

EY Board Leadership Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00pm

Attendees:

AJ Temple (EY)
Amy Holloway (EY)
Dale French (staff)
Cory Weaver (staff)
Al Jones
Amanda Tart
Beryl Attah
Brandon Whiteman
Darlene Goddard
Theresa Flick
Robert Stermer

AJ Temple reviewed the purpose of the call and EY's role in the realignment process.

Attendees were asked to add 1-2 words.

Dale French discussed how local services are nimble and on-demand and designed around customer needs and eliminate bureaucracy.

Al Jones commented that he considers our services personal and easily approachable.

Brandon Whiteman commented how informed the board is kept by staff and mentioned the collaboration and work done with Region 9.

Amy Holloway asked for potential opportunities and potential challenges.

Dale French discussed efficiencies in finance and benefit agreements with Region 6 and need for rural services. He cautioned how smaller or rural counties could lose funding or services by merging with an MSTU.

Bob Stermer mentioned the challenges that will be created by mixing educational areas/providers. He also discussed it will be difficult to recruit more board members to be engaged in a large board.

Disallowed cost finding can also be more difficult to settle between counties when dealing with a large area. There is also concern about staffing levels and whether there will really be efficiencies.

Al Jones stated that he would not want to serve on another board and have to re-establish the work that has been done locally.

Bob Stermer discussed the difficulty of getting board members to participate in meetings. Many of our board members have to drive 50-70 miles one way for a board meeting and a larger area will compound the issue.

Darlene Goddard seconded the comments by Al and Bob and stated that we are aligned by the state college system and should remain.

Dale French discussed inefficiencies created by lack of oversight at the State level and bureaucracy created by checklists and check boxes in response to issues in other regions.

Al Jones stated that a smaller group is easier to manage and stay closer to our business customers.

Bob Stermer stated it would be best if reduction stayed to a minimum.

Al Jones asked what the cost savings would actually be.

Brandon Whiteman mentioned that benefit and administration costs can be a double edged sword when bringing more staff/boards under the umbrella.

Darlene Goddard explained that one of the biggest challenges she has experienced is when a previous employer grew out of area. This made medical coverage very difficult due to coverage.

Dale French discussed inefficiencies caused by systemic requirements imposed after 1 or 2 boards is reprimanded for their actions (ie. permission to provide a referral). He also discussed the lack of corporate knowledge at the state level and lack of support and expectation setting for policy and procedures.

Discussion questions: What regions do we work with?

Dale French discussed the COO, FOG and IT groups, Region 6 and Region 9.

Discussion questions: How has the geography of the region changed?

Dale French and Cory Weaver restated the move of Citrus County in the 1990s.

What 1-2 words describe your desired state of Florida's workforce system?

Collaborative
Efficient
Seamless
Personal
Customer-focused
Local responsiveness
Easy

Dale French thanked the board leadership for joining the call and reiterated the strength of our members that creates and environment of open communication, transparency and integrity.

Amy Holloway adjourned the meeting.