MINUTES

Member Attendees:
Leslie Wilkins, WDC Chairperson, and Chair, Maui County Workforce Development Board
Alan Hayashi, WDC Vice Chair, and Owner, Consult 808
Senator Jill Tokuda, Hawaii State Senate
Glenn Alcalde, Training Coordinator, Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund
Brian Nagami (Designee for Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa)
Susan Foard (Designee for Pankaj Bhanot, Director, DHS)
George Costa (Designee for Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho)
Leonard Hoshijo, Director, DLIR
David DeLuz, Jr., Chair, Hawaii County Workforce Development Board
Neil Gyotoku (Designee for Hawaii County Mayor Harry Kim)
Sean Knox, President, Hawaii Employment Services
Bernadette Howard & Scott Murakami (Designees for David Lassner, President, UH)
Gladys Quinio Marrone, CEO, Building Industry Association of Hawaii
Helen Sanpei (Designee for Christina Kishimoto, Superintendent, DOE)
Alicia Moy, President & CEO, Hawaii Gas Co.
Yvette Gibson, HR Manager, Talent Acquisition, Hawaii Pacific Health
Sheryl Nojima, President of Gray, Hong, Nojima, and Associates
Shannon Okinaka, Executive Vice President & CFO, Hawaiian Airlines
Edward Richardson, Major General (Retired), Owner, Edward V. Richardson, LLC
Yang-Seon Kim (Designee for Luis Salaveria, Director, DBEDT)
Tim Wong, (Designee for Jason Chang, Chair, Oahu Workforce Development Board)
Jason Ito, Director, Administration & Planning Kyo-Ya Management Company
Michael Kamiya, Sales Director, Kamiya Gold, Ltd.
Winona Whitman, Employment & Training Director, Alu Like, Inc.
Members Absent:
Representative Mark Nakashima, Hawaii State House of Representatives
Peter Biggs (Designee for Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell)
Bobby Ayonon, Chair, Kauai Workforce Development Board
Evelyn Barfield, Human Resources Business Partner, Hunt Companies
Glen Kaneshige, President, Nordic PCL Construction, Inc.
Ian Kitajima, Director of Corporate Development, Oceanit
Charles Shima, Training Coordinator, Plumbers Union Local 675
Dwight Takamine, Legislative Director (retired), ILWU
Barry Taniguchi, Chairman & CFO, KTA Super Stores
Brian Tatsumura, Owner, Briant 808 LLC
Sunshine Topping, Vice President of Human Resources, Hawaiian Telcom
Marian Tsuji, President & CEO, Lanakila Pacific
Beth Whitehead, Executive Vice President, CAO, American Savings Bank

Guests:
Nelson Higa, Office of the Attorney General
Debbie Miyao, Director of Adult Education, DOE
Raden Nagamine, Adult Education, DOE
Lyn Uratani, Oahu Workforce Development Board
Alison Lum, Oahu Workforce Development Board
Justin Sarce, Oahu Workforce Development Board
Lester Tanji, Adult Education, DOE
Lance Jyo, Adult Education, DOE
Phyllis Dayao, Research & Statistics Officer, DLIR
Cindy Adams, President & CEO, AUW
Norm Baker, COO, AUW
Christine Park, Adult Education, DOE
Bridget Komine, Assistant Director, U.S. DOL VETS
Maureen Bates, Administrator, DVR
Gordon Lum, Adult Education, DOE
Aadel Khandaker, EEO Officer, DLIR
Arthur Barba, Unemployment Insurance Division, DLIR
Elaine Young, Workforce Development Division, DLIR
Tammi Chun, Academic Affairs Program Officer, UHCC
Dan Miyamoto, Adult Education, DOE
Carol Kanayama, Workforce Development Division, DLIR
Anne Perreira-Eustaquito, Unemployment Insurance Division, DLIR

Staff:
Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
Jeanne Ohta, Special Projects Specialist
I. Call to Order

Chair Leslie Wilkins called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and declared that quorum was achieved with 23 voting members present.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Vice Chair Alan Hayashi motioned to adopt the minutes of the December 14, 2017 Board meeting. Sean Knox seconded the motion. With the amendment to correct the spelling of “COBRA” on page 5; the motion was adopted with 23 ayes, no abstentions, and none voting no.

