# http://www.hcee.org/state_seal_col.JPG

**DAVID Y. IGE**

GOVERNOR

**JOSH GREEN**

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

###### ALAN HAYASHI

###### VICE CHAIR

###### ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA

###### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 586-8630 Web: http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/

**military & veteranS affairs Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, June 24, 2021**

**10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

Online via Microsoft Teams

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

Ken Loui, Chair, Vice President, Pacific Marine

Ann Greenlee, Director, Hawaii Veterans Employment and Training Service

Alan Hayashi, Owner, Consult 808

Bridget Komine, Assistant Director, Hawaii Veterans’ Employment & Training Service

Debbie Nakashima, Program Manager, Work for Warriors Hawaii

Mike Quitania, Hawaii Program Manager, Onward to Opportunity, JBPHH

Mani Sehgal, Hawaii Pacific University, Dean, College of Professional Studies

Marie Calvo, Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Roman Galiki, Veteran Service Officer, Army Community Service

Schoen Safotu, Volunteer Coordinator, VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement

Melinda Gomez, Program Manager, Hiring Our Heroes,

Guyland Patton, DVOP Specialist, American Job Center

Irving Higa, DVOP Specialist, Oahu American Job Center

Ramon Ruiz, Local Veterans’ Employment Representative, Oahu American Job Center

**STAFF:**

Harrison Kuranishi, Employment Services Specialist, Workforce Development Division

Jarret Yip, Program Manager, Workforce Development Division

Carol Kanayama, Program Specialist, Workforce Development Division

1. **Call to Order**……………….………………...……*Chair Ken Loui*

The Military & Veterans Affairs Committee (MVAC) meeting was called to order at

10:30 a.m. by Committee Chair Ken Loui.

Alan Hayashi formally introduced new Chair Ken Loui.

1. **Approval of Minutes for the April 29, 2021 MVAC Meeting**

Committee Chair Loui requested a motion to approve the minutes. Ramon Ruiz moved to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2021 meeting. Roman Galiki seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

1. **Discussion on Committee’s Priorities for 2021**
2. Frequency of Committee meetings

The committee voted on continuing bi-monthly meetings. Bi-monthly meetings would allow quicker opportunities for feedback, information, and action.

1. **Information and Updates**
2. Military Spouse Subcommittee

There was no Military Spouse Subcommittee meeting. Roman Galiki introduced Schoen Safotu as the Vice-Chair of the subcommittee. A meeting date will be scheduled soon and circulated to the members.

1. Harrison Kuranishi reported on workforce activities, which can be found at this link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2021/06/WDD-Updates-RR-6.24.2021.pptx>

1. Ramon Ruiz provided an update on in-demand jobs for eligible veterans. Employers have positions available statewide. Enterprise has multiple positions available and accommodates veterans with disabilities. CVS Health has virtual internships, apprenticeship and other programs available for veterans.
2. **Announcements**

Debbie Nakashima shared the Governor signed HB 961. HB961 is now Act 018. Act 018 will provide a “streamlined” pathway for temporary licensure of a military spouse who is seeking employment with the State to waive the residency requirement. It also allows temporary and expedited licensure for certain professions. The spouse will be issued a temporary license to allow the person to perform specified services, with supervision if necessary, and shall not exceed the total time period of the license expiration or five years. The new law will take effect January 1, 2022.

Ms. Nakashima also noted that over 800 National Guardsmen will be off orders by September 2021. Over 300 of these National Guardsmen will be unemployed.

Bridgette Komine explained that re-employment rights are available if the servicemen were employed prior to receiving their orders.

Carol Kanayama announced that National Veterans Training Institute is providing staff training to Hawaii and Guam in August. The training has been offered to MVAC members and their interested staff.

Melinda Gomez reported that Hiring Our Heroes will be in Hawaii on October 26-28, 2021 to promote a three-day event. A formal flyer will be circulated soon.

1. Future meeting dates: 4th Thursday of the month, bi-monthly
2. Virtual meeting. Members meet on Microsoft Teams
3. **Adjournment**

Committee Chair Loui adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.