



**Workforce Development Board
Executive Committee**
Watsonville Career Center, Computer Lab 1
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 8:30 a.m.

18 W. Beach Street
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 763-8900

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m., and a quorum was established. All participants attended in-person.

Committee Members in Attendance

Adolfo, Tracey
Delk, Marshall
Destout, Elyse – *Vice Chair*
Morse, Rob - *Chair*
Siegel, Carol

Committee Members Absent

Vereker, Dustin

Staff in Attendance

Diaz-Rivas, Brenda – Associate Human Services Analyst
Gutierrez, Elizabeth – WDB Administrative Aide
Kieu, Nathan – Business Services Manager
Paz-Nethercutt, Sara – WDB Sr. Human Services Analyst
Stone, Andy – WDB Director
Villalobos, Marcy – WDB Office Assistant

Guests

Dodge, Daniel – WDB Board Member
Becerra, Ivan – Goodwill Central Coast

MEMBERS:

- Rob Morse, Chair
Monterey Bay Epic Adventures
- Elyse Destout, Vice Chair
Photography by Elyse Destout
- Alia Ayyad
Center for Employment Training
- Christina Cuevas
Cabrillo College Board of Trustees
- MariaElena De La Garza
Community Action Board
- Marshall Delk
Santa Cruz County Bank
- Peter Detlefs
County of Santa Cruz
- Daniel Dodge
Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers
- Sean Hebard
Carpenters Local 505
- Carmen Herrera-Mansir
El Pajaro CDC
- Laura Holmquist-Gomez
Five Star Catering
- LeNae Liebetrau
Department of Rehabilitation
- Chris Miller
ScratchSpace, LLC
- Janet Nagamine
Hikari Farms
- Suzette Reushel-Divriglio
Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County
- Shaz Roth
Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture
- Eric Saavedra
Watsonville/Aptos/Santa Cruz Adult Education
- KatieSetzler
Palo Alto Medical Foundation
- Carol Siegel
Santa Cruz Seaside Company
- Raymundo Sumano
Sumano's Bakery
- Dustin Vereker
Discretion Brewing
- DIRECTOR:**
Andy Stone

Subject: Public Comment

None.

Subject: Chairperson's Report

Chair Rob Morse thanked staff and committee members for their hard work.

Subject: Action Items:

Item 1 – Approval of the November 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Action: It was moved to approve the November 1, 2023 Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Status: Motion to Approve: Carol Siegel
Motion Seconded: Marshall Delk
Abstentions: None

Committee Action All in favor, motion passed

Item 2 – WIOA PY24/25 Recontracting

WDB Director Andy Stone requested approval to re-contract with current WIOA service providers, Goodwill Central Coast and Santa Cruz County Office of Education and shared the proposed allocations for PY 24/25 (five percent cut). He shared that contractor staff vacancies have affected their expenditure capacities but have not had a negative effect on their program outcomes.

Action: It was moved to accept the PY 24/25 re-contracting recommendations, and recommend approval by the full Workforce Development Board.

Status: Motion to Approve: Marshall Delk
Motion Seconded: Carol Siegel
Abstentions: None

Committee Action All in favor, motion passed

Item 3 – WIOA PY23/24 Contractor Local Program Monitoring

WDB Sr. Human Services Analyst Sara Paz-Nethercutt gave a brief recap of the WIOA contractor monitoring results. Goodwill Central Coast did not have any findings but had date change requests. Santa Cruz County Office of Education had four findings pertaining to fiscal invoicing and a missing signature on an application.

Action: It was moved to accept the PY 23/24 local program monitoring reports as drafted by WDB staff.

Status: Motion to Approve: Carol Siegel
Motion Seconded: Elyse Destout
Abstentions: None

Committee Action All in favor, motion passed

Item 4 – WDB Officer Nomination Committee PY 24/25

WDB Director Andy Stone requested that members appoint a nominating committee to recommend a slate of WDB officer candidates for PY 24/25. Carol Siegel agreed to lead the nominating committee.

