

Minutes

Strategic Policy & Planning Committee Meeting August 10, 2022

Attendance: Scott Watson, Kevin Vaughn, Antonio Jefferson, Shelly Bell, Amber Tynan and Erin Gillespie

Staff: Jim McShane, Tandria Edwards, Trish Yahn and Trevor Stout

Recording: Patricia McCray

I. Call to Order

II. ACTION ITEM I – Meeting Minutes Approval for May 23, 2022

The chair directed everyone to this line item for the approval of the May 23, 2022, meeting minutes.

Motion: The chair entertained a motion to approve the May 23, 2022, minutes. Antonio made the motion, and Amber seconded – all in favor

III. Action ITEM II – Directive: Support Services and Needs Related Payments

Tandria informed the board that three proposed changes for this line item exist for the CSCR's support services within the region. The first proposal is for the maximum annual support service limit to be increased from the current one thousand (\$1,000.00) to five thousand (\$5,000.00). She further stated that she believes that participants who are in training will benefit from this proposed amendment. The second proposal is for assistance to be rendered regarding childcare and dependent care. This change would be a partnership with ELC to ensure that the requirements of having to at least apply for the assistance and cannot receive it.

The third proposal is for the maximum transportation allowance to be increased from forty dollars (\$40.00) to eighty dollars (\$80.00) monthly. This proposal is a result of the recent increase in gas prices on a global scale. In addition to the requests stated above, it is also proposed that the company assist in attaining non-commercial and commercial driver's licenses and reinstatements.

There are documents or a requirement for that particular item. All documents or requirements will be included in each individual's case file and maintained there for future reference. Also included as a part of our documentation requirements to ensure that whatever issues were present have been resolved.

Crosswalk is to ensure that if there are available resources in the community, there is a mechanism by which we are referring our participants to try to increase that usage. Lastly, it is suggested that the utilization of the crosswalk referral system be encouraged by support services directives. Tandria asked if there were any questions.

Antonio asked as it relates to the transportation allowance, on what basis is the dollar value decided, and what determines if it is enough for the days.

Tandria responded by saying that a tier system is used to determine these limits based on the mileage from their home to the location.

Kevin asked if the increase from \$1000 to \$5000 would impact the number of clients served.

Tandria stated that it should be okay at this new amount based on the usage, but she would definitely watch it.

Motion: Chair Vaughn entertained a motion to the proposals. Antonio made the motion, and Amber seconded – all in favor.

IV. Action ITEM III – WIOA 2-Yr Plan Modification Feedback and Discussion

Jim stated that CSCR met with the Career Center Partners Council members and presented the two-year Strategic Plan. Several questions asked by the members provided CSCR with great feedback. Jim referenced the questions in each member's agenda packet for the meeting. CSCR will also present the two-year Strategic Plan to our three Local Elected Officials for feedback.

Jim stated that we already have goals discussed at the Board Retreat and will be included. Jim asked the Committee members how can we reach the targeted populations with barriers to employment more effectively. Those populations are listed: veterans, the disabled and returning citizens. We do well with recruiting and finding employment with our veterans, but the disabled is something that we need to work on.

Jim asked what should be added here. Based on our reputation, is there something that we can do more effectively? We're partnered with Second Harvest to attend the three counties' neighborhood food distribution events. Staff is doing outreach in the schools now and working with the parents at the schools. These three things have been instituted in the last few months: to do more outreach.

Jim asked what else would you all suggest?

Many committee members suggested identifying and encouraging more businesses to serve as second chance employers. Enhance the work with the Dept of Vocational

Rehabilitation services and the local disability services organizations in the community. Target employers with multiple ongoing positions such as transportation logistics, warehouse workers and other trade businesses with high demand need for workers. In general, seek out specific associations with employers with a high demand for hiring workers constantly in the three counties.

Motion: Chair Vaughn entertained a motion to the proposals. Amber made the motion, and Antonio seconded – all in favor.

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEM I – EDO Quarterly Reports (All Counties)

Antonio informed the committee that all was well in Gadsden County and that they had completed their rural grant for Liberty and Gadsden counties. And in Gretna, they completed their feasibility study.

Kevin stated that Wakulla County would have its grand opening for its new Publix grocery store.

VI. Adjourn

The chair thanked everyone for attending and ended the meeting.