

Attendance: David Slutz, Bernice Jensen, Laura Douglas, John Fernandes, Margarita Graham, Jane McArdle, Ron Melbourne, Bonnie Mello, Jeffrey Pelletier, Derek Santos, Tracy Silvia, Christopher Mittell, Helena DaSilva Hughes, Shannon Finning, Stephen Merrill, John Williams, Corinn Williams

Staff: Joe Lopes, Jamilyn Soares, Kyra Greco, Deborah Meggison, Justin Grotta, Deven Robitaille, Matthew De Oliveira, Jacqueline Sylvia, Debbie Hartman

Guests: Elizete Perry, Rodney Solomon, Fran Grey, Jim Oliveira, Mike Dunne

Greetings and Call to Order by David Slutz- Chair – Opened meeting at 4:19PM

Announcements- Chair, David Slutz

David Slutz welcomed all and began the meeting with introductions of all present board members, staff, and guests.

Consent Agenda (Votes)

- Approval of Minutes, March 22nd, 2023
- Approval of Treasurer’s Report
 - David Slutz called for a motion to approve both March meeting minutes and the Treasurer’s report. Derek Santos made a motion to accept items, seconded by Helena DaSilva Hughes. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Votes to Approve – Joe Lopes

1. **Retirement Policy:** To accept the revised retirement policy as presented.

Motion to approve made by John Fernandes, seconded by Helena DaSilva Hughes. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

2. **PayScale Changes:** To certify the new MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board pay scales as presented effective July 1st, 2023

Motion to approve made by Helena DaSilva Hughes, seconded by Jeffrey Pelletier. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. **WIOA Out of School Youth (OOSY):** To award the aforementioned vendors WIOA Out of School Youth (OOSY) FY24 contracts

Motion to approve made by Margarita Graham, seconded by John Fernandes. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. **Search Committee: Lease Site Recommendation:** To accept the Search Committee’s recommendation of the Lease Site bid, and allow MHGNBWB to move forward with BCBOZ Investments, LLC.

Motion to approve made by Jeffrey Pelletier, seconded by Laura Douglas. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

5. **FY24 Integrated Budget:** To approve the Integrated Budget as presented to initiate FY24

Motion to approve made by Ron Melbourne, seconded by Laura Douglas. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

6. **Charter Agreement Renewal FY24:** To accept the renewal of the FY24 Charter Agreement between MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board and Equus Workforce Solutions, Inc. as presented

Motion to approve made by Margarita Graham, seconded by John Fernandes. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

7. **Nomination Committee Recommendation:** To approve Nomination Committee recommendations that were previously approved by the Executive Committee

Motion to approve made by Margarita Graham, seconded by Jeffrey Pelletier. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Executive Director/CEO Report – Joe Lopes

Joe Lopes briefly reviewed his report with the board. Joe noted that the National Dislocated Worker Opioid Crisis Grant has been renewed for another fiscal year in the award of \$800,000. He also highlighted key developments that have been taking place at both the Workforce Board and the Career Center. Some of these items in his report included the Real Estate RFP that was released in April, current and potential grants, submission of the updated Workforce Board Four-Year Plan, completion of Annual Monitoring, and more. Joes full report can be made available upon request.

MassHire Career Center Report – Rodney Solomon, Fran Grey

Rodney Solomon and Fran Grey reviewed the Career Center (CC) reports from the Live Binder. Rodney noted that adult enrollment numbers have hit 102% of the goal, and Dislocated Worker numbers have been above the Career Center enrollment goal at around 112%. Rodney discussed credentialing, and the number of individuals in this pipeline. He noted that a lot of these numbers will be carry-ins into FY24. He explained the timeline in which MOSES, the data software



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Full Audio Recording available upon request

used at the Career Center, tracks the numbers of individuals who have retained employment. Fran Grey noted that the Career Center is above plan in all aspects as far as the Individuals Served report. He emphasized that the Business Service Team has been excelling in their efforts. Additionally, it was noted that the Career Center Team has been doing a great job documenting intake for participants, and have developed a waitlist which ensures that training seats are being filled if individuals end up dropping off. Fran reviewed the Career Center Activity report with the board. He noted that the Career Center faces difficulty with unemployment individuals served, but otherwise has been doing an excellent job compared to other Career Centers in remaining numbers.

Other Business

Deven Robitaille presented information on behalf of the Apprenticeship Team. Full SME Apprenticeship Grant report made available upon request. Joe Lopes reviewed the FY23 MassHire Department of Career Services (MDCS) Monitoring Results with the board. There were a few findings that were identified during the monitoring review by both MDCS and MassHire Workforce Board (MWB). Full FY23 MDCS Monitoring Results made available upon request. Dave Slutz and Joe Lopes presented a retirement gift to Jim Oliveira for his years of hard work and dedication to the MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board.

Adjourned at 4:59PM– Motion to adjourn made by Helena DaSilva Hughes, seconded by Margarita Graham.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 27th, 2023

Location: TBD