

## **Burlington County Workforce Development Board (WDB) Minutes**

**Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)**

**Meeting Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021

**Scheduled Time:** 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

### **Attendees:**

Jon Sharp (Chair) – HIG (VM)	Mark Boyd – Goodwill NJ (VM)
Anna Payanzo Cotton – RCBC/WDI (NVM)	Martin Nock – AJC, Staff
Anthony Phillips – RCBC/WDI/ABE (NVM)	Randolph (Randy) Brolo – Laborer’s Eastern Region (VM)
Barbara Weir – WDB, Staff	Rhonda Jorda – Virtua (VM)
Bryon Blum – SMWI Local #19 (VM)	Randy Hamilton – Smith & Solomon (VM)
Curtis Myers – Aspire Youth (VM)	Shirla Simpson – Burlco Dept. of Human Services (VM)
Dr. Michael Cioce – RCBC (VM)	Stacey Smith – NJDVRs (VM)
Jean Carter – NJ DOL (Guest)	Stacy Hunt – RCBC/WDI (NVM)
Jesus Arestirado – AJC/One-Stop Operator (VM)	Yvonne Payton – NJDOL (VM)
Kelly West – WDB/AJC, Director	Zahirah Sabir – WDB, Staff
Kent Pipes – Member of the Public	
Kristi Howell – Burlco Reg Chamber of Commerce (BCRCC) (VM)	
Leslie Reis – CVS (VM)	Keith Wardrip – PHIL FRB (Guest)
Liz Verna – Burlco Econ. Dev. (VM)	Jimmy Gastner – PHIL FRB (Guest)
Lindsey Aquino – NJDOL (VM)	

VM = Voting Member

NVM = Non-voting Member

### **Call to Order – Jon Sharp, Chair**

The Board Chair called the WDB meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

### **Reading of the Sunshine Law – Zahirah Sabir**

“This virtual meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21. A public notice announcing this meeting has been posted in the Burlington County Times, the Burlington County website and the Burlington County Clerk’s office.”

### **Introduction of New Members**

- Jimmy Gastner
- Keith Wardrip
- Bryon Blum
- Lindsey Aquino

### **Approving of Minutes – Jon Sharp**

Motion (to approve with changes): Randy Brolo

2nd: Liz Verna

Motion passed

## **Committee Updates**

### Partnership with Juvenile Commission

- Once they complete their sentences and released from Detention Center, they can be assisted with employment placement.

### Parent Engagement Night

- Students with disabilities can transition into college or employment and assist parents with questions.

### Business Committee Engagement- Rich Temple

- Partners include Wawa, Amazon, CVS, and job fairs. The challenge is people remaining on unemployment benefits.
  - Workforce Innovation Center
    - Teaching necessary, essential skills.

### Burlington County Workforce System Oversight – Jesus Arestirado

- Last meeting was February 23, 2021.
- July 1 2020-April 30 2021 Stats
  - provided services to forty-two hundred and forty-eight customers
  - Average of 425 per month
- March 22-May 18
  - Registered to metrics learning platform and completed 393 courses.
  - Career Website
- Next meeting: August 24

### Adult Literacy – Anthony Phillips

- High school equivalent recipients to 75
  - Testing up until June 30.
  - Doing more for the students and supporting testing.
- Cohort tactic
  - Bringing students back July 9
- Currently 4 active students working with instructors to improve literacy.

### Occupational Mobility Explorer- Keith Wardrip

- Job Opportunity for 2/3 of job market that do not have a four-year college degree.
  - Term defined: **Opportunity Occupation:** Jobs that pay above minimum wage and does not require a bachelor's degree.
- A strategic Occupation Mobility website.
  - Strategies to improve economic mobility and meeting needs of employers.

General Discussion/Questions/Announcements – General Membership

Jon Sharp proposed a question to Keith Wardrip asking for evidence of numbers with people that have made transitions for representing substantial wages.

Kelly West mentioned to Keith Wardrip networking with the Occupation Mobility website to local community colleges.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:59 AM

Next Meeting: October 8, 2021, 8:00 AM