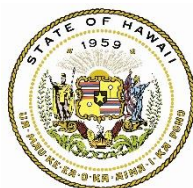


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ALAN HAYASHI  
VICE CHAIR

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

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**EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday, April 29, 2021**

**2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Online via Zoom**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority. The meeting was held remotely, with Board members and staff participating via an online meeting venue.*

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

- Glen Kaneshige, Committee Chair, Nordic PCL Construction, Inc.
- Brian Tatsumura, Committee Vice Chair, Briant 808 LLC
- Judy Bishop, Bishop & Co.
- Faustino Dagdag, Leeward Community College
- Lois Hamaguchi, UH-CTE
- Alan Hayashi, WDC Vice Chair
- Bernadette Howard, UH-CTE
- Jason Chang, Queen’s Medical Center
- Alison Lee, Department of Human Services Vocational Rehabilitation
- Deborah Leong-Yep, UHA
- Evan Nakatsuka, Lanakila Pacific
- Keala Peters, Chamber of Commerce
- Erin Yagi, Hawaii P-20
- Anna Pacheco, SMS Research
- Kaala Souza, Workforce Resiliency Initiative
- Paul Marx, Affordable Housing & Economic Development

**STAFF:**

- Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
- Harrison Kuranishi, Employment Specialist

- I. Call to Order.....Committee Chair Glen Kaneshige**  
The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Committee Chair Glen Kaneshige.

**II. Approval of Minutes for January 22, 2021 Meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2021 was made by Bernadette Howard. The motion was seconded by Faustino Dagdag. There were no amendments, questions, or objections. Evan Nakatsuka abstained. The motion to approve the minutes passed.

**III. Update on Rapid Response and Business Services**

Harrison Kuranishi, WDC Employment Specialist, presented an update on Rapid Response and Business Services, which can be found at the following link:  
<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2021/06/Employer-Engagement-4.29.21.pptx>

**IV. Update on the Workforce Resiliency Initiative**

Kaala Souza updated the committee on the Workforce Resiliency Initiative (WRI). The plan for the WRI is to ensure a digitally ready workforce, in conjunction with the private sector, by providing, training tools, resources, and opportunities for people to retrain and upskill. The pilot program begins on April 30, 2021. WRI collaborates with key training providers and partners such as UH Community Colleges, Adult Education, State Libraries and Online Programs. The Chamber of Commerce can assist the program with a landing page.

**V. Report from the Opportunities Population**

Evan Nakatsuka and Keala Peters presented the Opportunities Subcommittee update. The subcommittee identified the Micronesian population to engage with to promote Micronesians employees and youth. The goal is to connect the population with services provided by the American Job Center.

**VI. Overview of Draft Work Based Learning Guide (Employer Version)**

Erin Yagi, Hawaii P-20, presented an Overview on the Draft Work Based Learning Guide for Employers, which can be found at the following link:  
<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2021/05/WBL-Guide-Presentation-4.29.21.pdf>

**VII. Update on Sector Employer Partnerships**

Keala Peters and Anna Pacheco provided an update on Sector Partnerships focused on engineering, healthcare and technology which can be found at the following link:  
<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2021/04/WDCSector-PartnershipUpdate-to-Employer-Engagement-Meeting-for-4.29.2021.pptx>

**VIII. Brief Discussion on Pandemic Impact on Businesses**

Various members updated the committee on the adjustments that was made during the pandemic. Remote work has been successful and allowed multiple companies to hire employees living on the mainland. The construction industry was affected by supply and demand. Although the industry continued to have stable work supplies and inventory

were scarce which increased the cost of materials.

**IX. Next Meeting Schedule**

A committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the next Board meeting on August 12.

**X. Announcements**

No announcements were made.

**XI. Adjournment**

Committee Chair Kaneshige adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.