continue monitoring opportunities to integrate this resource into our workforce programs.

The Council held an extended discussion on AI and its impact on CSSF operations and future job demand.



New Training Provider Applications (WIOA Section 122)

- South Florida Academy of Air Conditioning, LLC – recommended for approval to offer two HVAC programs (HVAC Maintenance Technician; HVAC Residential and Light Commercial Technician).
- OIC Workforce Academy – recommended for approval to offer CompTIA A+, Construction Operations, and Warehouse Logistics.
- Award Excellence Training Institute, Inc. – recommended for approval to offer Carpentry, Electrical, HVACR/Mechanical Technician, and Project Management.
- Soler & Soler CDL School Corp. – recommended for approval to offer two Class A commercial driver license programs (BTW Public Road and Range, Automatic and Manual).

Summer Youth Employment Program PY 2026

- The Council reviewed and recommended approval of Summer Youth Employment Programs for Program Year 2026 in partnership with the Cities of Homestead, Opa-Locka, and Miami Gardens. Homestead and Opa-Locka will each contribute \$50,000, matched with \$50,000 in TANF funds, for a total of \$100,000 per city, serving 38 youth in each city. Miami Gardens will contribute \$150,000, matched with \$150,000 in TANF funds, for a total of \$300,000, serving 110 youth. In total, these partnerships will support up to 186 youth across the three municipalities.

All items approved by the Council were forwarded to the full Board for final approval under the Action Items.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

9. Performance Council Update

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Ms. Canales provided an overview of the following items discussed during today's SFWIB Performance Council meeting:

The Council reviewed six agenda items, including WIOA Common Measures, Adult Workforce Services, federal WIOA 2nd Quarter outcomes, REACH Act results, Youth Services performance, and the Consumer Report Card.



WIOA Common Measures

- As of March 31, 2026, CSSF is meeting most federal and state performance indicators, but there are still gaps:
 - Quarter 1: Shortfalls in Adult and Wagner-Peyser entered employment.
 - Quarter 2: Gaps in credential attainment for Dislocated Workers and youth at several AJCs.
 - Quarter 3: Challenges in entered employment for Dislocated Workers and Wagner-Peyser.
 - Quarter 4: Gaps in Wagner-Peyser entered employment.

Staff are conducting participant follow-ups and implementing strategies to close these gaps before year-end.

Adult Workforce Services Balanced Scorecard

- Two of seven AJCs are meeting the required 65% placement standard, with two additional centers within 5% of the standard. Corrective action plans are being developed for the lowest-performing centers. Overall job placements are trending upward, with 5,259 placements year-to-date, a 5.7% increase over the same period last year.

PY 2025-2026 Quarter 2 Indicators (FloridaCommerce)

- CSSF met or exceeded all 18 federally negotiated indicators across the Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, and Wagner-Peyser programs.
- Adult program highlights: 83% employed in the second quarter after exit (129% of goal); median earnings of \$8,408 (123% of goal); credential attainment of 80.5% (159% of goal); and measurable skill gains of 91% (365% of target).
- Dislocated Worker highlights: 87.2% employed in the second quarter after exit (112% of goal); median earnings of \$11,759 (115% of goal); and credential attainment of 89.1% (103% of goal).
- Youth highlights: median earnings of \$5,793 (152% of goal) and credential attainment of 70.5% (124% of goal). Wagner-Peyser met both employment and earnings indicators.



REACH Act Results

- CSSF achieved a Quarter 1 REACH Act score of 97.34, receiving an A-plus rating and becoming the only workforce board in Florida to do so this quarter, reflecting a strong performance trend.

Youth Services Performance

- In-school youth achieved an enrollment of 160 participants and exceeded the skill gains target at 92%, but are not yet meeting the second-quarter education and employment rate or credential attainment goals.
- Out-of-school youth met local enrollment expectations with 390 participants but fell short of the regional standard of 535. Measurable skill gains are at 78%, with credential attainment at 31%, though the fourth-quarter education and employment rate reached 89%. Performance letters were sent to youth providers, with corrective action plans due in 10 days, and progress will be monitored for the remainder of the program year.