B. Sean Knox motioned to adopt the Executive Session minutes of the December 14, 2017 Board meeting. Vice Chair Alan Hayashi seconded the motion. The motion was adopted with 23 ayes, no abstentions, and none voting no.

III. Overview on Aloha United Way’s (AUW) Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Report


ALICE is a report on the group of people in our community whose income falls above the Federal poverty line but is not high enough to live self-sufficiently. Asset Limited: Don’t have any assets to rely on should an emergency arise; Income Constrained: They are employed, however working 3 to 4 jobs, therefore do not have enough time to expand their education and advance their career; Employed: Employed, but do not earn enough to live self-sufficiently.

The report provided the average cost in 2015 to live in Hawaii as a single adult; for 2 adults with 1 infant and 1 preschooler; and what the percent change was from 2007 to 2015 compared to the 2015 Federal Poverty Level. It also showed the household data by county and the percentage of households are ALICE and at poverty levels.

Three organizations sponsored the research: Bank of Hawaii, Kamehameha Schools, and The Hawaii Community Foundation. These three organizations will continue to fund this research every two years.
A single adult needs an annual income of $28,000 (hourly wage of $14.00/hour) and 2 adults with an infant and preschooler needs $72,000 (hourly wage of $36.00/hour) to be self-sufficient without assistance in Hawaii.

48% of Hawaii families have income below the ALICE survival budget: 11% are below the Federal poverty level and 37% are above the Federal poverty level but below self-sustaining income.

More information from the report is available on the AUW’s website: www.auw.org.

The top 7 occupations (retail sales persons, wait staff, cashiers, office clerks, janitors and cleaners, maids and housecleaners, and food preparation and serving workers) even if both spouses work at minimum wage they don’t make ALICE.

A UH P-20 study shows: 67% of jobs in Hawaii require no more than a high school diploma. A master’s degree pays less than a bachelor’s degree due to the lack of demand for master’s degrees in the workforce.

A data comparison was shown between a head of household with a single male with children vs. a single female with children. 86% of single females are making less than they need to survive while 40% are single males.

Chair Wilkins thanked AUW for segregating county data and asked if they are willing to put together a Power Point presentation for each county’s local workforce board. AUW agreed and will also engage each local county’s AUW as well.

AUW said their focus is now on ALICE and prevention. AUW’s goal is to work with the community.

IV. Update on the Department of Education’s Competency-Based Program

A. Chair Wilkins updated members that since the last board meeting in December, Department of Education (DOE) officials have met internally. WDC staff met with the DOE Adult Education representatives to express the concerns of the members, and as a result WDC issued a policy on recording measurable skill gains in HireNet, as of February 20, 2018. The policy states that participants who start the competency-based program during or before the program year 2017 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018), who receive the competency-based diploma in PY 2017 or PY 2018 will be considered as having obtained a secondary school diploma for performance accountability purposes only.

B. Chair Wilkins introduced Dan Miyamoto, Administrator, Career Readiness Section, Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support, from the DOE to give an update on the
In 2014 the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law and out of the six performance indicators, two referred to secondary equivalency credentials. A secondary equivalency certifies a student has completed the requirements of a high school education. Both the GED and Hi-Set meet this requirement while the Competency-Based diploma does not.

A High School Diploma received in the community school equaled a High School Diploma. In 2013 the switch was made to the Adult Community School Diploma, which was a High School Equivalency Diploma; but since 2014, the Competency-Based Diploma program does not meet the requirements for post-secondary financial aid and the WIOA performance indicators.

