

**JOB TRAINING INCENTIVE PROGRAM  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

**Virtual Meeting**

**MEETING SUMMARY OF May 10, 2024**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Board Members**

Sara Gutierrez, EDD Deputy Division Director, Acting Board Chair  
Monica Sandoval-Johnson, STEM Boomerang  
Kathleen Sena, HED  
Michelle Doran, DWS  
Victoria Denise Ojeda, PED

**Board Members Absent**

Mark Roper, EDD Acting Cabinet Secretary  
Marcos Martinez, Department of Workforce Solutions  
Marc Duske, NM Public Education Department  
Karla Melendez, PED

**JTIP Staff Present**

Patrick Gannon, JTIP Program Manager  
Avelina Borrego, JTIP Marketing Coordinator  
Jennifer Prada, JTIP Program Administrator

**Guests**

Ndidiamaka Okpareke, Olive Tree Pharmacy, Co.  
Edie Dillman, B Public Prefab, PBC  
Carla Rachkowski, RDC  
Peter Mitchell, NMEDD Regional Representative  
Todd Bisio, LoadPath, LLC  
Anita Campbell, AREA  
Yuri Morales, NMEDD Regional Representative  
Kenneth Edge, Infinity Labs, LLC  
Hunter McDaniel, UbiQD, Inc.  
Nora Sackett, Director, NMEDD Office of Strategy, Science & Technology  
Paige Ryan, NMEDD Regional Representative  
John Zivnuska, Hoonify Technologies, Inc.  
Andrew Clark, Hoonify Technologies, Inc.  
Blake Canan, Hoonify Technologies, Inc.  
Thomas Stephenson, Pajarito Powder, LLC  
Dixie Colvin, Pajarito Powder, LLC  
Iliana Miller, Arcosa Wind Towers  
Shelli Harvell, Arcosa Wind Towers  
Karen Huladek, DWS  
Brandon Swim, Humble Brands, Inc.  
Shanon Jaramillo, EMPOCC, LLC dba Oasis Cannabis Company  
Kane Oueis, EMPOCC, LLC dba Oasis Cannabis Company  
Michelle Bolton, Intel Corporation

Frank Gallegos, Intel Corporation  
Michelle Smith, Intel Corporation  
Janice Izquierdo Mejias Genneysburgh, Intel Corporation  
Dora Dominguez, Intel Corporation  
John Garcia, Intel Corporation  
Fred Shepherd, Sandoval Economic Alliance  
Bill Hoermle, Vibrant Corporation  
John Elling, Molten Salt Solutions, LLC

**I. Introductions**

The meeting convened at 9:03 am. The introduction of the board and staff followed.

**II. Approval of the Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Doran. Motion passed unanimously.

**III. Consideration of Amendments**

**a) Olive Tree Pharmacy, Co. – Rio Rancho**

*The company requested a total of \$5,040.00 for 2 trainees at an average wage of \$15.75 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on three previous occasions.*

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The company stated that they are glad to be back, loves JTIP and refers JTIP to other companies; they just recently had their grand opening in the 2,500 sq.ft. part of the building and may lease the rest of the building as well; Ms. Okpareke will step out of the lead pharmacist position so that she can focus on oversight. Mr. Shepherd spoke on behalf of the company and fully supports this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Ojeda. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) B PUBLIC Prefab, PBC – Santa Fe**

*The company requested a total of \$8,960.00 for 1 intern at an average wage of \$28.00 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on two previous occasions.*

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The company stated that they are excited to add an intern to the project. Ms. Rachkowski spoke on behalf of the company and fully supports this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Doran. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Consideration of Proposals**

**a) LoadPath, LLC - Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$180,574.56 for 6 trainees at an average wage of \$53.83 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on eight previous occasions.*

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The company expressed appreciation for JTIP's continued support and stated that they have some interns that will be joining the company. The board members asked questions to which the company answered and went into more detail about some of the positions and what they entail. Ms. Campbell and Ms. Morales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) Infinity Labs, LLC – Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$292,571.96 for 8 trainees at an average wage of \$63.55 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on two previous occasions.*

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The company expressed appreciation for the opportunity and stated that they are excited for the Albuquerque expansion; are doing work for NASA and have had some challenges with finding qualified candidates. They are collaborating with external recruiters and internally by word of mouth. Ms. Campbell and Ms. Morales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sena and seconded by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

**c) UbiQD, Inc. – Los Alamos**

*The company requested a total of \$307,548.24 for 10 trainees at an average wage of \$53.86 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on twelve previous occasions.*