Consumer Report Card (PY 2025-2026)

- Ninety-seven individuals enrolled in classroom training, with 90 completing their programs. Twenty-nine secured unsubsidized jobs at an average wage of \$19.37 per hour, with 24 placements related to their field of study. Each placement generated a net economic benefit of \$16,910, resulting in a return on investment of \$10.34 for every dollar spent, contributing approximately \$1.17 million in wages to the regional economy.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

10. Action Items

10A. Recommendation as to Approval of a New AI Sub-Committee

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley further presented the Executive Committee's recommendation to create the SFWIB Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and to authorize staff to coordinate membership and convene the initial meeting.

The recommendation followed a request from SFWIB Board Member, Mr. Perez.



The scope of the sub-committee will encompass several key areas: 1. Evaluating the impact of artificial intelligence on the labor market in Miami-Dade County, along with identifying emerging occupational skills. 2. Analyzing employer requirements and industry trends in relation to the adoption of AI technologies. 3. Identifying opportunities for the integration of AI tools within CSSF operations and service delivery frameworks. 4. Providing guidance to the Executive Committee and the full Board concerning relevant policy and investment recommendations. 5. Ensuring that strategies concerning AI foster equitable access to training and employment opportunities.

During discussion, Mr. Perez advocated for the expansion of the sub-committee membership to include external stakeholders with expertise in the field of artificial intelligence. He highlighted the importance of focusing the sub-committee's efforts on facilitating the engagement of small and medium-sized enterprises with AI technology. Proposed initiatives include the organization of educational workshops and the development of a potential pilot program over the forthcoming 12 months. Mr. Perez requested that these recommendations be formally integrated into the sub-committee's Scope of Work.

There was further discussion regarding the role of CSSF in talent development and how training for small to medium local businesses would be handled.

Motion: by Ms. Canales to approve the creation of a SFWIB Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence, as amended to incorporate an amendment to add external AI-field stakeholders and expand the scope to support small and medium-sized businesses. Mr. Chi seconded the motion; **the item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

10B. Recommendation as to Approval of New Board Members

Mr. Beasley introduced and presented the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve two new SFWIB members for recommendation to the Chief Local Elected Official, Mayor Daniella Levin Cava, for appointment:

- Dr. Fermin Vazquez of Miami Dade College (Education category, succeeding Dr. Oscar Loynaz)



- Mr. Pablo J. Pino, Market President for TD Bank (Economic Development Category).

Motion: by Mr. Chi to approve the two new board members for recommendation to the Mayor. Ms. Ferradaz seconded the motion; The motion was seconded; **the item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

10C – 10F. New Training Provider Approvals

Chairman Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley proposed that the following items be reviewed and voted upon concurrently, as they represent training providers that have received recommendation for approval from the Global Talent and Competitiveness Council and have been approved by the State of Florida through the ETPL/REACH process.

- 10C: South Florida Academy of Air Conditioning, LLC
- 10D: OIC Workforce Academy
- 10E: Award Excellence Training Institute, Inc.
- 10F: Soler & Soler CDL School Corp.

Ms. Canales raised a point of clarification on Item 10F, noting an inconsistency between the agenda title (“Solar”) and the correct spelling listed in the body of the item (“Soler”). Staff confirmed for the record that the correct spelling is “Soler & Soler CDL School Corp.”

Motion: by Mr. Perez to approve Items 10C, 10D, 10E, and 10F together, with the spelling correction to “Soler” noted for the record. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chi; **all items are passed without dissent.**

There was further discussion around the distinction between true apprenticeship (earn-and-learn) programs and classroom programs that may possibly be mislabeled as apprenticeships, and the state’s performance monitoring timeline for newly approved providers.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.



Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Mr. Beasley thanked the Board for its time and participation in the annual refresher training and reported on a recent meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development regarding Opportunity Zones, noting that CSSF intends to submit a proposal regarding the use of Opportunity Zones in the determination of program eligibility.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 11:09am.

Next Meeting

The next SFWIB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2026. The location is to be determined. Notifications will be forwarded to all members in advance of the session.

DRAFT