What this means now is the Competency-Based Diploma is a high school equivalency however it does not meet federal law and the federal laws supersede Hawaii DOE policy. The adult school community must do some self-reflection on what serves the students best.

Questions and Answers:
What is it about the Competency-Based (CB) Diploma that the federal government does not recognize? Answer: It comes down to what is a secondary education and what is the common core standards and that CB diploma does not meet the requirements.

What proportion of students are affected that are already pursuing the CB Diploma and what is the plan for them? Answer: It is status quo and referred to Helen Sanpei who may be better able to assist with this question. The Principals are advising the students of the ramifications as they go through this program. Helen Sanpei, Principal of McKinley Community School for Adults, said they currently have transition counselors who have been establishing career pathways for each student for the past year or two in terms of their goals and requirements to achieve those goals. The students who are on the lower level have preparatory classes. They will be moved into the Hi-Set or GED.

What about students who earned diplomas before 2014? Have they been notified or do they need to be notified that their diploma is no longer valid? Answer: The only students affected are those applying for college federal financial aid who would no longer be able to qualify. The diploma would still be valid for college applications. Students would be able to work with the community colleges to apply for other non-federal financial aid.

How would this affect military service? Answer: The program has not changed so if the military accepted this diploma in the past, it would mostly likely continue to be accepted it unless the military is bound by federal regulations. Helen Sanpei added that the military changes their policies every year. One year they may accept the CB and other years not due to the quota they must meet.
V. New Business

A. WDC Chair Updates Relating to Board Governance for January to March 2018

1. Finance Committee Report

Finance Chair Shannon Okinaka clarified that there is a two-year span for each program year. For PY 16, the program funds are about to expire on June 30, 2018 and there is a substantial amount of funds to expend within the next 6 months. Any money not spent by the local areas by June 30, 2018 will revert to the WDC. For the past couple of meetings, she has been concerned about the funds not being spent and has worked with the WDC staff to understand how the local areas are budgeting and planning. She wants to make sure the local areas are aware of what funds they have, what funds will expire, what types of services they are anticipating and if the committee needs to help them find participants.

A member asked if there was an updated finance report. Shannon along with the Executive Director, confirmed it will be included in the next meeting. WDC and Shannon have been looking closer at the usage of the general fund allotment. The concern is for the funding with the Employer Engagement Committee and the PY ending in June 30, 2018. How is the budget being managed and how are the decisions to expend those funds being made? They will present that at the next meeting. Chair Wilkins acknowledged the Executive Committee is well-aware of the funds expiring date and has asked the Employer Engagement Committee to accelerate the fund expenditure. Chair Wilkins thanked Shannon for her work with the WDC fiscal staff since Kim Saito retired.

2. Executive Committee’s Reports and Recommendations


Core and Mandatory Partners updated their sections of the modified plan. The Plan was available for public comment from February 22, 2018 to February 28, 2018. Only one public comment was received. After review, the comment was incorporated into the Plan. TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) is also included in the modification. Jeanne Ohta provided an overview of the modification by areas and Chair Wilkins called upon the core partners to comment on their updates. DLIR Research and Statistics Division provided current information for the Economic Analysis Section. That section was entirely modified.
Wagner-Peyser: updates were made on the data for the agriculture plan as sugar is no longer manufactured in Hawaii. They now have three (3) apprenticeship grants compared to one (1) previously.

Adult Education: minor edits and the C-Based Diploma Program changes were made.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR): Major changes were made to the original plan. As of October 1, 2017, DVR has entered into an active order of selection which means they only have enough funding to serve their current clients in their active case (approximately 4,000). All new applicants will be placed on a deferred list (221 individuals). The State Rehabilitation Council helped DVR put together a mitigation plan. Since WIOA requires DVR to put aside 15% ($1.9 million) of their funding for youth and students with disabilities, this created part of the deficit as additional funding for adults was not provided. DVR is currently serving 47 students and will be serving 400 in the future. Asked about leveraging of resources, Maureen Bates, Administrator for DVR responded that the University of Hawaii has agreed to absorb the interpreter costs for the students; and anticipates working with WDD for their summer youth program.

