

FINAL MINUTES
PALM BEACH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
CONSORTIUM MEETING
Friday, June 13, 2025

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND WELCOME

The meeting was audio and video recorded with a written transcript. Commissioner Gregg Weiss welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present with the following members in attendance:

Commissioner Gregg Weiss, Local Chief Elected Official, Palm Beach County
Mayor Joe Kyles, City of South Bay
Mayor Marcie Tinsley, City of Palm Beach Gardens
Mayor Keith James, City of West Palm Beach

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

a. Proposed Amendments: Commissioner Weiss asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. There were none.

b. Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Weiss called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: Mayor Marcie Tinsley
Second: Mayor Joe Kyles
The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Commissioner Weiss asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

IV. CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Weiss had no comments at this time.

V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

a. Minutes from June 13, 2024: Commissioner Weiss called for a motion to approve.

Motion: Mayor Joe Kyles
Second: Mayor Marcie Tinsley
The motion passed unanimously.

b. 2025-2026 Budget for Palm Beach Workforce Development Consortium: Commissioner Weiss asked if anyone wanted a presentation. Commissioner Weiss inquired about reductions in federal funding from the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture. Erica Scarpati confirmed that most funding levels appeared stable based on preliminary figures, although SNAP funding had declined. Additionally, Commissioner Weiss asked about the budget's lower-than-expected personnel expenditures, which Erica Scarpati attributed to deliberate staffing reductions and not backfilling vacancies.

Commissioner Weiss asked the committee if there were any questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 budget.

Motion: Mayor Marcie Tinsley
Second: Mayor Joe Kyles
The motion passed unanimously.

c. Local Government Annual Financial Report: Erica Scarpati said the report is required annually, to be approved by the Board Chair, and submitted no later than June 30.

Commissioner Weiss gave his approval for the form to be submitted.

d. Audit: Palm Beach Workforce Development Consortium Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024, by Moss, Krusick & Associated, LLC (final report emailed to Consortium Members on February 28, 2025): Commissioner Weiss asked if anyone wanted a presentation. The auditor,

Michele Barth gave a brief explanation confirming a clean audit with no findings or compliance issues. No additional questions were posed.

Commissioner Weiss called for a motion to approve the audit.

Motion: Mayor Keith James

Second: Mayor Joe Kyles

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. INFORMATIONAL

- a. President and CEO Update (Julia Dattolo): Julia Dattolo provided an economic update. Julia Dattolo provided a comprehensive update, beginning with the county's economic outlook. Unemployment was at 3.4%, below state and national averages. She noted a year-over-year growth in education and health services and a decline in leisure and hospitality, likely due to post-season trends and automation.

Julia Dattolo highlighted the importance of the information technology sector, which contributes \$24 billion locally and \$48 billion statewide, supporting 16,000–18,000 jobs in Palm Beach County. She emphasized the need for technology education across all career paths and described a learner pathway that tracks IT education from high school through university. She also promoted a new internship portal—InternPalmBeach.com—which will centralize internships and apprenticeships for students and local businesses.

Regarding disaster preparedness, Julia Dattolo explained how CareerSource Palm Beach County (CSPBC) has enhanced its role in hurricane response, including staffing disaster recovery efforts and providing services to municipalities post-storm through federal grants. CareerSource will serve as a backup location for key services and help deploy staff for recovery work.

Several grant efforts were mentioned. Although three grant applications were not successful, one from the Department of Labor is still pending. Special attention was given to veteran services, such as an emergency fund and education support through the "Get There Faster" grant. Other funded initiatives include the Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program and the Ticket to Work program for individuals with disabilities.

Julia Dattolo also outlined CSPBC's community involvement, including job fairs, field trips for students to industries like marine and hospitality, and multilingual services in libraries. She shared efforts to increase digital literacy in Belle Glade by hiring a digital navigator through a grant in partnership with Comcast.

During final comments, Mayor Kyle and Mayor Tinsley, commended Julia Dattolo and CareerSource for their impactful work, particularly in providing swift assistance to a veteran in need. Commissioner Weiss closed the meeting by highlighting the potential impact of autonomous semi-trucks on the workforce, especially for high school graduates who rely on long-haul trucking jobs.

- VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Weiss asked the members if there was any further business to discuss. There was none. The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 23, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.