

**JOB TRAINING INCENTIVE PROGRAM
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

Virtual Meeting

MEETING SUMMARY of February 14, 2025

ATTENDEES:

Board Members

Mark Roper, Board Chair
Kelley Allen, OPEIU Local 251
Karen Huladek, DWS
Marc Duske, PED

Board Members Absent

Marcos Martinez, DWS
Monica Sandoval-Jonhson
Kathleen Sena, HED

JTIP Staff Present

Patrick Gannon, JTIP Program Manager
Avelina Borrego, JTIP Marketing Coordinator
Lynette King, JTIP Program Administrator

Guests

Robert Ritter, Founder & Owner – Knight Scientific Systems, LLC
Mari McDonald, Administrative Director – Paradise Power Company, Inc.
Justin Crowe, Founder – Parting Stone, LLC
Kelse Lightizer, VP of Production – Parting Stone, LLC
Tom Chepucavage, CEO – Flow Aluminum, Inc.
Alex Marucci, Owner – Higher Cultures, LLC
Kelley Coins, General Manager – Higher Cultures, LLC
Dan Hobbs, President – BiltWise Structures of New Mexico LLC
Wes Minster, General Manager – BiltWise Structures of New Mexico LLC
Hector Camacho, Director – Thyssenkrupp Materials NA, Inc.
Megan Joos, Administrative Support – Junctions Commodities of New Mexico, LLC

I. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. The introduction of the board and staff followed.

II. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Marc Duske and seconded by Kelley Allen. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Consideration of Proposals and Amendments

a) Knight Scientific Systems, LLC. – (Amendment 2025-0038)

The company is requesting \$19,693.96 for 1 trainee. Knight Scientific Systems, LLC is requesting to fill the position of Financial and Business Associate for this project. The positions are high wage jobs and are eligible for an additional 5% reimbursement.

A motion to approve this request was made by Marc Duske and seconded by Kelley Allen. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Paradise Power Company, Inc (Step-Up)

The company is requesting \$3,912.50 for 2 trainees. PPC Solar has been approved for JTIP Step-Up on ten previous occasions. Over the past several years, PPC Solar has seen an increase in business and has expanded their customer base from primarily residential to commercial, utility & cooperative, and schools.

A motion to approve this request was made by Marc Duske and seconded by Kelley Allen. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Parting Stone, LLC (Step-Up)

The company is requesting \$10,147.50 for 18 trainees. Parting Stone LLC has been approved for JTIP on five previous occasions, and this is their second Step-Up application. Parting Stone, LLC is requesting funds for training eighteen trainees in the Team Building Training.

A motion to approve this request was made by Kelley Allen and seconded by Marc Duske. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Flow Aluminum, Inc. (Step-Up)

The company is requesting \$7,250.00 for 2 trainees. Flow Aluminum has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion. This is the company's first Step-Up application. Flow Aluminum is requesting funds for training two employees in Metal-Air Battery Principles.

A motion to approve this request was made by Marc Duske and seconded by Karen Huladek. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Higher Cultures, LLC

The company is requesting \$39,260.00 for 6 trainees. Higher Cultures LLC has been approved for JTIP on four previous occasions. Higher Cultures, LLC is requesting funds for training sex employees in the following job classifications: Brand Support Assistant, Inventory Manager, Lab Technician (2), Packager (2). Hours for the position have been reduced because the minimum entry wages do not meet the requirement for full funding for the job zone.

A motion to approve this request was made by Kelley Allen and seconded by Karen Huladeck. Motion passed unanimously.

f) BiltWise Structures of New Mexico, LLC

The company is requesting \$1,255,164.00 for 103 trainees. BiltWise Structures of New Mexico has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion. These positions are high-wage jobs and are eligible for an additional 5% reimbursement.

A motion to approve this request was made by Marc Duske and seconded by Karen Huladeck. Motion passed unanimously.

g) Thyssenkrupp Materials NA, Inc.

The company is requesting \$252,630.00 for 21 trainees. This is Thyssenkrupp Materials first JTIP application. Positions include Plant/Warehouse Supervisor, HR Business Partner, Machine Operator 1 & 2, Quality Assurance Representative, Material Handler, Manufacturing Engineer, and Production Planner. Some positions are high wage positions and qualify for 5% additional reimbursement.

A motion to approve this request was made by Kelley Allen and seconded by Karen Huladeck. Motion passed unanimously.

h) Junction Commodities New Mexico, LLC

The company is requesting \$197,820.00 for 18 trainees. This is Junction's first JTIP application. The Administrative Services Manager, Industrial Production Manager, Scale House Operator, and Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanic are high wage positions and are eligible for an additional 5% reimbursement.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of JTIP Board meeting minutes for January 10, 2025 - a motion was made by Kelley Allen and seconded by Marc Duske. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Other Items

- a. Financial/ Fiscal Update by Patrick Gannon
- b. Legislative Update
- c. Policy Amendment Schedule
- d. Next Board Meeting
 - i. March 14, 2025; 9:00 am -12:00 pm; Virtual

VI. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Chairman. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.