



CSCR Consortium Meeting

January 15, 2020

9:00 AM

Present: Commissioner Maddox, Commissioner Quincee Messersmith, Commissioner Hinson (arrived at 9:45)

Staff: Jim McShane, Dee Robinson, Kara Palmer Smith, Matt Salera, Charlotte Brown.

Recording: Jim McShane

Called to order at 9:13 am by Commissioner Maddox (Leon).

Jim reviewed the SB1244 under consideration by the legislature that puts CareerSource Florida under DEO. He talked about the reason behind this move driven by the Tampa/Pinellas issue two years ago and pressure from the Governor and the US Department of Labor.

Jim informed the elected officials that there is an issue with Gainesville at this time, and Rusty from CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion has temporarily taken over CareerSource North Central Florida until the board leadership and elected officials decide how to proceed to replace their administrative entity. That entity and its staff were fired in early December.

Jim continued to share information on the expected budget and the loss of 12 positions this program year. If we go into recession and unemployment goes up, then we will be severely understaffed to handle the demand and the years of building the CareerSource reputation statewide will be trashed.

The Request for Proposal is out for service provider and One-Stop Operator, and our new 4-year plan will be posted in early February for public review.

The US Department of Labor, because of the issues surrounding Tampa and Pinellas where DEO failed in its monitoring of these two entities, is expecting more participation by the local elected officials in the appointment process. Therefore, today we are having our annual meeting of the CSCR Consortium, which is composed of the three county commissioners appointed to represent their counties on this consortium.

Questions were asked of the commissioners for the 4-year plan.

Q1. How do you think CSCR is doing serving your constituents?

Leon – Very well, liked the outreach into the community (Leon County Library System outreach)

Wakulla – Our Wakulla office has been a star in the community

Gadsden – Appreciated our help after Hurricane Michael

Q2. What services can CSCR improve on doing in the community?

Commissioners liked what we are doing, that we keep them up-to-date with the once a year annual report to the Commission.

Commissioner Messersmith asked if we had a CNA program, Dee answered yes

So we have minimum wage postings? Yes

Jim expanded on the fact that many of the employers are finding it hard to find the talent they need because their hourly rate is not competitive.

Jim talked about the summer jobs program in Tampa for this coming summer where the county put in \$150,000, CSTB put in \$600,000 in WIOA youth and the business community stepped up to reach a total of \$1.5M. Jim explained that outside funds could broaden our ability to reach those youth in need of help but do not meet the federal WIOA requirements.

Q3. Any disadvantaged population that we need to be aware of serving?

Commissioner Messersmith said transportation is the biggest issue. Dee added that she sits on the regional FDOT committee for multiple counties that work with the transit providers to address these issues.

Commissioner Maddox liked the skilled labor apprenticeship program and thought this could be expanded. He talked about working with the Tallahassee Housing Authority. Jim responded that he has tried over the six years in this position to engage and find ways to leverage our work with adults and youth but cannot get the THA to engage.

He also is interested in the ALICE population and how we can help in the elimination of poverty. Getting people in a job so they can earn a living wage is the workforce board's goal. The CSCR staff counsels job seekers. CSCR partners with Community Action in their "Getting Ahead in a just getting by world." We promote CTE with the students we come in contact with as an alternative to college. We are promoting apprenticeships as the earn while you learn model to develop a trained pipeline for the employers.

Commissioner Hinson enters: 9:45am

Q1. How are we doing in Gadsden County? A. Very good but room for improvement with the homeless population.

Jim-. Summer jobs – talked about what Tampa is doing and that the focus is on those students most likely to need to be employed out of high school. CSCR can mostly serve out of school youth with our youth money. We would prefer to be active in the schools.

With outside money we could provide the essential skills training in the Dynamic Futures™ program we provide to more youth. These are the skills (aka soft skills) that employers complain about the most.

Discussion ensued about St. Marks Powder and if CSCR is engaged with them – Yes we are. There is a Gadsden County board position opening currently we are trying to fill.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56am