Bernadette Howard, Director, Office of Career and Technical Education reported that they will be hiring two new positions: one will be dealing with workforce data and high school and community college career programs and the second will be coordinating work-based learning opportunities.

Winona Whitman, Alu Like Director of Employment & Training, commented they have set up more comprehensive services and have designated Hawaii County and Oahu as the employment and training services center. The other islands have only one staff member. In their Youth Program they have incorporated a Native Hawaiian job readiness employment preparation curriculum with workbooks, incorporating the English and Hawaiian languages as well.

Scott Murakami, University of Hawaii Community College, Workforce Development Director, was asked to share a letter on behalf of the members from the Connect to Career (C2C) Group which is supported by UH President Lassner, Superintendent Kishimoto, the Hawaii Business Round Table through Executive Director Gary Kai and the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce through Director Sherry Menor-McNamara. The letter asked the WDC to consider incorporating the C2C as part of the Plan.

Vice Chair, Alan Hayashi motioned to include the Career to Connect Group to the Unified State Plan. The motion was seconded by Sean Knox. The motion was adopted with 21 ayes, none voting no, and no abstentions.
b. Create a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to research and offer recommendations for a statewide layoff aversion system.

The Permitted Interaction Group will be established at the meeting by Chair Wilkins. Under WIOA’s mandate, the funding for rapid response and layoff aversion comes through the Workforce Development Council. The Executive Committee has established an interim plan. Allocating the rapid response services will be done in three (3) ways: 1. Maui and Kauai County’s rapid response service will continue to be provided by the Workforce Development Division (WDD) through a Memorandum of Agreement and will receive $50,000 for both counties; 2. Oahu’s rapid response service will be provided by the Oahu Workforce Development Board in the amount of $25,000; 3. Hawaii County’s rapid response service will be provided by the Hawaii Workforce Development Board in the amount of $25,000.

Members of the PIG Committee are: Executive Committee members (Chair, Leslie Wilkins, Vice Chair Hayashi, Scott Murakami, Glen Kaneshige, General Edward Richardson, Marian Tsuji, Sunshine Topping, Shannon Okinaka and Ian Kitajima). Chair Wilkins will represent the County of Maui, George Costa will represent the County of Kauai, and Neil Gyotoku will represent the County of Hawaii. The names of the members have been read into the record. No vote is necessary. The PIG and the scope of the PIG must be clear. The PIG is to investigate statewide layoff aversion issues, including but not limited to: how government can help employers, why would employers look to government for help. There are to be three meetings, this current meeting counts as one. There must be fewer than 16 bodies serving on the PIG committee. The committee will hold discussions, investigations and looking at best practices. The committee has no authority in making decisions. The next meeting will be about the discovery and findings from the committee. At the last meeting, any policy decisions will be made from the findings and discussions at the PIG meetings.

3. Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee
Chair Wilkins amended the agenda to allow General Edward Richardson to report. The committee is working with transition managers for all services. Specific areas are: licensing for nurses, emergency medical technicians, and commercial driver’s licensing. He will meet with Hawaiian Airlines to speak about mechanics and pilots.

Returning to the agenda:
2. c. Summer Business Externship for Educators Program Approved

Chair Wilkins referred to the Business Externship for Educators Program flyer in the folders. (The flyer is posted at: https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2018/03/Teacher-Flyer.2.26.18.pdf) Sean Knox, Vice Chair of the Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee reported. A total of 25 teachers will be selected to participate from June through August. In September through November, the teachers will be able to implement the lesson plans in the classrooms. In January 2019 the teachers will be
share their experiences at the 2019 ACTE Conference and receive a $1500 stipend for participating. The program is sponsored by the Castle Foundation in partnership with HSTA, UHCTE, DOE, the Children’s Foundation and the Learning Coalition. The request is for WDC to provide a 50% match of funds of $18,750. WDC members are encouraged to participate as a business and identify potential businesses.

