



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, MAY 18, 2023, 2:00 PM (ZOOM CONFERENCING)
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE								
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	15-Dec-22	19-Jan-23	16-Feb-23	16-Mar-23	20-Apr-23	18-May-23
Thompson Ryan	Truist Bank, BSOT Chair				X	X	X	
Baer, Jessika	NJ DOL						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	
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS						X	
Farrar, Gary	Transportation					X		
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service			X	X			
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper						X	
Gaskins, Melanie	Camden County College							
Laguna, Connie	Truist Bank					X		
Leonetti, Mike	CCOSCC				X	X		
Lex, Jim	Camden County Improvement Authority					X		
McCormick, Carol	Camden County College			X	X	X		X
Moen, Bill	Camden County College			X		X	X	
O'Hara, Ricky	DOL, Veterans		X	X	X	X		
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJ DOL, Business Rep.		X	X		X	X	X
Perez, Irene	DVRS		X	X				
Quinores, Cris	WAWA							
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X	X		X		X
Spector, David	NJDOL			X	X			X
Urkowitz, Ronda	Cross County Connection TMA		X					
Weil, Robert	Connor, Strong, and Bucklew	X	X		X	X		X
Yares, Yoni				X				
Henderson, Bridget	WDB							
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X		X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB							

WELCOME

In the absence of Ryan Thompson and Jeff Swartz, Alex Levitt opened the meeting, and greeted the members and guests. He called the meeting to order at 2:00.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Alex asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Jeanne Page-Soncrant and seconded by Frank Cirii. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the minutes for the May 18, 2023 meeting were approved.

Camden County One-Stop

Frank Cirii, Local Area Director

- One-Stop’s staff will follow a revamped customer flow. Starting June 1st, the WorkFirst clients will be seen according to the new customer flow for referrals from the Board of Social Services. The change resulted in adjustments being made with One-Stop staffing, providing additional training, hiring additional counselors. The job posting for the additional staffing needs will be forwarded when it’s ready for distribution.
- With the State’s elimination of HiSET testing, the One-Stop’s Learning Link will be a GED testing site. The technology issues are being worked out so testing can commence.
- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) continues:

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- ShopRite has completed its third IWT cohort. A fourth cohort starts on September 1st. Additional training is also being provided through the One-Stop for employees in the cohort to keep their cases open with MIS.
- The IWT Goodwill cohort has completed its course.
- A cohort of 30 Bancroft Neuro Health employees is ready to proceed as soon as the resolution is by the Commissioners and the contract will be finalized with Jeff's signature.
- Congressman Norcross will hold his 6th annual constituent services fair in the Atrium at Camden County College-Blackwood on Tuesday, July 25th from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Vendors will be allowed to set up at 8:30am. Anyone interested in having a table should contact Nicholas Feldman at 856-427-7000.

Committee Member Updates

NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Jeanne Page-Soncraut, Employer Services

- Jeanne Page-Soncraut introduced herself, summarized her duties for those unfamiliar with her and provided an update of her current and upcoming activities.
 - A recruiting event is being held for the County Dept of Corrections on Tuesday morning, May 23rd. The CCDOC is seeking Correctional Police Officers to work at the prison in Camden City. The training salary starts at \$49,000, with a post-training salary of \$53,000 and a potential salary of over \$100,000. Frank commented that a selling point for the positions for young people is that 25 years in, an employee can retire through the Police and Fire Retirement Fund and the benefits are very good. Jeanne pointed out that someone could go through training at the Police Academy for the corrections positions and transfer into a police department.
 - Cooper University Hospital is seeking customer service employees at multiple locations, which includes patient access navigators, and patient services representatives.
 - There are opportunities for young adults for WIND technology. A 6-month training class for wind technicians will start at the end of July.
 - Working papers for youth will now be automated and completed online by the employer. Permissible hours that youth can work have been extended to up to 50 hours per week during the summer.
 - Among the new employers Jeanne is working with are: iPac, Puff and Pipe, and a medical supply company.
 - Irene Perez has returned to work.
 - Ricky O'Hara is retiring and his replacement is being trained.
 - The WDB's Abilities Committee will hold a veteran hiring event, hosted at Cooper University Hospital conference center. The event will offer employers a workshop about how to hire veterans and what resources and credits are available to them for doing so. Veterans will have access to career coaching and counseling about services available to them before having an opportunity to meet with employers after their workshop and possibly be interviewed on the spot.

Gerald Davis, 55+

- Three 55+ clients have gained PT employment at the One-Stop for 25 hours per week. Two have been assisting the ES front desk with walk-ins and navigating the paperwork back to ES counselors. The third person has been serving as a phone navigator for DVR. Another client is expected to be hired to assist Nidia with front desk coverage. Gerald commented that he is stunned by the level of education and career experience on the resumé's that he has received from people seeking employment.

David Spector, NJ Office of Apprenticeship

- The Office of Apprenticeship has completed its first round of funding grants for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for FY2023. Sometime in the Fall, new funding streams will become available for FY2024. David encouraged the meeting attendees to direct any potentially interested employers to his office. He stated his office is collaborating with the NJDEP (NJ Dept of Environmental Protection), which

now has a youth inclusion initiative program for youth 16-20 years old to provide opportunities for job placement with various organizations and industries. The participants are being recruited by the DEP.

Darena Shafer, Camden County College

- The academic year is coming to a close and the summer semester has started.

Carol McCormack, Camden County College

- The apprentice manufacturing bootcamp for machinists will wrap up at the end of June. Employers will come in to meet with the bootcamp students. Virtual information sessions will be held in May and July 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.

Regional Updates

Update provided by Alex Levitt

- The Atlantic City Initiative completed the first cohort for The Line School.
 - The GIE/WISE program will start later in the year.
 - Atlantic City Electric Initiative 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.
 - Rachele Dorsey, Sr. Workforce Development Specialist for Atlantic City Electric, has inquired about youth who may be able to participate in their SPARK program, for solar
- The GSETA Conference will be held October 18-19, 2023. It will be an in-person event at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City. For registration or more information, go to www.GSETA.org.
- Camden Works continues to work on transportation initiatives and other projects for the residents of the city.
- The WDB's summer youth employment program has held two orientations for applicants at the Rohrer Center at Camden County College-Cherry Hill. Over 80 applications were received for the 50 slots of the summer program. Interviews will continue, 50 youth will be selected and then attend 1 week of mandatory work-readiness training before reporting to their work sites for 7 weeks. Work-Learn site applications are still being accepted. Worksites in health, finance and law enforcement would be welcome additions as several youth have expressed interest in working in those sectors.

Business Community Updates

Bob Regensburger

- Lockheed Martin has technology-focused and STEM careers available. Interested parties should search lockheedmartin.com/careers. Bob invited attendees to contact him about qualified candidates they would like to discuss with him.

Bob Weil

- Bob thanked Ryan for stepping up to the BSOT Committee Chair position as he transitions into the Board Treasurer position.

NEXT MEETING

The next Business Services and Outreach Team meeting is scheduled on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 2:00 pm via Zoom. The quarterly board meeting will be virtual via Zoom on Wednesday, June 21st at 8:30 am. Attendance is encouraged as there are some important matters on the agenda. A quorum will be needed for such matters as the election/re-election of Board officers and other important business.

ADJOURNMENT

Alex asked for the motion to adjourn. Frank Cirii made the motion, seconded by Bob Weil. By unanimous vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

SUBMITTED BY: Debra Vaughn, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director