



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

BUSINESS SERVICE OUTREACH TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 2026, via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

	Organization	Trustee Member	15-Jan-26	19-Feb-26	19-Mar-26	16-Apr-26	16-May-26	18-Jun-26	16-Jul-26
Thompson Ryan	Mid Penn Bank, BSOT Chair	X		X	X				
Alpheaus, April						X			X
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission of the Blind								
Baer, Jessica	NJ DOL								
Bass, Henry	NJ DOL		X	X		X			
Michael Butler	The Fountain Fund								
Campbell, Gabriella	NJ DOL		X	X					
Ciril, Frank	CCOSCC	X	X	X	X	X			X
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS								
Field, Nicole	DOL		X						
Floyd, Kwame	Teacher Apprenticeship Network				X				
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper								
Lakshminarayan, Pavithra	NJ DOL		X						X
Lex, James	Camden County Improvement Authority								
Lord, Lisa	CCTS		X			X			X
Moen, Bill	Camden County College								X
Perez, Irene	DVRS		X	X	X				
Pomales, Nicole	Camden County College								
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X			X			X
Robinson, Terrenny	NJ DOL								
Roman, Xavier	MidPenn Bank								X
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X		X				X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop								
Spector, David	NJ DOL Business Services			X	X				X
Weil, Robert	Conner, Strong, and Buckelew	X		X					
Susan McShane	Npower								
Careline Vieira-Ruiz	NPower								
Richelle Hardison	WDB								
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X			X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X					X
Williams, Leslie	WDB		X	X	X	X			

WELCOME

Jeff Swartz called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM and requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16th meeting. Motion was made by Derena Shafer, seconded by Bob Regensburger. The motion carried and the minutes were approved for April 16, 2026. Jeff introduced the WDB's new part-time receptionist, Jonathan Swisa. Xavier Roman of MidPenn Bank introduced himself to the group.

WDB Updates/Jeffrey S. Swartz

- **NASA Grant Application Status**
 - Jeffrey reported on following up with Ira Weissman and the Thomas Edison team regarding the status of a NASA grant application, noting that Lockheed Martin submitted a letter of support.
 - The group discussed a separate aviation-related grant application submitted by Lisa.
 - Jeffrey moved to review and approve the minutes from the April 16th meeting.
 - The regional plan has been submitted and accepted, and Workforce Development Board (WDB)



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certification is nearing completion.

- The main outstanding item is extending the MOU/IFA to be coterminous with other local areas in the state, which requires partner agency approvals before submission to the state.

- **WDB Outreach**

- Jeff discussed plans to attend National Night Out events on August 4th in Cherry Hill and Pine Hill and requested additional outreach materials for these events.

- **South Jersey Regional Workforce Development and Hanwha Shipbuilding**

- Jeffrey announced plans about a regional workforce development board meeting covering southern South Jersey.
- A meeting is scheduled for September 8th at Rowan College to discuss collaboration with Hanwha Shipbuilding on developing a shipbuilding curriculum and worker pipeline, as Hanwha seeks to expand from building one ship annually in Philadelphia.
- Quarterly and committee meetings tied to this effort were scheduled for September 16th and August 20th, respectively.

NJDOL/David Spector

- Dave updated the group on the International Paper facility closure in Barrington, affecting approximately 130 employees, and ongoing layoff aversion efforts.
- He reported working with local employers to identify new positions for affected workers, including electrical technician, boiler operator, and supervisory roles.
- Dave is coordinating a layoff aversion job fair planned for late September.
- He also mentioned an upcoming virtual job recruitment event with Cooper Hospital for supply technician and patient representative positions, and potential recruitment opportunities with EMR.
- Jeff agreed to help identify additional local employers to participate in the layoff aversion job fair.

Camden County College/Derena Shafer

- Derena reported an \$850,000 federal grant awarded for automotive facility renovations to support a new electric and hybrid vehicle program at the Blackwood campus.
- The college radio station won two awards for excellence in communication.
- Derena announced her permanent relocation to Tampa in October, to be closer to her daughter following her husband's passing and requested that Kim Whitham be added to future committee meeting invitations.