2. d. Business Services Framework Plan for Core Partners and Budget Approved
2. e. Request for Proposal for Marketing, Rebranding, Public Awareness to Businesses and Budget Approved

Vice Chair Hayashi reported the Employer Engagement committee met on March 1, 2018 and discussed the appropriation and allocation of $100,000 as the June 30, 2018 contractual date is approaching. By June 14, 2018, there will be an action report from the Executive Committee and the funds committed for both the Business Services Framework Plan and for the for Marketing, Rebranding, Public Awareness to Businesses

B. Executive Director’s Report on WDC Activities for the Period of January to March 2018
The report is posted at: https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2018/03/Executive-Directors-Report.pdf

Allicyn Tasaka, WDC Executive Director, introduced two new WDC Staff: Kathy Miyahira, Accountant IV and Elaine “Jiji” Masangkay, Budget and Program Analyst. Both have strong accounting experiences. Jiji will be working directly with Shannon Okinaka, Finance Chair.

Responses to the findings from the Federal Monitoring were submitted to the USDOL on February 16, 2018 which will be followed by a second response to address Kauai findings by the end of the month.

Jayson Muraki, WDC Staff, was invited to do a presentation for the Higher Best Practices Round Table forum in January. Thank you to Cheryl Cross from Booz Allen Hamilton for setting that up. Jayson also did a HireNet training for the Hawaii Employment Services staff. Sean Knox thanked Jayson for coming out and added they have offices on the neighbor islands as well as two on Oahu and the offices have used the HireNet system. The training was extremely helpful, especially to the neighbor island offices. It made them become more familiar and comfortable with the system and encouraged dialog within their team in what works well and what has been some challenges. Some feedback was that the applicants in the system were a bit dated and Jayson mentioned them that they are looking at ways to get more updated information. Allicyn announced that Jayson would be available to train any WDC business members.
In 2017 WDC staff conducted 97 meetings on behalf of the board. These meetings include the board, committee, core and mandatory and the monthly phone conference calls with the local Workforce Development Boards.

Chair Wilkins commented that she and Allicyn went to Washington, D.C. for the National Governors Association (NGA) Winter Meeting where they could discuss with other board chairs and executive directors about lessons learned, looking at ways to solve issues, and more importantly communication. She thanked the WDC staff for being that communication link so that they do not breach the Sunshine Law.

VI. Reports Related to WIOA

A. Program Highlights from Each County’s Workforce Development Board for January to March 2018

1. Hawaii County Workforce Development Board

Chair David De Luz Jr. expressed concerns about the limitations on their budget and has reevaluated how money is spent on the WDD side. Having challenges on getting their AJC set-up and asked for WDC’s help. The have possibly found a place for the AJC however, the challenge is how to sustain the office. He is concerned that they will not be in compliance unless they get additional funding from WDC and the issues has been addressed previously. Chair Wilkins commented that this is not unique as the neighbor islands as well as the mainland have the same concerns and issues.

