

Minutes
CareerSource Northeast Florida Executive Board Meeting
May 24, 2017

A meeting of the FCWD, Inc., Executive Board was called to order by Chair Darryl Register on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. The following members participated, representing a quorum:

Darryl Register	Eda Edgerton
Brian Keith	Elaine Johnson
Lad Daniels	

Excused: Dan Vohs and Jake Schickel

Staff: Bruce Ferguson, Bryan Stone, Cheryl Taylor, Jay Loy, Dianna Davis and Diane Nevison

Others: None

Public Comment: None.

***Action Items**

***Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Brian Keith and seconded by Elaine Johnson to move approval the March 22, 2017 Executive Board minutes as written; motion carried.

Discussion

Legislature Update

Open Carry Bill: The open carry weapon bill did not go anywhere and is done for this session.

3 Pilot Program Bills Using TANF Funds: A House driven bill to set up 3 pilot programs using some of the TANF funds was picked up by the Senate but they made significant amendments and it died in the House.

WFD Budget: The Senate kept us whole in Welfare Transition funding but the House cut \$1.5 million statewide and the Senate moved to the House position. This will amount to an additional \$130 thousand decrease for our region. The Governor has until July 1 to sign or veto the budget. If the Governor should veto the entire bill and it is not overridden, essentially they would refer everything back to this year's funding allocations and we would pick that \$1.5 million back up but this is not a guarantee. Staff is executing budget preparations planning as if we do not have that money, which is the most prudent way to do it.

Finance Update

Funding Allocations for PY 2017-2018: Statewide WIOA funding allocations for all three funding streams (adult, youth and dislocated workers) are down 6.5% which is not expected; when the economy gets better we get less funding. Our region will get a 10% reduction which will put us where we were at 2 years ago specifically in adult and youth funds and we are still down \$450 thousand in dislocated worker funds from 2 years ago. Carryforward funds will soften the reduction and the state is including \$2-\$4 million in supplemental funding which would leave us at level WIOA funding from 2 years ago. **Question:** Where are we from the beginning of the recession? **Reply:** We are where we were 10 years ago when we received a 15-20% reduction. Our big funding costs are staffing and lease costs, and from 10 years ago we have 10 more FTE's and lease costs are \$20,000 higher. We are good operationally and have been able to maintain those costs. We have \$4 million in our training budget and 10 years ago it was \$1 million. Demand for training is

significantly down and are shifting our focus towards more employer skill based training and moving those employees up the ladder; that training costs less than individual training scholarships.

The biggest reduction was in Welfare Transition funds, \$1.5 million statewide. The funding formula on page 18 is based on welfare transition caseloads and SNAP caseloads. This year welfare transition caseloads are 14,212 versus 18,000 last year and because of that larger regions take a bigger hit which means a 12% reduction for our region. We will still be able to manage this reduction and staff is working on the budget that will be presented for approval at the June Executive Board meeting.

State Level Funding Priorities PY 2017-2018: State level funding priorities for the next policy year are in the packet. These are projects the state makes available that organizations can compete for. The ones of interest to us include:

- Pathways to prosperity for low-income Floridians - \$2 million.
- Rural Initiatives - \$1 million. Baker and Putnam counties are identified in this initiative and we should receive \$35,000-\$40,000 that we will use to target specific workforce development needs in your areas. The parameters have not yet been received but this is something we have not gotten in the past.
- Additional WIOA Formula Funds - \$4 million. We have already been allocated the additional WIOA formula funds which was double from last year. It has been put in our formula pool and most of it will be used for training.
- Additional funding opportunities to pick up special projects will be available in the form of one time grants.

Our most recent employment statistics continue to improve as unemployment reaches record lows. Regionally unemployment is 3.9% with Putnam at 4.9%. Question: Don't those numbers only include people who are in our system who are actively seeking employment and not those that have dropped out? Reply: These numbers are correct and you are too. In order to be unemployed you have to be looking for work but labor force participation is also looked at. Our labor force is increasing so it is not people dropping out that is making the number drop down, it is the labor force that is increasing. We also look at the U6 number (a combination of people that are unemployed, underemployed or working part time who want to work full time). That number is still relatively large but is shrinking so the gap between unemployment and underemployed is shrinking. It is better than it has been but there is still room for improvement.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Executive Board is Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 9 a.m. at the CareerSource NEFL Corporate Office, 1845 Town Center Boulevard, suite 250, Fleming Island, FL. An Outlook Invite will be sent.

The next Full Board meeting is Thursday, July 27, 2017 from **9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** at the University of North Florida, Adam W. Herbert University Center, and 12000 Alumni Drive, Jacksonville, FL.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.