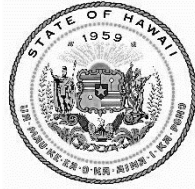


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO
DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MARICAR PILOTIN-FREITAS
ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 329
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
<http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdd/>
Phone: (808) 586-8877 / Fax: (808) 586 8822
Email: dlir.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov

**EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, April 14, 2022
1:00 P.M. – 2:30 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. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations office, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 329, Honolulu, HI 96813, was made available to the public and board members as an on-site location.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Brian Tatsumura, Committee Chair, Briant 808 LLC
Faustino Dagdag, Leeward Community College
Cary Miyashiro, Quad D Solutions
Ramon Ruiz, Oahu American Job Center Veterans Program
Linda Puppolo, Maui County Workforce Development Board
Gerald “Jerry” Schmitz, LandLease Corporation
Evan Nakatsuka, Lanakila Pacific
Dion Dizon, Hawaii State AFL-CIO
Shelli Ihori, Hawaii Pacific Health
Deborah Leong-Yep, University Health Alliance
Paul Marx, PW Marx & Associates LLC
Karen Arakawa, Maui County American Job Center
Erika Lacro, University of Hawaii Community Colleges
Maureen Bates, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Courtney Suma, Kapolei High School

Keith DeMello, Ulupono Initiative
 Rep. Jackson Sayama, State House of Representatives
 Jason Ito, Kyo-Ya Management Company
 Jackie Kaina, Kauai Economic Development Board
 Chels Chae, Dynamic Planning & Response
 Kaala Souza, Digital Ready Hawaii
 Derek Kanehira, Alexander & Baldwin
 Erin Yagi, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
 Alison Lee, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
 Sheryl Nojima, Hong Gray Nojima & Associates
 Cheryl Cross, Professional Advisor
 Warren Kawano, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
 Jason Chang, Queen’s Medical Center/Oahu Workforce Development Board
 Kelly Ueoka, Paxca

STAFF:

Allicyn Tasaka, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Harrison Kuranishi, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Carol Kanayama, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Jay Ishibashi, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Katrina Ramos, DLIR Workforce Development Division
 Daven Kawamura, DLIR Workforce Development Division

- I. Call to Order..... *Committee Chair Brian Tatsumura***
 The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Committee Chair Brian Tatsumura.

- II. Approval of Minutes for the October 21, 2021 & January 13, 2022, Meetings**
 - A. October 21, 2021, Meeting**
 Committee Chair Tatsumura requested a motion to approve the minutes for the October 21, 2021, meeting. Cheryl Cross moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2021, meeting. Faustino Dagdag seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

 - B. January 13, 2022, Meeting**
 Committee Chair Tatsumura requested a motion to approve the minutes for the January 13, 2022, meeting. Sheryl Nojima moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2022, meeting. Maureen Bates seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

- III. Report from the Opportunities Population Subcommittee**
 Evan Nakatsuka presented an update on the Opportunities Population Subcommittee it can be found at this link:
<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2022/04/Opportunity-Populations-Subcommittee-Update-4.14.22.pdf>

Deborah Leong-Yep talked about the mock interviews and Kinaole program at Farrington High School, and the problems that came up for the American Job Center.

IV. Status Updates on Committee Projects

A. Challenge to Employers for Digital Literacy Assessment TestingKaala Souza

Kaala Souza updated the committee on the Digital Literacy Assessment Testing throughout the state. The number of assessments given and the different organizations that have given out the assessments.

B. Workforce Development Division Updates

Maricar Pilotin-Freitas shared updates on Workforce Development Division projects including the statewide outreach program and the proposal of a new electronic Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program.

The IT internships and the summer youth employment financial literacy training were talked about and explained.

Ms. Pilotin-Freitas also introduced Chels Chae and the Hire Vets Medallion program, followed by a presentation by Ramon Ruiz. The presentation can be found at the following link: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2022/04/MVAC-Hire-Vets-Powerpoint.pptx>

C. Discussion on Committee’s Short and Long-Term Goals

Chair Tatsumura elaborated on some things that were talked about in previous meetings that could be goals in the future, including the digital literacy assessments, collaboration with the American Job Centers, keeping updates on the new WOTC program, and the outreach program.

Chair Tatsumura posed the question, “what can our committee do to help the employers?” to prompt thoughts on short- and long-term goals.

V. Brief Discussion on Pandemic Impact on Businesses

Cheryl Cross brought up the topic of resiliency training and asked a question to the committee: “How has the resiliency changed in the workspace?”

Deborah Leong-Yep brought up the usefulness of physical resiliency through the competition that was brought up by Elite Parking.

Sheryl Nojima talked about the Red Hill naval water shutdown and some problems that may arise from it and the change in water demands due to COVID.

VI. Next Meeting Schedule

The upcoming meetings are scheduled for Thursday July 14, and October 20th at 1:00 p.m.

VII. Announcements

Sheryl Nojima’s term as vice chair of the committee is coming to an end. Cheryl Cross will serve

as Vice Chair effective July 1, 2022. Chair Tatsumura thanked Ms. Nojima for her leadership on the committee and looks forward to working with Ms. Cross.

VIII. Adjournment

Committee Chair Tatsumura adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.