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**Atlantic County Workforce Development Full Board Meeting 9am March 14, 2019**

**Attendance**

Alan Beatty	Dan Brown (proxy)	Pat Constnatino	Mark Ford	Dr. Gaba
Jim Waters	Joe Ingemi	Dan Kelly	Stephanie Koch	Terrie Lutz
Paul McClellan	Riaz Rajput	Marian Woodson	Regina Pryor	Mike Dugan
Nandi Singh	Maryann McGhee	Latoyra Smith	Bahiya Johnson	

**Minutes**

This meeting was called to order by the Board Chair Riaz Rajput at 9:10am. A motion was given by Dan Kelly to approve the minutes from a previous meeting held on December 13, 2018 and was seconded by Terrie Lutz with no apposes or abstentions.

**Financial Report**

This report was given the Fiscal Supervisor John Fata.

- Currently: WIOA contracts are at 41% with a target of 58% for the year.
- Work First NJ is currently showing 33%
- PY18 Training- Enrolled 96 Completed 19
- PY18 Total Revenue \$9,833,005
- PY18 Local Area Budget \$8,699,589
- PY18 Unallocated Revenue \$1,133,416

Dr. Gaba inquired about the variances in the training portion of this report; Fata explained that variance is a result of the job search requirement being eliminated. Rhonda Lowery added that the prior to this change, it was a 4 week turn around however this year our providers are assisting in the customer job search and we are tracking the data. There are those customers that will complete training with credentials however there are some that want to extend unemployment benefits. Rajput cited that unemployment is at a low in our county as well as activities was greater in the past. Fata continued on stating that if enrollment is high then the percentages are difficult to meet. Employee benefits is a front end load however it will be on point by the end of the year and we anticipating an increase in training percentages. Note that this does not affect the expenditures and with new State administration our funds may vary.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Rick Lovering and second by Alan Beatty. The Board was in agreement to approve the report with no abstentions or opposes.

**Chair Report**

Riaz Rajput Board Chair, welcomes Nandi Singh as a new member to the Board as well as introduced Mike Dugan which gave a presentation. Dugan reports that Following four consecutive months of gains, New Jersey employment declined slightly in February while the state's unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.0 percent, according to estimates released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment decreased by 7,700 in February to reach a seasonally adjusted level of 4,183,600. The decline was concentrated in the private sector (-9,300) of the state's economy.

Looking at the longer-term, over the year, February 2018 – February 2019, employment in New Jersey was higher by 33,000, with gains recorded in both the private (+30,600) and public (+2,400) sectors of the New Jersey economy. Since February 2010 (the low point of the last recession), New Jersey's private sector employers have added 391,500 jobs.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, the previously released total nonfarm employment estimate for January was revised lower by 5,600 to show an over-the-month (December – January) increase of 12,200 jobs. Preliminary estimates had indicated an over-the-month increase of 17,800 jobs. The state's revised January unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.0 percent. The DGE report, which was released Wednesday, showed February gaming revenue for Atlantic City was more than \$232 million. This is a 21 percent increase when compared to last year. Dugan has agreed to generate this data of which Lowery will share.

#### One Stop Operator Re-Bid

Riaz states that this contract is up for re-bid therefore a PowerPoint presentation was given by the current One Stop Operator Marian Woodson regarding her role and responsibilities. The Coordinator is to ensure that services are not duplicated and that the processes correlate.

Rajput continued with his report by requesting that all attendees and Board members stay for the entire meeting. Also submit any suggestions for a guest presenter for the next meeting.

#### Executive Director Report

Rhonda Lowery reports that the summer youth program is seeking employers to facilitate the youth interns beginning 6/1/19 thru 8/31/19. The GAINS application has been submitted and we are anticipating an approval.

Atlantic County Workforce Development Board is partnering with Jewish Family Services to obtain the Opioids grant.

Contracts- we are seeking volunteers to participate in reviewing all renewals and proposals on the following: WFNJ, Youth, and the One Stop Operator. There will be a technical assistance session for all volunteers, date to be announced.

The In School Youth proposal was released (Earn & Learn).

Board Certification has been submitted and the Annual Report is complete. The Local and Regional Plan will be submitted for public comment once its complete.

All vacancies are filled for each committee. New committee Chairs are as follows:

Membership Committee Chair-Torrie Garvin

Oversight Committee Co- Chairs- Maryann McGhee and Mark Ford

Disabilities Committee Chair- Joe Ingemi

We are in need of a new representation for South Jersey Industries.

The AC Electric Apprenticeship is going well and we are looking to partner with Atlantic County Institute of Technology to facilitate the Line School.

Election of Officers- please complete the ballots and submit at the end of this meeting.

#### Committee Reports

**Youth Committee Chair Stephanie Koch** reports that funding has been frozen. A Youth Technical Support Assistant was recently hired to assist all Workforce Development Boards and Providers and is looking forward to expanding the Summer Youth Programs in 2020.

Disabilities Committee Chair Joe Ingemi reports that the committee determined that transportation is an issue for those with disability getting to and from appointments and work.

Some of the issues that were discussed were:

- Expanding the use of ride-share services including Uber and Lyft;
- Lack of bi-lingual customer service;
- Lack of North-South public transportation;
- Lack of sidewalks;
- Problems with access link;
- Shutdown of the AC Rail;
- Untrained ADA municipal contacts and availability of such training through Cornell.

**Bahiya Johnson of Stockton University** reports that their focus is employment regarding the youth population and are exploring creative ways to recruit.

Literacy Committee Chair Pat Constantine reports that an anonymous donation of \$150,000 was given to Atlantic Cape Community College was given for TASC Testing.

No Old or New Business

Meeting adjourned 10:45am

