



**NEW ORLEANS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

NOWDB Full Board

JOB1 Business and Career Solutions Center | 1307 Oretha Castle Haley – New Orleans, LA

Draft Meeting Summary

December 13, 2023 | 11:00AM

Attendance

Members Present

Gregory Curtis
Allen Square
Katherine Felton
Claire Jecklin
Rodney Wallis
Allyson Wilson
Rachel Mackey
Jeffery Schwartz
Rodney Wallis
Allyson Wilson
Rachel Mackey
Charlene Bonck
Peter Pappas

Staff and Guests

Karmen McKinley
Tammie Washington
Sabrina Johnson
Ada Kwanbunbumpen
Lori Boissiere
Leonard Zanders
Jason Degruy
Chantell Patin
Glennis Scott Sr. * Proxy

Board Members that attended the meeting virtually : Mikal Anderson and Danielle Garrett

I. Call To Order

Board Secretary, Allen Square, called the meeting to order at 11:16AM

II. Roll Call

Karmen McKinley completed a roll call of NOWDB members that were present. Please note for the record that NOWDB members or members of the public who are participating via TEAMS can submit comments or questions on the chat box and the Board Chair will recognize all public comments at the appointed time of the meeting.



Board Secretary, Allen Square acknowledged a quorum was not met at the time of the meeting being called to order and asked that action items be held until there was a quorum. Mr. Square informed the Board that Board Chair, Gregory Curtis, would be late and asked that the Board Secretary Chair the meeting in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Square asked that we proceed with the Operator's Report, since it didn't require action.

III. Operator Report – Leonard Zanders presented the Operator's Report for November 2023.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult and Dislocated Workers

Enrollments – 415 | Placements – 290

JOB1, in Partnership with Total Community Action, is assisting WIOA participants with the Earn and Learn program. Eligible participants that are enrolled in Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) receive a \$12/hr. stipend while in training to assist members with the cost of living while they are gaining new skills and credentials. We have enrolled over 40 participants so far for PY 23.

CAREER National Dislocated Workers Grant (NDWG)

CAREER OJT – 3 | CAREER Training Placements – 92

The CAREER NDWG program increased On-the-Job training accounts by three participants. Indications support the trend of additional OJTs being established in the coming weeks. The podcast studio - funded by the CAREER grant - has been fully built out. We look forward to recording the first installment of our JOB1 podcasting in December 2023.

Business Solutions

New Employers in the HiRE System – 47

WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers Placements – 290

Youth Placements – 37

Returning Citizens Placement – 20

Virtual Job Fairs / Hiring Events – 26

Other JOB1 Activities

- Hosted 4 Walk-in-Wednesday Job Fairs during the month of November.
- Attended the Industry Day Job Fair event on November 7th
- Attended the Project Reunion event on November 3, 2023 (HIV Awareness)
- Attended the Change of Life event on November 3rd (Homeless Project)
- Participated in the OCD outreach program at Joe Brown on November 15th and 16th



Mr. Square asked how are placements with CDL, are they placed locally or nationally? Mr. Zanders responded by indicating that placements are nationally and locally obtained for the participants.

Leonard Zanders recognized Mr. Larry Ford as an exceptional employee who assisted a Hi-SET participant that was pregnant during her participation. Mr. Ford provided a brief statement on how he is passionate about the program he facilitates. He loves to empower the youth to have another opportunity to succeed. His goal is to get all the participants to pass the Hi-SET test. The young lady who was pregnant gave birth before she was able to complete the last part of her Hi-SET, and she is scheduled to complete it today. She previously past all other sections. Mr. Curtis asked that Leonard to compile a list of the baby's needs for Christmas.

IV. Board Chair Updates

The Board Chair Gregory Curtis asked Secretary Square to continue to chair the meeting. The Mr. Square acknowledged at this time we currently have a quorum. Mr. Square asked the Chair if he had any remarks. The Board Chair Mr. Curtis thanked the board members for their commitment, service, time, effort, and work this year. Mr. Curtis stated he is looking forward to the great work for 2024. He also asked if you know of anyone connected to the business community to please refer them to the NOWDB. The Board Secretary asked if anyone had connections to the Governor's transition team to please make the connection to the Board. Secretary Square asked Tammie Washington, Board Staff, to give an overview of the action item regarding the American Job Center Certification.

Ms. Washington informed the Board that the Louisiana Workforce Commission sent out the AJC Certification Matrix to local areas on July 20th and requested that we complete the matrix and submit it back to the State by July 27th. The State's timeline was not aligned with normal procedures, since the WIOA regulations require that the local Board approves the AJC certification. To meet the deadline provided by the State, Board Staff completed the review of the AJC and the Matrix and submitted to the Board Chair for approval. The Louisiana Workforce Commission is now conducting a monitoring review of the local area, and as a part of the review they are requesting the meeting minutes documenting Board approval of the American Job Center Certification.

The Executive Committee approved the request to ratify the Board Chair's approval of the AJC Certification. We are now bringing the request to the full Board to ratify the approval of the American Job Center Certification. Ms. Washington confirmed that the AJC center met all the



qualifications for the certification. Board members received the certification matrix for review. The qualifications include:

- The AJC has a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with all Mandated Partners.
- The AJC One Stop Operator was Competitively procured, and there are defined roles for the Operator and the Career Services Provider.
- The AJC meets all regulatory requirements to be a comprehensive American Job Center.
- The AJC ensures equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities.

Secretary Allen called for a motion to ratify the Board Chair's approval of the American Job Center certification.

Approval to Ratify Board Chair's approval of the American Job Center Certification

Motion by: Rachel Mackey

Second by: Dottie Belleto

No Opposition

The motion was approved by unanimous decision.

Mr. Square called for open discussion and public comments.

V. Open Discussion

There was no open discussion.

VI. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

VII. Adjourn

Motion by: Peter Pappas

Second by: Rodney Wallis

No Opposition

The motion was approved by unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48am.

