

**JOB TRAINING INCENTIVE PROGRAM
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

Joseph M. Montoya Building
Bid Room (Lobby)
1100 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM

MEETING SUMMARY OF July 12, 2019

ATTENDEES:

Board Members

Mark Roper – EDD Division Director - Board Chair
Michelle Doran – NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Marcos Martinez - NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Brian Tremko – Organized Labor
Frances Bannowsky – NM Higher Education Department
Marc Duske – NM Public Education Department

Board Members Absent

Louise Williams - NM Public Education Department

JTIP Staff Present

Sara Gutiérrez, Program Manager
Patrick Gannon, Marketing Coordinator
Jennifer Prada, Program Administrator

Guests

Lotfi Kasraie, Rhino Health, Inc.
Fred Shepperd, EDD Regional Representative
Thomas Casados, C4 Enterprises, Inc.
Jessica Casados, C4 Enterprises, Inc.
Lindsay Taylor, RDC
Peter Mitchell, EDD Regional Representative
Sandra Najera, Stampede Meat, Inc.

I. Introductions

The meeting convened at 9:00 am. The introduction of board and staff followed.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Bannowsky made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Doran seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Amendment(s)

Not applicable

IV. Proposals

a) Rhino Health, Inc. – Church Rock

The company requested a total of \$155,000.00 for 31 trainees at an average wage of \$11.86 per hour. Total request includes \$1,250.00 for audit fees. The company has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion.

The company provided an update on the status of the equipment, noting extensive retrofits of the facility and other factors have delayed initial production; stated that they are 90-95% complete and plan to begin hiring the latter part of August to align with the testing phase to begin the 1st of September.

A motion to approve the request in the amount of \$155,000.00 to hire and train 31 employees was made by Mr. Martinez and seconded by Ms. Bannowsky. Motion passed.

b) C4 Enterprises, Inc. – Tierra Amarilla

The company requested a total of \$30,520.00 for 4 trainees at an average wage of \$15.38 per hour. Total request includes \$1,000.00 for audit fees. This is the first time the company has applied for JTIP.

The company provided clarification on its structure and branding; described its processes; plans to hire 8 employees over the next 6-8 years; described the marketing plan and strategy; plans to become USDA certified within 2 years and collaborations with local businesses. The board commented on the wages, noting that they are greater than the minimum in the community.

A motion to approve the request in the amount of \$30,520.00 to hire and train 4 employees was made by Mr. Tremko and seconded by Mr. Martinez. Motion passed.

c) Stampede Meat, Inc. – Sunland Park

The company requested a total of \$1,082,309.44 for 220 trainees at an average wage of \$11.97 per hour. Total request includes \$2,250.00 for audit fees. The company has been approved for JTIP on two previous occasions.

The company provided an update on its marketing plan, noting it is in process of rebranding to remove the “meat” portion of the name and explaining that the Chicago plants are processing vegan and chicken products; described its plans to partner with Dona Ana Community College to create a Maintenance Tech curriculum for a Certificate program that will be offered to their techs and open to the public; expansion of production lines and new 2nd operating shift; their goal to get to 1,200 employees; their positive experience working with NM Workforce Solutions and plans to hold a job fair. Board members offered many resources/recommendations available through EDD/JTIP, DWS, PED and HED.

A motion to approve the request in the amount of \$1,082,309.44 to hire and train 220 employees was made by Mr. Martinez and seconded by Ms. Bannowsky. Motion passed.

V. Approval of the Minutes

- a. June 14, 2019 – JTIP Board Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on June 14, 2019 was made by Ms. Bannowsky and seconded by Mr. Martinez. Motion passed.

VI. Fiscal Update – Ms. Gutiérrez reviewed the fiscal report; went over some potential policy changes as well as asked for ideas and mentioned projects in the pipeline.

VII. Other (Discussion Items)

- a. The board discussed the wage requirements and how they might be updated. Staff will continue research on potential policy updates and policy will be an ongoing discussion item at board meetings when time is available.
- b. Next Board Meeting – August 9, 2019, 9:00 am-12:00 pm; Albuquerque, CNM Workforce Training Center.

VIII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Bannowsky and seconded by Mr. Martinez. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:17 am.