2. Kauai Workforce Development Board

George Costa as Mayor Bernard Carvalho’s representative reported about the 17 federal findings. The Youth Service provider backed out at the end of 2016 and as the KWDB was already in the process of conducting a Request for Proposal (RFP). After discussing the issue during their visit, the Region 6 staff recommended conducting an Request for Information (RFI). Upon completion of the RFI, 3 organizations expressed interest. After issuing the RFP, none submitted a proposal. A mainland company applied but did not qualify. KWDB will negotiate with 1 of the 5 proposers. No funds have been spent on their Youth program for more than a year. Of the 17 findings, 12 have been addressed, 5 are on-going, 3 are administrative to be completed within the next two weeks, as well as obtaining a youth provider and establishing a compliant AJC. After conducting an RFP for the One Stop Operator,
there were no applicants. Kauai Mayor designated George Costa as the One Stop Operator. Due to the required firewall, Kaeo Bradford now reports to the Mayor of Kauai. George will staff the AJC 4 hours a day along with Randy Francisco, the Film Commissioner, who will staff the other 4 hours. Out of the 9 partners, 5 responded, 2 will be in the center for only 8 hours (4 hours on the 2nd Tuesday and 4 hours on the 4th Tuesday of the month) out of the 160 hours per month, and the others stated they would Skype instead of being in the center.

2. Maui Workforce Development Board

Chair Wilkins reported there is consensus on the MOU with all partners and they are awaiting signatures. The current AJC is temporary and long-term possibilities are being researched. The McKinley High School for Adults offered to be a location. The next quarterly meeting is in April. Brian Nagami, Executive Director, Maui WDB commented that the neighbor islands are working well together even though all are experiencing their own challenges. Chair Wilkins added all are working collaboratively and positively.

3. Oahu Workforce Development Board

Alison Lum, Executive Director for the Oahu Workforce Development Board, reported they are now up to 20 partners. All the edits in the MOU have been made and are awaiting signatures. The IFA is presenting challenges.

B. WIOA Core Partner Updates for January to March 2018

1. Adult Education and Career Pathways

Helen Sanpei thanked Dan Miyamoto for his presentation. Scott Murakami wanted to thank George Costa and WDD as they have worked out a new system to address the high cancellation rate with courses because of low enrollment. Calvin Shirai suggested a sliding tuition scale depending on the number of registered students.

2. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Maureen Bates referred to a handout regarding their new Akamai Aware data tracking system. The unemployment rate for the disabled is around 12%, Hawaii is 25% higher than other states. DVR needs to cut $3 million in funding and in turn may not
be able to pay for costs and facilities in the AJC and will have to terminate facility leases.

3. Wagner-Peyser Act

Elaine Young reported having a difficult time with AJC compliance. WDD is currently working on rapid response activities on Molokai after the merger of Dow Chemical and DuPont.

C. Board Committee Reports on Activities of Committees for January to March 2018

1. Data Management & Technology

Committee Chair Scott Murakami referred to the Economic Overview for 2012-2015 for each county and statewide. These reports will be available every 6 months to show where the occupational opportunities will be. Counties may request to have a specific report run for them. He worked with the DLIR Research and Statistics Division on the data on restaurant closures as there were inquiries from several board members and will share the results at the next meeting.

The reports are posted at: https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/state-and-county-economy-overview-reports/

Regarding the single sign-on registration project, Scott Murakami, WDC staff, and DLIR’s EDPSO staff met with the Office of Enterprise Technology Service (ETS). ETS may have a solution that will bypass the procurement process and if so, the committee will start the implementation with the funds that they have.

2. Performance Measures & Accountability

Committee Vice Chair Marian Tsuji not present. No report.

3. Sector Strategies & Career Pathways

Committee Vice Chair Sean Knox reported the US Department of Education is developing public materials for its website. Hawaii is profiled to highlight the Career Pathways model.

Chair Wilkins reported the WDC Executive Committee disbursed $15,000 out of the State appropriation from the current fiscal year to each of the counties to continue their work in sector strategies and sector partnerships. On behalf of Maui, she reports that the funds have been transmitted. The Maui County Council must vote to accept money from the State. She thanked Brain Nagami for being so efficient in following that process.
4. Youth Service

Committee Chair Ian Kitajima was not present. No report.

VI. Announcement
   A. Meetings are held quarterly on the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m.
   B. The scheduled meetings for 2018 are: June 14, September 13, and December 13, 2018.

VIII. Adjournment
   Chair Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m.