

**County Of Union**  
**Workforce Investment Board Of Directors Meeting**  
**Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016**  
**9:00 A.M. Friday, June 27, 2014**

**Board Members Present:**

Glenn Nacion, Trinitas Regional Medical Center **(Chair)**  
Carlos Valdes, Comcast **(Vice-Chair)**  
Erich Peter, Union County Economic Development Corp. **(Secretary)**  
Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent of Plainfield Public Schools  
Mark Bocchieri, Verizon New Jersey  
James R. Brady, The Savor Group, LLC  
Noel Christmas, Utilities Workers Union of America Local 601  
Juan Carlos Dominguez, J.J.J. Distributors  
Donna Dedinsky, Wakefern Food Corporation  
Pat Dobson, Plainfield One-Stop / Workforce New Jersey  
Gloria Durham, Genesis Healthcare Solutions  
Salvador Garcia, MAS Development Group  
Alberto Goncalves, AZAD Companies  
James Horne, Jr. , United Way of Union County  
Jean Koszulinski, Union County One Stop Operator  
Anadir Liranzo, Omega Maintenance Corp.  
Lenin A. Paredes, Global Insurance Agency LLC  
John Perry, Council for Airport Opportunities  
Gary Pfarr, IBEW  
Myrna Pinckney, NJ Div. of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
Stan Robinson Jr., SHR Marketing, LLC  
Kamran Tasharofi, Union County Healthcare Associates

**Board Members Absent:**

Gary Alessio, Print Tech  
Elizabeth Bennett, Evergreen Partners, Inc.  
Roberto Camacho, Investors Bank  
Richard Capac, Leaf Group, LLC  
Pamela Capaci, HSAC Chair / Prevention Links  
Peter Capodice, Union County Vocational Technical Schools  
Monica Chenault-Kilgore, The Chenault Group, Inc.  
Philip Connelly, Kean University  
Charles Gillon, Division of Social Services  
Eugenia Hamlett, Hamlett Management, LLC  
Kevin Lynott, AGL Resources/Elizabethtown Gas  
Sandra McLachlan, Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery  
Dr. Margaret McMenamin, Union County College  
Richard Malcolm, Iron Workers Local #11  
Jerry Mason, CompasScale  
Kim McConnell, The McConnell Leadership Group  
Christopher Morreale, FedEx  
Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Union County Superintendent of Schools  
Scott Sharp, PSE&G

**Guests:**

Yoshi Manale, Kean University, Replacement Appointee  
Jose M Colon, New Private Sector Appointee  
Dr. Stephen Nacco (on behalf of Dr. Margaret McMenamin), Union County College  
Dr. Lisa Tauscher (on behalf of Peter Capodice), Union County Vocational Technical Schools

**County of Union:**

Sergio Granados, Freeholder  
Al Faella, County Manager  
William Reyes, Jr., Deputy County Manager  
Antonio Rivera, Director, Workforce Investment Board  
Lisa Bonanno, Workforce Investment Board  
Phil Kandl, Workforce Investment Board  
Gina Tuesta, Workforce Investment Board  
Elizabeth Paskewich, Workforce Investment Board

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Chairman Mr. Glenn Nacion at 9:20 a.m.

**II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Ms. Gina Tuesta read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

**III. ROLL CALL**

Ms. Gina Tuesta conducted the Roll Call.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE April 25, 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

James Brady made a motion to approve the April 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes as presented. It was seconded by Alberto Goncalves and carried unanimously.

**V. MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS / REAPPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Antonio Rivera reported on the new Workforce Investment Board appointments and replacement appointments:

**New Private Sector Appointments:**

Jose M. Colon, Vice President  
JP Morgan Chase Bank

**Replacement Appointments:**

Yoshi Manale  
Kean University

Noel Christmas made a motion to approve the Workforce Investment Board appointments as presented. It was second by Alberto Goncalves and carried.

**VI. WIB Director's Report**

Mr. Antonio Rivera discussed the following Workforce Investment Board updates:

- The May 20<sup>th</sup> Business 2 Business Networking Reception was successful. Over 300 businesses were in attendance. Our next event is scheduled for October 22, 2014. The goal will continue to be to educate businesses on what the WIB and One Stops do and what they can provide.
- In a partnership with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Union County Workforce Investment Board, Union County College Industry-Business Institute, Union County Economic Development Corporation, Elizabeth Development Company, and the City of Elizabeth, the Retail Skills Center at the Jersey Gardens Mall is in the works to become the Workforce Innovation Business Center. This new center will provide:
  - On The Job Training
  - Sector Based Occupation Training
  - Ready to Work Business Soft Skills
  - Youth Employment & Training
  - Incumbent Worker Training
  - Entrepreneurship Training

Training will focus on the following Industry Sectors:

- Retail, Hospitality & Tourism
- Healthcare
- Transportation, Logistics, & Distribution
- Financial Services
- Supply Chain Management
- Construction

Funding for the Workforce Innovation Business Center will start at approx. \$1 million and plan to service approx. 300 individuals. This Center will not replace the One Stop Career Centers but compliment them. This Center will be used for individuals county-wide, with plans to provide transportation for those on the Western side of the County. All individuals will be first screened by the One Stop Career Center.