Camden County Technical Schools/Lisa Lord

- Lisa reported on summer programming, including the 21st Century Summer Program and a camp for seventh and eighth-grade students, and noted applications submitted for new 21st Century and Aviation grants. ***21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) is a federally funded program that operates locally through state departments, offering free academic enrichment and youth development.*



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The One-Stop/Frank Ciri

- Frank reported that six resolutions were passed by the County Commissioners, including approvals for WIOA grants and digital literacy programs.
- He noted a potential hiring opportunity for approximately 20 factory workers at Johns Manville (in Berlin).
- Frank announced upcoming food distribution events across Camden County.
- Jeffrey provided updates on the GSETA conference in Atlantic City and the ongoing summer youth work experience program, which has placed 95 interns at various work sites.

Camden County College/Bill Moen

- Bill reported that the college submitted a \$1 million grant application to BlackRock and Jobs for the Future for trade training programs and is awaiting a response.
- The annual Workforce Development Day event will be held Friday, September 25th, at the Blackwood campus; invitations are to be distributed soon.
- A healthcare virtual reality suite, developed in partnership with SimX VR, will be unveiled at the Camden City campus in September.
- The jobs program with the New Jersey Judiciary has been renewed for the current fiscal year.
- A new restaurant, "Girl with the Grill," will open at the Camden City campus on July 18th.

NJDOL/Pavithra Lakshminarayan

- Pavithra reported on the South Jersey Manufacturing Partnership's quarterly meeting scheduled for August 27th and plans for an expanded "Think Manufacturing" event for both students and job seekers.
- She discussed ongoing work with the Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) and Board of Public Utilities (BPU) on nuclear energy workforce development and mentioned a potential shipbuilding apprenticeship program in Dorchester.

Mid Penn Bank/Xavier Roman

- Xavier Roman shared upcoming community events, including a Community Future Bankers Camp in Camden and a financial literacy seminar with the Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center.

Action Item	Owner	Due/Timing
Send the finalized invitation for the Camden County Workforce Development Day event (September 25 th) to Debra for distribution.	Bill	As soon as possible
Send the list of affected positions from the International Paper closure to Jeffrey.	Dave	As soon as possible
Coordinate on the Johns Mansfield job openings and facilitate employer	Dave	Before next meeting



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Action Item	Owner	Due/Timing
outreach. Connect with Adam Janney for outreach.	Frank	
Follow up with Ira Weissman and the Thomas Edison team on the NASA grant application status and report the outcome to the group.	Jeffrey	Before next meeting
Coordinate with Dave to circulate the list of affected International Paper positions to local employers for potential hiring.	Jeffrey	Before next meeting
Ensure Pavi is looped in and invited to the September 8 th regional workforce board meeting on Hanwha Shipbuilding.	Jeffrey	Before September 8
Share the registration link for the South Jersey Manufacturing Partnership quarterly meeting (August 27 th) with the group once available.	Pavithra	As soon as available

Event Schedule

- National Night Out events for Cherry Hill & Pine Hill: August 4th
- South Jersey Regional Workforce Initiative committee meeting: August 20th
- South Jersey Manufacturing Partnership quarterly meeting: August 27th
- Cherry Hill Mall Job Fair: September 11th
- Regional collaborative meeting with Hanwha Shipbuilding, Rowan College (RCSJ): September 8th
- Quarterly meeting (South Jersey regional workforce initiative): September 16th
- Camden County Workforce Development Day, Blackwood campus: Friday, September 25th
- Healthcare virtual reality suite unveiling, Camden City campus: September/TBD
- Layoff Aversion Job Fair: Late September
- Girl with the Grill " restaurant opening, Camden City campus: July 18th

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Frank Cirii, seconded by Lisa Lord. With a majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:38 PM.

The next BSOT meeting will be held on Zoom on August 20, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

The next quarterly Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16th at 9:00 AM on ZOOM.

Respectfully submitted by: Debra Vaughn, Executive Assistant