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## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **BROWARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC. & CAREERSOURCE BROWARD COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Partnership Meeting #261  
Wednesday, March 26, 2025  
CareerSource Broward Boardroom  
2890 West Cypress Creek Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309**

**This meeting was held via Zoom video conference.**

**The Board and Council are reminded of the conflict-of-interest provisions. In declaring a conflict, please refrain from voting or discussion and declare the following information: 1) your name and position on the Board 2) the nature of the conflict and 3) who will gain or lose as a result of the conflict. Please also fill out form 8B prior to the meeting whether or not you are able to attend the meeting if you have a conflict with any agenda items.**

Attendees: Vanessa Cantave, Zac Cassidy, Keith Costello, Paul Farren, Dr. Lisa Knowles, Francois Leconte, Felipe Pinzon, Catherina Rozario, Rick Shawbell, Shane Strum, Tara Williams, and Jim Ryan, who chaired the meeting.

Guests: None.

Staff: Carol Hylton, Ron Moffett, Mark Klineciewicz, Rochelle Daniels, Tony Ash, and Samantha Vazquez.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

*These are items that the Council and Board will discuss individually in the order listed on the Agenda. Individuals who wish to participate in these discussions may do so merely by raising their hand during the discussion and being recognized by the Chair. The Chair will determine the order in which each individual will speak and the length of time allotted.*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Accept Artificial Intelligence (AI) Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Pilot Program Funds**

Considered the acceptance of \$300,000 from FloridaCommerce to assist eligible incumbent workers whose jobs are at risk due to automation and AI advancements with upskilling and reskilling to retain employment. These IWT funds will be used to cover a percentage of the training costs pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act requirements and must be used by 6/30/25, the end of the grant period. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to improve the sustainability of the workforce system through increased funding, technology and relevancy.*)

Board Chair Jim Ryan asked President Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that following a conversation with Chair Ryan, she contacted CareerSource Florida (CSF) to request the availability of training funds for employers whose workers were being impacted by AI. CSF contacted Ms. Hylton to let her know that they had \$300,000 available however the funds had to be spent by June 30, 2025.

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Vanessa Cantave and Francois Leconte commented that securing the funds would be very helpful to local employers.

Ms. Hylton went on to say that to make employers aware of this training opportunity, we informed our board members and asked our business intermediaries, including the chambers, to contact their roster of employers. Several Board Members immediately expressed their interest in training their employees. To comply with the FloridaCommerce Related Party requirements applicable to board members, and given the limited time to spend the funds, we called this meeting to expedite the acceptance and approval process. As our elected officials were not available to meet today, they will meet separately.

Mr. Ryan thanked Ms. Hylton, and acknowledged the team's efforts to mobilize quickly. He noted that the grant, represents a valuable opportunity for the region.

**On a motion made by Keith Costello and seconded by Dr. Lisa Knowles, the BWDB unanimously approved accepting an award of \$300,000 from FloridaCommerce to assist eligible incumbent workers whose jobs are at risk due to automation and AI advancements with upskilling and reskilling to retain employment.**

## **2. Broward Health Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding Broward Health an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$25,000. The funds will be used for about 25 employees who need AI training to perform their job duties. CSBD will contribute 50% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Member Shane Strum is the President/CEO of Broward Health a 2/3 vote of the Board is required. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.*)

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item, which she did.

Shane Strum declared his conflict of interest as he is employed by Broward Health and abstained from the discussion and vote, and will complete a conflict-of-interest form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Keith Costello, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding Broward Health an IWT grant of up to \$25,000.**

## **3. Advanced Roofing Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding Advanced Roofing an IWT grant in the amount up to \$26,500 to train about 30 employees on AI impacts on the roofing sector through AI-powered inspections, automated estimates, and predictive maintenance. CSBD will contribute 50% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Officer Kevin Kornahrens is employed by Advanced Roofing, a 2/3 vote of the Board is required. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.*)

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that Mr. Kornahrens was not in attendance and, as an employee of Advanced Roofing, has a conflict of interest and will be asked to complete the required form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Dr. Lisa Knowles, the BWDB**

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**unanimously approved awarding Advanced Roofing an IWT grant of up to \$26,500.**

**4. Locality Bank Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding Locality Bank an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$25,000 to train about 15 employees with respect to AI fraud prevention and to enhance concierge banking services. CSBD will contribute 90% toward the total cost of the training. Because Keith Costello, is a partner, and Heiko Dobrikow, is the Chair of the bank's advisory board and a shareholder a 2/3 vote of the Board is required. *(This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.)*

Jim Ryan introduced the item and asked Carol Hylton to present it.

