



**Juliet Milam, Chairperson**

**Michele Burns, Executive Director**

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CareerSource Okaloosa Walton  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 3, 2021  
Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:** Scott Seay, Scarlett Phaneuf, Bill Dillman, Pam Tedesco, Jack Azzaretto, Juliet Milam

**Not Present:** JeanAnne Encardes

**Staff:** Michele Burns

Juliet Milam called the meeting to order at 9:00.

Juliet presented the minutes from the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting. Motion by Jack Azzaretto and seconded by Bill Dillman to approve the minutes as presented. All Ayes.

Michele Burns then updated the committee on the following:

Year to date we have placed 272 customers in jobs compared to 831 last year. The work search requirement has been extended to April 24<sup>th</sup>.

In February we were 10<sup>th</sup> in the state for job placements as we placed 31 that month. Speaks volumes to what this team is doing with our size compared to others.

Discussed the new HB 1507 and HB 1505 and the companion bill SB98. CareerSource Florida and the lobbyist hired by FWDA are continuing to watch these bills.

Discussed concern over the turnover and what we could do to retain staff. Sarah Ambriz our public relations and communications staff member just resigned along with one of our MFEA staff. Michele asked the committee to consider a 3.5% increase for all staff that have been here more than 6 months. Lots of discussion and Bill Dillman made a motion to approve all staff regardless of time getting the increase and Jack Azzaretto made a second. All Ayes. The changes will be made today to effect this pay period.

Michele also discussed paying 100% of employees Insurance as this was a benefit that was taking away a number of years back. This would also increase the stipend that employees receive that do not take our insurance. This would be in effect until June 30<sup>th</sup> and then extended if the budget would allow. After much discussion the committee decided to table this idea and it can be brought up at a later date if funds are still available. The biggest concern was that it would be perceived as negative if we have to take the money or the benefit away as early as June 30<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

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