



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 24-00223**

**Agenda Date: 3/26/2024**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Request Approval of the material terms of the new Six County CareerSource Interlocal Agreement**

**Presenter:**

Tommy Crosby, Assistant County Manager  
Phyllis Marty, Executive Director of CSNCF

**Description:**

Request Approval of the material terms of the new Six County CareerSource Interlocal Agreement and corresponding Chair Letter

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the material terms of the Six County CareerSource Interlocal Agreement and authorize a Chair Letter to transmit the agreement to the other five counties.

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

The expansion of services into 6 counties will be funded with WIOA and other grant allocations traditionally allocated to CareerSource.

**Strategic Guide:**

Social and Economic Opportunity

**Background:**

CareerSource Florida recommended to the Governor that several workforce areas be consolidated to minimize the duplication of services, improve consistency and maximize resources to enhance outcomes for businesses and individuals. As a result, CareerSource North Central Florida (which serves Alachua and Bradford counties as District 9) and Florida Crown (which serves Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, and Union counties as District 7) were recommended for consolidation.

The State has requested that, by June 30, 2024, significant local actions are taken to ensure:

- New local governance determined and in place across impacted boards and
- Operational transitions are underway

Alachua County staff have been meeting regularly with representatives of CareerSource Florida. The

meetings have been productive and many of the State's suggestions are reflected in the draft Interlocal Agreement. We furnished this draft Interlocal Agreement to the State for review and informal approval, but as of the date that this agenda item was prepared, we have not received comments back from the State. This draft reflects the material terms that Alachua County staff recommends to the Board.

General overview of the draft Interlocal Agreement (it is similar to the current Alachua and Bradford Interlocal Agreement, but of course has been modified to be accommodate 6 counties instead of just two):

1. Creation of a new 6 county local workforce development area ("LWDA") that will be comprised of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, and Union counties.
2. The new LWDA will be governed by a new six-member Council comprised of the Chair of each county commission or another commissioner appointed by that county's Chair.
  - i) The votes on the Council will be weighted to account for population and grant funding calculations:
    - (1) The Alachua County member will have five votes, and
    - (2) All other counties' members will have one vote each.
  - ii) Liability for disallowed costs will also be weighted based population:
    - (1) Alachua County 66%
    - (2) Bradford County 6%
    - (3) Columbia County 16%
    - (4) Dixie, Gilchrist, and Union Counties each 4%
  - iii) Quorum requirements are three members, which must include the Alachua County member.
  - iv) Items coming before the Council require a 51% majority vote of the quorum of members present.
  - v) Each county will have the authority to make a specific number of appointments to the Local Workforce Development Board ("LWDB").
3. Alachua County staff will serve as the Administrative Entity, Fiscal Agent, and Equal Opportunity Officer to the Council and LWDB.
4. The Chief Executive Officer shall serve at the pleasure of the Council and shall report directly to the Council, even though the Chief Executive Officer will be an employee of Alachua County.
5. The Council may hire its own attorney that will serve at the pleasure of the Council and report directly to the Council.

The Target Effective Date of the new Interlocal Agreement is July 1, 2024, but is contingent on the following events:

1. Approval and execution of the new Interlocal Agreement by all 6 counties;
2. The State of Florida designating/consolidating of the 6-county area into a new LWDA;
3. Termination of the current Interlocal Agreement between Alachua and Bradford counties and termination of the current Interlocal Agreement between Columbia, Dixie, Gilcrest and Union counties; and
4. Filing of the new, fully executed Interlocal Agreement with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Alachua County.

Upon the Interlocal Agreement becoming effective, Alachua County may need to hire additional FTEs to staff the Career Centers located in the former Florida Crown area. We anticipate these new FTEs will be funded by the various grants that will be awarded to the new LWDA. Alachua County staff are currently developing a staffing plan for those Career Centers. Overall, we anticipate that the new 6-county LWDA will operate similarly to our current operations in LWDA 9.