Keith Costello declared his conflict of interest as he is employed by Locality Bank, abstained from the discussion and vote, and will complete a conflict-of-interest form.

Ms. Hylton stated Mr. Dobrikow was not present and that as a member of the Locality Bank board he will be asked to complete the required conflict of interest form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Dr. Lisa Knowles, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding Locality Bank an IWT grant of up to \$25,000.**

**5. LAN Infotech Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding LAN Infotech an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$25,000 to train about five (5) Help Desk Engineers who need training in the deployment of tools such as Remote Monitoring Management Tool. Professional Automation Tool, Azure Virtual Desktop Specialty. SonicWall Network Security Professional (SNSP) to maintain their jobs. CSBD will contribute 90% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Member Michael Goldstein is the President of LAN Infotech, a 2/3 vote of the Board members is required. *(This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.)*

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that Michael Goldstein was not in attendance and, as he is employed by Lan Infotech, he will be asked to complete the required conflict of interest form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Zac Cassidy, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding LAN Infotech an IWT grant of up to \$25,000.**

**6. Riverside Hotel Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding the Las Olas Company, Inc., the parent company of the Riverside Hotel, an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$20,000 to train about 9 employees whose jobs will be impacted by the advent of AI. CSBD will contribute 50% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Member Heiko Dobrikow is the EVP & General Manager of the Las Olas

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Company a 2/3 vote of the Board is required. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.*)

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that Heiko Dobrikow was not in attendance and, as he is employed by the Las Olas Company, Inc., he will be asked to complete the required conflict of interest form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Jim Ryan, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding LOC, the parent company of the Riverside Hotel, an IWT grant of up to \$20,000.**

#### **7. Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance (GFLA) an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$11,000 to train about 22 employees whose jobs will be impacted by the advent of AI. CSBD will contribute 90% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Member Bob Swindell is the President of GFLA, a 2/3 vote is required. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.*)

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that Bob Swindell was not in attendance and, as an employee of GFLA, has a conflict of interest and will be asked to complete the required form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Dr. Lisa Knowles, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding GFLA an IWT grant of up to \$11,000.**

#### **8. The School Board of Broward County Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Application**

Considered awarding the School Board of Broward County (SBBC) an IWT grant in the amount of up to \$50,000 to train about 35 teachers who are required to be adept in the use of AI in the classroom or be at risk of being replaced. CSBD will contribute 50% toward the total cost of the training. Because Board Member Dr. Howard Hepburn is the Superintendent of Schools, a 2/3 vote is required. (*This is in alignment with the Board goal to encourage employers by engaging and identifying their needs, and education and connecting them to the workforce system to produce innovative solutions.*)

Jim Ryan asked Carol Hylton to present the item.

Ms. Hylton stated that Dr. Howard Hepburn was not in attendance and, as an employee of the School Board of Broward County, he will be asked to complete the required conflict of interest form.

**On a motion made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Paul Farren, the BWDB unanimously approved awarding the School Board of Broward County an IWT grant of up to \$50,000.**

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## REPORT

### 1. Upcoming 2025 Board Planning Session

The 2025 Board Planning Session is scheduled for 4/24 following a short board meeting as we have done in previous years. Please plan to arrive at 11:30 a.m. Workgroup thought questions will include topics covering 1) local labor market conditions 2) steps we should take based on the effect of AI on the labor force 3) the silver tsunami and 4) WIOA reauthorization.

Carol Hylton told the members that the Strategic Planning Session will include a fireside chat with Mark Wilson, President/CEO Florida Chamber, and Dr. Henry Mack III, USDOL Assistant Secretary of Labor, ETA (Nom).

### MATTERS FROM THE CAREERSOURCE BROWARD COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

None.

### MATTERS FROM THE BROWARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD CHAIR

None.

### MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Rick Shawbell thanked Jim Ryan for his leadership in encouraging CSBD to request the AI grant stating that the AI initiative will benefit businesses and workforce development in Broward County. He commended Carol Hylton and her team for their efforts.

Ms. Hylton expressed her appreciation.

### MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

### MATTERS FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

None.

**ADJOURNMENT 12:17 p.m.**

<p><b><i>THE DATE OF THE NEXT BROWARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD/CAREERSOURCE BROWARD COUNCIL MEETING IS APRIL 24, 2025.</i></b></p>
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