

Region 2 Workforce Investment Board
Emergency Executive Committee Meeting
June 30, 2022
11:00 AM
MINUTES

An Emergency Meeting was requested by Executive Director Melissa Bias by telephone conference. Those on telephone conference call were: Chief LEO Phoebe Harless, Andy Skidmore, Jim Hosier, Tommy Adkins; Brenda Hunt, Tim LaFon; Melissa Bias; Marsha Chastain.

Melissa Bias stated that the EXCEL contract through DHHR that's year to year and roughly \$886,886.00 and employs pretty much 60% of staff and helps fund our satellite sites. As of yesterday, June 29, 2022, no word if approved. Ms. Bias has been getting told it's in the works. So as of Friday, July 1, there is no official contract to start.

She stated that permission from the committee to move forward with using other funding for next 30 days. She also stated that her and Brenda had been working together and everything was submitted on time and there were no delays and there have been staff changes at DHHR. There has been no letter received stating that the contract will not continue.

Brenda Hunt stated that with full capacity of the contract, it takes approximately \$72,000.00 to run the program. Recently the average per month it's been between \$60,000.00 to \$65,000.00 to run the program. If they cancel the contract and receive no funds, that is what it will cost to fund through the Ticket to Work Program. If they reduced the contract, you have time to adjust. They have been notoriously late almost every year before on the first draw, but most part you usually know by July 1st that you have the funds available.

Tim LaFon asked if other people were competing for this contract and if the contract is awarded, is it retroactive to July 1st? What is status of unrestricted funds? If contract is shut down, will there be lay-offs? Melissa and Brenda answered all the questions.

Tommy Adkins is in agreement for using other funding for the next 30 days if ultimately approved and asked about if in the future, this grant fails to go through, what are the options.

Melissa is optimistic about the grant being approved and Brenda stated that most of contracts which are mostly rental have 30 day out clauses. Tim LaFon stated that they would have to give a full 30 day notice.

Tommy Adkins made motion to approve using internal funding to keep program going for the next 30 days. Seconded by Phoebe Adkins. Motion approved.

Melissa advised that she will keep the board advised when she hears anything about the grant.
Brenda advised to keep any expenditures only necessary expenditures until we know for sure on the grant.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Marsha Chastain