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The company stated that they have launched a new version of dots, which has sold out and is limited by production capacity; the partnership is going into a new phase now and is successful; they want to hire aggressively going into the fall; are looking to double in size in the next two years; are in the process of interviewing now and has two chemical lab technicians in mind; and a chemical engineer starts on Monday. Challenges with hiring have been due to hybrid roles, two offers were made, but no go. Ms. Sackett, Mr. Mitchell, and Ms. Ryan spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**d) Hoonify Technologies, Inc. – Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$131,446.96 for 4 trainees at an average wage of \$56.80 per hour. This is the company's first JTIP application.*

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The company expressed appreciation and stated that they were a recipient of an Office of Science in Technology grant in 2023; the whole ethos came from STEM; and they leased a new facility in 2023 which helped them to grow. Ms. Sackett, Ms. Morales, and Ms. Campbell spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sena and seconded by Ms. Doran. Motion passed unanimously.

**e) Pajarito Powder, LLC - Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$381,778.08 for 14 trainees at an average wage of \$47.94 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on five previous occasions.*

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The company expressed appreciation and stated that they received two grants in federal funds in the aggregate amount of \$20 million for new skills and capabilities and has an opportunity for additional grant funding; customer demand has dictated the need for additional staff; Ms. Colvin stated that she did the six day STEM

Boomerang program, which was great; they have been involved with higher learning education, she is on the technical advisory board at UNM; eight chemical engineers did a project for the company and will continue next fall. Ms. Sackett, Ms. Campbell, and Ms. Morales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

**f) Arcosa Wind Towers – Belen**

*The company requested a total of \$1,013,282.72 for 86 trainees at an average wage of \$23.80 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion.*

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The company expressed appreciation and stated that they are excited to be back and that they recently had their grand opening. Ms. Huladek stated that she has been working with the company since its inception, the market is robust and the company has the capacity to support further growth. She also stated that the company has a hiring event and tour on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Campbell and Ms. Morales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sena and seconded by Ms. Ojeda. Motion passed unanimously.

**g) Humble Brands, Inc. – Taos**

*The company requested a total of \$148,060.00 for 10 trainees at an average wage of \$24.25 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion.*

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The company expressed appreciation and stated that they have almost doubled sales since last year, the last time was in 2020 despite COVID; are expecting a 30-40% growth with mid 50-60 trainees by 2024; have been able to give raises and promotions just recently, due to their success and was able to do so last year as well. Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Ryan spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**h) EMPOCC, LLC dba Oasis Cannabis Company - Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$260,100.80 for 50 trainees at an average wage of \$19.28 per hour. This is the company's first JTIP application.*

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The company expressed appreciation and stated that they are on track to add 100 employees in retail and 40-50 in manufacturing and elaborated on their recruiting methods. Ms. Campbell and Ms. Morales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**i) Intel Corporation – Rio Rancho**

*The company requested a total of \$3,230,700.00 for 200 trainees at an average wage of \$47.50 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion.*

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The company expressed appreciation for the program and stated that they are well underway with the previous JTIP project. Ms. Campbell and Mr. Shepherd spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**j) Vibrant Corporation – Albuquerque**

*The company requested a total of \$257,980.80 for 11 trainees at an average wage of \$41.49 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on twelve previous occasions.*

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The company expressed appreciation for the program and the continued support. Ms. Campbell and Ms. Morrales spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**k) Molten Salt Solutions, LLC – Santa Fe**

*The company requested a total of \$73,422.72 for 3 trainees at an average wage of \$43.59 per hour. The company has been approved for JTIP on one previous occasion.*

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The company expressed appreciation for the program and stated that Mr. Bartram is now full time; are seeing real success in being able to hire locally; has an SBIR match and is in the process of transitioning to a full production company. Ms. Sandoval-Johnson suggested they may want to consider re-wording the admin role due to the duties they will be performing. Ms. Sackett and Mr. Mitchell spoke on behalf of the company and fully support this request.

A motion to approve this request was made by Ms. Sandoval-Johnson and seconded by Ms. Doran. Motion passed unanimously.

**V. Approval of Minutes**

- a. JTIP Board meeting April 12, 2024 - a motion was made by Ms. Doran and seconded by Ms. Sena. Motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Fiscal Update**

Mr. Gannon shared the fiscal report and the projects in the pipeline.

**VII. Other Discussion Items**

- a. Final Review and Adoption of Final Rule – a motion was made by Madame Chair to table this item to the May board meeting and was seconded by Ms.

Doran and Ms. Sena.

**b. Next Board Meeting**

i. June 14, 2024; 9:00 am -12:00 pm; Virtual

**VIII. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Madame Chair. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm.