



**Roger Jones**  
Chairman



**Rosemary McFadden**  
Vice-Chair

## **Hudson County Workforce Development Board March 10, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes**

Call to order, Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Roger Jones called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

### **Attendees:**

Sharita Brown	Lori Margolin	Nuria Sierra
Dominick Belfiore	Tonya Keyes	Marilyn Cintron
Rosemary McFadden	Stacy Flanagan	Jenny Davis
Roger Jones	Maria Vallejo	Andy Huls
Aaron Falcione	Ana Quintela	
Darrell Laval	Sr. Roseann Mazzeo	

Chairman Jones announced that, in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meeting Act - N.J.S.A. 10:-4- 10, this meeting of the HCWDB was advertised and made public through the organization's website and the Feb. 27, 2025 Star Ledger and Kearny Observer.

Chairman Jones informed the board that there would be a presentation from the One-Stop Operator. Andy Huls introduced himself and said he is William Holt's direct Supervisor. He said he would be representing William Holt, who was out on leave. Andy Huls gave a general statement on the One-Stop Operator's responsibilities and said they would be submitting a report on the findings for Hudson County.

Chairman Jones asked Andy Huls to explain the importance of the ONE-Stop Operator to the board. Andy explained that the One-Stop Operator has many roles. The role is to be a liaison to the WDB but also an ambassador to all workforce programs through WIOA law. While the One-Stop is employed by Equus, it aims to be a liaison for all of the partners to collectively and collaboratively make a difference in the community.

Chairman Jones asked if the One-Stop Operator is collecting information and data as they move through the process, and evaluating the services of the partners. Andy Huls presented the One Stop Operator Monthly Report for February 2024, and explained the process to the board. He said they are continuing to work with all the partners to improve the collection of data so that they can determine continuous improvement efforts.

Darrell Laval said he referred William Holt to an organization in order to help reach out to people in the community who are in need, but William Holt never responded.

Aaron Falcione brought to Andy Hul's attention that the report said 2024 and not 2025, and asked for clarification. Andy Hul's replied that it was a typo.

Tonya Keyes asked when was the data collected and when was the report put together. Andy Huls responded that the data was collected recently, but sometimes the data takes a while to populate in the system.

Chairman Jones expressed that the board hasn't seen a lot of data from William Holts. Darrel Laval agreed that this is the first report they've seen so far. Chairman Jones added that William Holt has the responsibility to report back to the board his findings as he observes services that are being offered to their clientele. It helps the board make decisions on how the programs are succeeding. Chairman Jones said there is a disconnect between the board and the One-Stop operator, and that these are all issues that should be addressed in order for the board to have a clear understanding of how Equus is collecting and using data, and what that data is.

Andy presented data on the Title I program for Adults. He said the current data showed that out of 141 people who attended orientation, 35 enrolled in training and 5 were employed after training.

Hudson County Chief of Staff Jenny Davis asked about the outreach efforts of the One-Stop Operator throughout Hudson County. Jenny Davis said she was concerned about coverage of all Hudson County and it not being done by the One-Stop Operator. She said she offered to assist them with different contact points throughout the County, but it was not done at all. She asked that as they move forward, to establish a plan or process as to how they will cover all of Hudson County. Jenny Davis ended by saying she is more than willing to assist them with achieving that objective.

Stacey Flanagan said she believes that there needs to be contact points in Hudson County to give the clients someone to communicate with, make inquiries to the services available to them, and this doesn't exist. She said the One-Stop Operator needs to make a deliberate effort to be present in the community.

Jenny Davis said Equus has to provide a level of marketing and outreach to help build awareness. She expressed that they need to put a plan together as soon as possible, and to secure space to have a presence in the different areas of Hudson County.

Andy Huls said they will do a better job of addressing all of the board's concerns.

Maria Vallejo then gave a summary on why the board was seeing information at this points from Equus.

Michael Salazar, Equus' Director of WIOA, gave an overview of the referral tool and system that they are using (AOSOS). He said they have some access to AOSOS, but not total access. Chairman Jones requested that moving forward, Equus present a report to the board at each meeting, and Michael Salazar agreed.

Nuria Sierra of the Hudson County Fiscal Department then went through the methodology of how funding is allocated and the process of how it is spent.

Chairman Jones informed the board that the Master Budget is still in the process of being finalized, and he will make sure everyone receives it when it is completed.

Chairman Jones also informed the board they they are still working on securing office space for the HCWDB, and will also keep the board updated on this.

Chairman Jones gave an update on the Executive Director position. He said Sharita Brown is in the process of resolving matters with her current position and they anticipate having her full-time with WDB soon.

Chairman Jones asked if there were any further questions. There were none.

With no further business, Chairman Jones posed for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion by Marilyn Cintron, seconded by Rosemary McFadden.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:12 a.m.