



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Matthew Verney, Chair

**BUSINESS SERVICES AND OUTREACH TEAM MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023, 2:00 PM (ZOOM CONFERENCING)
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	20-Oct-22	17-Nov-22	15-Dec-22	19-Jan-23	16-Feb-23	16-Mar-23	
Weil, Robert	BSR Chair	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC	X	X	X	X		X		
Davis, Gerald	CCOSCC			X	X	X			
Davis, Taylor	KIPP New Jersey		X		X	X	X	X	
Farrar, Gary	Transportation								X
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service					X	X		
Gaskins, Melanie	Camden County College								
Laguna, Connie	Truist Bank								X
Leonetti, Mike	CCOSCC		X				X	X	
Lex, Jim	Camden County Improvement Authority		X						X
McCormick, Carol	Camden County College					X	X	X	
Moen, Bill	Camden County College					X		X	
O'Hara, Ricky	DOL, Veterans		x		X	X	X	X	
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJ DOL, Business Rep.			X	X	X		X	
Perez, Irene	DVRS			X	X	X			
Quinores, Cris	WAWA								
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X		X	X		X	
Spector, David	NJDOL					X	X		
Thompson Ryan	Truist Bank, Vice Chair						X	X	
Urkowitz, Ronda	Cross County Connection TMA			X	X				
Yares, Yoni						X			
Henderson, Bridget	WDB		X						
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X		X	X	
Williams, Leslie	WDB			X					

WELCOME

Bob Weil greeted the committee and guests and asked attendees to introduce themselves. Bob Weil, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:08.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Bob asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2023 meeting. The motion was made by Jeff Swartz and seconded by Ryan Thompson. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the minutes for the February 16, 2023 meeting were approved.

Camden County One-Stop

No update provided

Business Community & Member Updates

NJ Department of Labor

Jeanne Page-Soncrant, Employer Services

- Recruitment events are being held virtually. Of 130 people registered, only 30 attended a CNA/Medical Assistant recruitment event held for Cooper University Hospital on January 27th. One hire was made from the candidates who participated. Another Cooper Health Care hiring event was held on February 2nd for Customer Service oriented positions. Of 618 people registered, 130 were on the call.

- A recruitment was held for J-Dogs Amusement & Catering's last week. Of 42 people registered for the event, 6 attended.
- Jeanne attended a meeting with the NJ Dept. of Civil Service. The meeting addressed the law against discrimination in the workplace and what employers need to do from a hiring perspective to avoid legal issues.

Upcoming recruitment events:

- Tuesday, March 28th - Sodexo at Lions Gate (assisted living facility) to fill positions in food and environmental services.
- Thursday, March 30th - NJ Transit is seeking bus service technicians (basic mechanic, union positions) starting at \$19.01/hour.
- Friday, March 30th - Gloucester County will hold a job fair at Rowan/Gloucester County.
- There are still funds available for employers who agree to hire and provide OJT for a new employee. The employer must offer a full-time position that pays a minimum of \$16/hour and will receive some funds back (50% on the dollar). Jeanne, Ricky or Gabriela can assist interested employers.

Ricky O'Hara, Veterans Services Representative

- Ricky is hosting a recruitment event at Cooper Hospital for Veterans and their spouses.
- There will be a DOT hiring event for veterans. Information is forthcoming.

Gary Farar, Driverseat Philadelphia Shuttle Service

- Driverseat Philadelphia, based in the Voorhees/Cherry Hill area, offers shuttle services for employees or students in 14-passenger vans. Gary will provide information to be posted on the WDB website. (Philadelphia@driverseatinc.com)

Jewish Family Children's Service (JFCS)

- In Lois Forman's absence, Jeff commented that JFCS is working on recruiting for their Soups and Sweets Program. He noted that JFCS provides event information which is posted on the WDB website's event tab.

Connie Laguna, Center for Financial Training

- Connie represents the Center for Financial Training (part of the American Bankers Association). The organization started the Future Bankers and Financial Services Professional Camp seventeen years ago in Miami, which allows high school junior students to explore banking and financial services as a career track over the four-week program. The camp includes two weeks of an educational component that provides lessons to incorporate the ABA Bank Teller Certificate. The final two weeks, students are put into a shadowing internship component at a financial institution to explore all the roles in banking.
- The camp program is sponsored and funded by local financial institutions. Working with Rowan and Rutgers to identify schools with students interested in being camp participants, the Center for Financial Training is currently recruiting students and looking for additional partners in the banking financial services arena. In Miami, the program is housed by Miami-Dade College in a partnership where students are able to get dual enrollment for the program and also go through the continuing education department to earn CE credit. There are currently about 150 students that go through the program. In Camden, the goal is to be able to service at least 15 students, with 8 currently recruited. Darena Shafer offered the contact information for Don Delaney at Camden County College, who oversees dual enrollment (ddelaney@camdencc.edu). Taylor Davis of KIPP High School offered to provide contact information for Joe Hejlek. (claguna@mdc.edu, 786-253-3033)

Darena Shafer, Camden County College

- CCC's Spring semester is wrapping up and Fall registration starts on March 20th.
- The college's annual career fair is on April 25th at the CCC/Blackwood campus. The event is open to the community.