Action: It was moved to form a WDB Officer Nominating Committee and recommend a Slate of Candidates for election at the WDB's May 22, 2024 meeting.

Status: Motion to Approve: Marshall Delk
Motion Seconded: Carol Siegel
Abstentions: None

Committee Action All in favor, motion passed

Item 5 – WDB March 20, 2024 Meeting Planning

WDB Director Andy Stone asked if members had any topics they would like added to the March 20, 2024 Full Board Meeting agenda. Committee member Carol Siegel expressed her interest in selecting a Board member to give a five-minute presentation about their business/

organization and share some highlights. Chair Rob Morse suggested a breakout session for members to discuss topics such as: staffing needs, skillsets, layoff/turnover prevention.

Action: It was moved to direct that the WDB staff include the following items in the March 20, 2024 WDB meeting agenda: Board member spotlight and a Workforce Board member breakout session.

Status: Motion to Approve: Carol Siegel
Motion Seconded: Elyse Destout
Abstentions: None

Committee Action All in favor, motion passed

Subject: Report Items:

Item 6 – Plan Updates

WDB Director Andy Stone informed the committee that the Operational Plan Update and the AJCC Continuous Improvement Plan Update will be combined into one agenda item titled, Plan Updates.

Operation Plan Updates:

WDB Director Andy Stone reviewed the progress of each operational target. Highlights included:

Goal 1

- Identify strategies to better connect current and former foster youth to Workforce Services: Associate Human Services Analyst Brenda Diaz-Rivas shared that she is working on developing an action plan and putting together a training for staff and will be meeting with the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Program.
- Entrepreneurship: WDB Director Andy Stone shared that it has been a challenge to add an entrepreneurship training program for WIOA clients due to the vendor needing to have an accredited program. Referring WIOA participants to Venture's Futuro program.

Goal 2

- Conduct outreach to construction businesses: Business Services Manager Nathan Kieu shared that arranging meetings with construction businesses has been a struggle due to time scheduling and finding meeting locations.

Goal 3

- Increase awareness of WFSCC services: Videos of WIOA success stories for participants and business currently in progress. The employer chosen is the City of Watsonville.
- Draft and release the 2024 State of the Workforce Report: Report is currently on its second revision. All interviews have been completed and should be ready by May.
- Develop a WDB member orientation process: Chair Rob Morse shared his positive experience working with newly appointed Board member Suzette Reuschel-DiVirgilio. Rob suggested that the experienced Board member being paired with then new appointee be included in the orientation.

AJCC Continuous Improvement Plan Update:

The plan was provided to the committee and WDB Sr. Human Services Analyst Sara Paz-Nethercutt provided a brief update.

No action, report item only.

Item 7 – WDB Staff Updates

WDB Sr. Human Services Analyst Sara Paz-Nethercutt provided information on the launch of the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership (RERP) program, in collaboration with Cabrillo College CTE, the program offers certificates in the following courses: Phlebotomy, IT, Culinary Arts, Community Health Worker, Entry Level Construction and Basic Construction. Income eligibility requirements apply. The program is state funded (non-WIOA) and available to assist 32 individuals; currently 14 enrolled. Program runs through October 31, 2024 or once funds have been exhausted. Post program tracking of participants is managed through CalJOBS.

The Prison 2 Employment recently launched and will serve six justice involved individuals. The program is open to any individual that has experienced encounters with justice. Individuals will be enrolled in an OJT program and are able to earn up to \$9k in wages.

WDB Associate Human Services Analyst Brenda Diaz-Rivas informed the committee that ETPL monitoring is currently underway with six providers being monitored. Reports will be provided at the May Full Board meeting.

WDB Business Services Manager Nathan Kieu provided his updates in agenda item 6.

No action, report item only.

Subject: Committee Member Announcements:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

**Next Meeting: WDB Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 2024 @ 8:30am**