

**First Coast Workforce Development Consortium**  
**Meeting on June 23, 2022**

Chair Larry Harvey called to order a teleconference meeting of the First Coast Workforce Development Consortium on Monday, June 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. The following members were present, representing a quorum.

Present:           Aaron Bowman - Duval County  
                      Jim Renninger - Clay County  
                      Larry Harvey – Putnam County  
                      Paul Waldron – St. John’s County  
                      Thomas R. Ford – Nassau County

Absent/Excused: Mark Hatley - Baker County

Staff:               Bruce Ferguson, Rebecca Livingston, Steven Dionisio, Cheryl Taylor

**Public Comment:** None

**\*Action Items**

**\*Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2022, FCWD Consortium Meeting**

Motion to approve the March 21, 2022, FCWD Consortium Meeting minutes made by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Renninger; motion unanimously carried; minutes approved as presented.

**\*Approval of FCWD Consortium Budget for FY 2022-2023**

The budget is primarily payroll benefits and audits. The minimum wage will increase to \$15 an hour which mirrors what the state legislature did for state employees. This gives grade levels 1 – 3 to an 11.4% increase and grade levels 4 – 12 to an 8% increase. To offset that, the incentive pool has been decreased from 4% to 3% and 6 FTE’s were eliminated which were vacant. We will continue to monitor our vacancies. Motion made by Commissioner Renninger and seconded by Councilman Bowman to move approval of the FCWD Consortium Budget Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as presented; motion unanimously carried.

### **\*Approval of CareerSource NEFL Budget for FY 2022-2023**

The budget was reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee. The Consortium budget is inside of this budget. There was a reduction of total revenue primarily from 3 areas/programs that are discontinued (COVID grant, extensive reemployment grant and performance funding). The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds about a 4% reduction in both the adult and youth categories. That is down about \$100,000 in each. The training funds were also decreased but funds are still more than what was utilized this year for both customized and traditional scholarship funds. Motion to approve the CareerSource Northeast Florida Budget for FY 2022-2023 made by Councilman Bowman and seconded by Commissioner Waldron; motion unanimously carried. Budget approved.

### **\*Operations and Legislative Update**

May 2022 unemployment data continue as a region to be lower than the state by a small amount. The total net new jobs continue to have strong growth across all industries. The centers' numbers are slightly down from last year. The data only reflects activity in the brick-and-mortar centers. Data from our mobile teams will be added moving forward. Job orders are down a bit but continue to be strong. Software Developers remain number 1 on the Top 10 Occupations List.

From a legislative standpoint, the REACH Act requires the state to assign a letter grading system for each of the workforce boards. Initial data has been released. There are seven metrics plus one extra credit metric. Historical data has been requested to get a picture of where we are on the different metrics. We did very well on several metrics and there are a couple others that need work. We anticipate a first baseline in October. A Regional Realignment study is being conducted by EY (Ernst & Young LLP) on behalf of the REACH office. This explores approaches to align Florida's 24 local workforce development boards. A preliminary report was provided to the state.

### **Adjournment**

The Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m.