Carol McCormick, Camden County College

- There will be a pre-apprentice manufacturing bootcamp for machinists on March 27th. Currently, 21 students are enrolled. Information sessions will be held in July and August for the bootcamp that starts on August 31st. The bootcamp is grant-funded, with the only eligibility requirements being a high school diploma or GED. The flyer will be posted on the event tab of the WDB website.
- The New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA) Grant is funded by the Department of Labor to provide free basic skills classes to private and public sector employers. Dedicated classes are provided to a minimum of 10 employees, with a choice of the employer site, CCC or virtual presentation. There is also open enrollment for the public, with access to free classes via Zoom Monday through Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

Bill Moen, Camden County College

- CCC has been working with CC Technical High School (CCTHS) as well as the NJ Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) Wind Institute to develop a program to provide training for submerged arc welding to students enrolled in the welding program. The addition of the submerged arc welding training is offered with the support of the NJEDA. Submerged arc welding is a requirement at the EEW American Offshore Structures (EEW-AOS) site in Paulsboro where 400-500 employment opportunities are anticipated over the next few years for the offshore wind industry. The NJEDA has recently approved their portion of the MOU. Over the next month, CCTHS and CCC are expected to approve their portions to incorporate instruction of the additional training.

Taylor Davis, CTE Pathway Counselor, KIPP High School

- KIPP High School is holding a career fair for its first graduating class and junior class on Wednesday, April 19th at 8:00 am. Vendors may contact Paige Portner at pportner@kippnj.org to register by March 31st.
- Taylor inquired about when the WDB's summer employment program would be accepting applications. Jeff explained that the notification of award had been recently received and work to start the program had not begun.

Committee Updates

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director

- The Atlantic City Initiative completed the first cohort for The Line School, with several graduates being hired. A second cohort (30-35 candidates that have taken the CAST test) will be planned.
- Atlantic City Electric is now focusing on offering a paid 8-week summer youth internship program as well as a paid externship program for teachers that are interested in teaching a provided curriculum for about three weeks during the summer.
- The 2023 GSETA Conference will be held in October. It will be an in-person event at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City.
- Camden Community Partnerships will hold a job fair at Camden High School on March 23rd. Leslie and Alex, and the One-Stop will attend the job fair.
- The Abilities Committee will host an event in partnership with Cooper Hospital on June 8th to assist veterans with crafting their resumes for civilian employment, and employers will discuss what they are looking for in veteran hires. The event will take place in the conference center at Cooper Hospital. A flyer will be circulated as soon as the details are finalized.
- The Literacy Committee will host "Bring a Child to the Library Day" at Clementon Library on Thursday, April 20th. The goal is to promote adult and childhood literacy, and to provide information about supportive social service agencies, as well as the education and training available at the One-Stop and Youth One-Stop. BookSmiles will attend and provide free books to event attendees. The event flyer will be circulated when it is completed.
- WDB staff will be attending career days and job fairs at local area high schools throughout the county.

- The WDB was notified that it was awarded a grant to run the summer youth employment program. The program is open to Camden County residents ages 16 to 24 years old, with no income restrictions to apply. A stipend rate will be \$15/per hour for 8 weeks including one week of work-readiness training. Worksite agreements will be prepared and provided to employers. Promotional materials will be circulated as soon as they are finalized.
- The quarterly board meeting will be an in-person meeting at Camden County College-Blackwood on March 22, 2023, in Roosevelt Hall - Room 102. The meeting program will include committee updates and offer an open-mic opportunity for board members to discuss their concerns or best practices they would like to share. A “Success Story” will be provided by the One-Stop. A full breakfast will be offered at 8:30 am and the meeting will begin at 9:00 am.

NEXT MEETING

The next Business Services and Outreach Team meeting is scheduled on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 2:00 pm via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Bob asked for the motion to adjourn. Jeanne Page-Soncrant made the motion, seconded by Ricky O’Hara. By unanimous vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.

SUBMITTED BY:

Debra Vaughn

Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director