- Mr. Rivera reported the 2014-2015 Workforce Investment Board's proposed annual Budget. Alberto Goncalves made a motion to approve the recommended Program year 2014-2015 Budget. It was second by Stan Robinson, Jr.

## **VII. One Stop Operator Report –**

Jean Koszulinski, One Stop Operator, provided a report regarding the Union County One Stop Career Centers.

- Benchmark Scorecard handouts were provided. This report provides the required New Jersey state mandates and benchmark requirements. The handout displays the most recent performance figures. Based on where the One Stops are currently at, Mr. Koszulinski feels they will meet all goals.
- New legislation has recently been past, more details will come, but the focus is on Out- of School youth. Goals will be to provide comprehensive services, focusing on completion of education.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

### **1. Business & Industry Committee**

Erich Peters reported on the Business & Industry Committee meeting from June 10, 2014, at UCEDC offices in Cranford. John Ehret from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development provided a presentation on the Union County/Regional Labor Market Report. This provided a breakdown on the current unemployment level and how it relates to different industry sectors. The report was also able to breakdown what skills the current workforce is currently lacking. These reports lead to further discussion on the Workforce Innovation Development Center and Soft Skill initiative. The Committee also recapped on the May Business 2 Business Networking event, discussed ideas regarding future events, and the importance to keep informing business on the goals of the Workforce Investment Board.

Mr. Antonio Rivera also brought up from John Ehret's presentation that 67% of Union County residents work outside of the county so it will be important to market the Workforce Investment Board and events regionally to include those employers.

### **2. One-Stop Committee**

Glenn Nacion reported on behalf of the One-Stop Committee. The last meeting was held on June 20, 2014 at Investors Bank in Springfield, NJ. Mr. Nacion reported that the new One- Stop Operator, Jean Koszulinski spoke about the current re-organization and restructuring of the One Stop Career Centers. Mr. Nacion mentioned the One-Stops are currently being evaluated focusing both the qualitative and quantitative aspects which will better service current and future clients.

Jean Koszulinski mentioned that steps to better improve the One Stops are already happening. Currently new bi-lingual staff members have been added and there is a new initiative to provide a formalized training to all staff members.

The next One Stop Committee meeting is scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Trinitas Regional Medical Center.

### **3. Disability Issues Committee**

Ms. Donna Dedinsky spoke on behalf of the Disabilities Issues Committee. The last meeting was held on June 17, 2014 at the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth. The committee is currently in the process of planning a regional event and conference with the focus on highlight employing people with disabilities. Our goal is to have a variety of employers participate in the event, and to get a dynamic speaker such as Eric LaGrand, to discuss their journey. This is tentatively planned for October.

### **4. Adult Education & Literacy Committee**

Antonio Rivera spoke on behalf of the Adult Education & Literacy Committee which met on June 13, 2014. The focus of this meeting was on SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analyses. Current Adult Education and Literacy programs were analyzed to better understand what skills the adult population currently has and how we can better serve them. The conversation did shift towards the One-Stop with concerns that clients were going through the system and dropping off. The committee wanted to focus and explore gaps in the system and create resolution.

Dr. Stephen Nacco spoke how there is some disconnect between services and programs offered by vendors and lack of knowledge from businesses about how to utilize them.

## **IX. Old Business**

No old business reported.

## **X. New Business**

Freeholder Sergio Granados recommended creating a vendor list of Workforce Investment Board Committee members and what services they provide. This would provide better understanding of what each member brings to the board and how all members can better serve each other.

Freeholder Granados also emphasized the importance of following up with businesses who attend our networking events. This increases the likelihood of them bringing their services to the board and utilizing county programs. He also thanked those WIB Board members who attended the recent Freeholder meeting. It was great to see the support.

## **XI. Next WIB Meeting**

Date: 9:00 A.M. - September 26, 2014

New Location: Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Anadir Liranzo made a motion to adjourn the June 27, 2014 Meeting. It was seconded by Kamran Tasharofi and carried.