



# Youth Council Meeting Minutes

**April 21, 2026**

## *Opening Remarks*

1. Welcome & Attendance

## *Voting Items*

2. Review and Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Program Supportive Services Policy Revisions
3. Review and Approve RFP# 26-001-YWS Sub-Recipient Contract Recommendation

## *Information/Discussion*

4. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections Success Story
  5. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections Program Update
  6. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections Performance Report
  7. LWDB 20 Primary Indicators of Performance 2nd Quarter - PY 2025-2026
  8. CSRC Summer Projects Update
  9. Adjournment
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## **Members Participating by Teleconference:**

Christie Shields, Rebecca Petrie, Aliesha Seitz

## **Members Present**

Terrance Moore

## **Members Excused**

William Armstead, Robert McPartlan, Tracey Miller

## **Members Unexcused**

None

## **Staff Participating In-person/Teleconference**

Tracey McMorris, Kate Sayger, Angie Strickland, Jennifer Eimann

## **Public Attendance**

Kimberly Grey

**Call to Order:**

Terrance Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. A quorum was established.

Mr. Moore informed council members that the meeting agenda would be reordered. Staff will first present Information/Discussion Items 4 and 5, after which all Eckerd staff will be dismissed prior to the review and vote on Item 3 — RFP# 26-001-YWS Sub-Recipient Contract Recommendation due to Eckerd Youth Connections having submitted a proposal for that item.

**Agenda Item 4 - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections****Success Story:**

Angie Strickland, Program Manager, shared that Steve, a client of Eckerd Youth Connections, has demonstrated exceptional resilience from an early age, persevering through significant adversity in an underserved community to excel academically and athletically in high school. His dedication earned him a football scholarship — a milestone that represented a promising path forward. However, his trajectory was fundamentally altered when he sustained a life-changing spinal injury, resulting in quadriplegia. Faced with the sudden loss of his scholarship, his independence, and the future he had worked toward, Steve was compelled to redefine his sense of purpose entirely.

His road to recovery gained direction through the dedicated efforts of Ms. Strickland, who leveraged partnerships with local agencies, employers, Eckerd Youth Connections, and CareerSource Research Coast staff to provide Steve with the support he needed. Through this collaborative network of resources, Steve methodically rebuilt his confidence, developed marketable customer service competencies through hands-on internship experiences, and regained a forward-looking perspective. His commitment to growth and professional development ultimately led to his placement as an Internet Consultant at a local automotive dealership, which is a testament to his perseverance and determination to succeed on new terms.

**Agenda Item 5 - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections Program****Update:**

Angie Strickland, Program Manager, Eckerd Youth Connections, provided an update on the Youth Connections program, noting that it is progressing well overall.

Ms. Strickland highlighted the positive impact of community partnerships, which have played a significant role in the program's success. These partnerships have led to the organization of successful job fairs, providing youth with valuable employment opportunities and connections to potential employers. In addition to job fairs, the program has engaged in various community outreach efforts aimed at supporting and empowering young people in the area.

**Agenda Item 6 - Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Connections Performance Report - PY 2025-2026:**

Angie Strickland, Program Manager, Eckerd Youth Connections, shared that the performance report covers Youth Connections' progress beyond federal metrics, including their contract deliverables.

Eckerd Youth Connections is on track with all contract deliverables, including enrollment targets for in-school and out-of-school youth, internship placements, successful outcomes, and expenditure goals. Final expenditure data for the most recent month is pending Finance's close, but performance trends indicate they remain on target. No issues were reported.

Terrance Moore, Chair, announced that the council was moving to the previously discussed voting items 2 and 3. Angie Strickland and Kimberly Grey, both of Eckerd Youth Connections, were then dismissed from the meeting.

**Agenda Item 2 - Review and Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Program Supportive Services Policy Revisions:**

Kate Sayger, Program Coordinator, stated that the Youth Supportive Services policy was recently updated. Supportive services are one of the 14 required program elements for the youth program, designed to help youth participants successfully engage in and complete their assigned activities.

The key changes include aligning the youth policy more closely with the Adult and Dislocated Worker Supportive Services policy. A notable addition is that any support services not listed in the approved chart, or those exceeding quantity limitations, now require final approval from Tracey, the COOVP.

The quantity limitations chart was also revised. Rather than setting fixed dollar caps, such as \$100 per physical per program year or \$50 for gas cards per month, the new approach bases limitations on each individual youth's needs, allowing for more tailored support and better overall service delivery.

Christi Shields moved to approve the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - Youth Program Supportive Services Policy Revisions, as presented. Rebecca Petrie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 3 - Review and Approve RFP# 26-001-YWS Sub-Recipient Contract Recommendation:**

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations/COO, presented the results of a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued on February 4th for WIOA Youth Services, as the current contract with Eckert is in its final year.

Four proposals were received, of which three advanced to the rating team after one failed technical review. The three reviewed proposals were from:

- Treasure Coast Center for Economic Development (TCC)
- Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County (BGC-SLC)
- Eckert (incumbent)

After evaluation, the rating team recommended continuing the contract with Eckert for the next five-year period. The primary basis for this recommendation was that demonstrated experience with WIOA Youth Services is a mandatory requirement, and Eckert was the only proposer to meet that threshold. While other proposals showed merit and innovative ideas, they did not satisfy this core requirement.

Staff noted that certain budget items — specifically the ratio of youth served to current staffing levels — will be addressed during the contracting phase. Overall, Eckert was praised for delivering quality work and consistently meeting program outcomes.

A motion to approve the contract recommendation was then sought from the board.

Christi Shields moved to approve the RFP# 26-001-YWS Sub-Recipient Contract Recommendation, as presented. Rebecca Petrie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 7 - LWDB 20 Primary Indicators of Performance 2nd Quarter - PY 2025-2026:**

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations/COO, shared that most federal metrics are being met; however, the credential attainment rate remains below the negotiated target of 90.1%, currently sitting at 72.5% as of Q2. Analysis of the affected cohort suggests this metric will likely not be met for the current program year based on raw data, though Florida Commerce's statistical adjustment model may improve the outcome. Process and practice changes have already been implemented to prevent recurrence, and leadership is confident that performance goals will be met or exceeded in the next program year.

**Agenda Item 8 - CSRC Summer Projects Update:**

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations/COO, Summer Success Program & TANF Summer Project Updates.

CareerSource has been operating a TANF-funded summer program focused on pregnancy prevention for the past three to four years, partnering with community vendors whose programs included a pregnancy prevention component.

Due to recent changes in allowable use of funds under TANF guidelines, pregnancy prevention is no longer an eligible program purpose. As a result, CareerSource will pause the program this year to regroup and redesign it.

The rebuilt program, planned for launch in 2027, will shift focus to an employment-based summer program, aligning with the existing Summer Success Program. This new direction is expected to expand the reach of Summer Success and increase the number of youth served.

The council was notified of this change prior to vendors being informed, as a courtesy to ensure members were aware before any public announcement.

**Agenda Item 9 - Adjournment:**

Having no other business, the Youth Council meeting was adjourned at 8:41 AM.

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**BOARD STAFF CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that these minutes reflect the proceedings by the Youth Council of CareerSource Research Coast, which have been reviewed by the Board of Directors, and approved or approved with modifications, which have been incorporated herein.

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Board Staff  
Tracey McMorris

5/20/2026  
Date



