



Roger Jones
Chairman



Rosemary McFadden
Vice-Chair

Hudson County Workforce Development Board May 5, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order, Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Roger Jones called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Attendees:

Dominick Belfiore
Sharita Brown
Marilyn Cintron
Joan Desmarais
Esmeralda Doreste
Aaron Falcione
Cheryl Fuller

Robyn Gardner-Garland
William Holt
Roger Jones
Darrell Laval
Lori Margolin
Frank Mazza

Michael Salazar
Nuria Sierra
Calvin Souder
Keri Sullivan
Nick Strasser
Maria Vallejo

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 Kearny Observer.

Chairman Jones re-introduced Sharita Brown as officially the new Director of the HCWDB. Sharita thanks the board for their support and patience.

Nuria Sierra reviewed the Master Budget with the Board. After much discussion, questions and concerns, the board's Legal Council Maria Vallejo explained all the options to move forward with the resolution, and it was determined that there should be a roll call vote.

Resolution No. 2025-17 Approving the program the HCWDB Master Budget in its entirety for Year 2024/Fiscal Year 2025 (From July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025), while disputing the legal propriety and appropriateness of the \$147,830 allocated to Equus as a "management fee" and reserving a decision as to whether those funds should be expended and issued to Equus until such time a legal determination is finalized.) Aaron Falcione made a motion to accept and seconded by Darrell Laval; Dominick Belfiore - approved; Marilyn Cintron - approved; Esmeralda Doreste - approved; Stacey Flanagan - approved; Roger Jones - approved; Lori Margolin - approved; Rosemary McFadden - abstained; Calvin Souder - abstained. Motion passed.



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Resolution No. 2025-18 Approving the Hudson County Workforce Development Program Year 2024-2025 Cost Allocation Plan. Motioned by Rosemary McFadden, seconded by Stacey Flanagan. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 2025-19 Approving a lease with Journal Square Plaza Urban Renewal Associates for office space at One Journal Square Plaza. Dominick made a motion to accept and seconded by Rosemary McFadden. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Jones opened the meeting to discussion regarding board committee positions. Alice Young from KPMG gave a presentation on board committee structure and positions, and asked board members to identify what committee they are interested in. Sharita Brown noted the importance and process of moving forward with establishing committees, future trainings and encouraged participation. Joan Desmarais of NJ SETC further explained how she will work with Sharita Brown in reviewing board compliance, composition, local plan, annual reports, and all requirements that SETC are required to help maintain.

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 Darrell Laval, seconded by Marilyn Cintron. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:20 a.m.