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HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT and FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Date: April 14, 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom

Agenda: The agenda was posted to the State electronic calendars as required by §92-7(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS")

Board Meeting Materials: Meeting materials are available for review at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/>

Attendees:

Sean Nakamura, Chair, Performance Management & Finance Committee
Sean Knox, Vice Chair, Performance Management & Finance Committee
Lea Dias, Vice Chair, Performance Management & Finance Committee
Chentelle Rowland, Executive Director, Maui County Workforce Development Board
Tasha Mahelona
Erick Pascua, Workforce Development Manager, Workforce Development Division (WDD)
Lei Ana Green, Job Training Specialist, WDD
Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Administrator, WDD
Rona Fukumoto, WDC Council member
David Miyashiro, Hawaii Kids Can
Ariel Nault, Accountant, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director, Workforce Development Council (WDC)
Jeanne Ohta, Employment Specialist, WDC
Tyrone Apolinar, Program Specialist, WDC
Margaret Miura, Program Specialist

- I. Committee Chair Sean Nakamura called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.
- II. [Video 00:05:06] Minutes for January 13, 2026, were approved as posted.

III. Reports

- A. [Video 00:07:11] Local Area Performance – Jeanne Ohta, Employment Specialist, WDC, presented an example of the Statewide Performance Report for Program Year 2024. See pages 21 – 32 in the committee packet.

Title I Adult – Jeanne Ohta

- Although we missed the target for the Adult Employment Rate for two quarters after exit, Employment Rate after four quarters after exit showed 75.3% retention rate of 140 participants throughout the state.
- Median earnings exceeded the negotiated target of \$7500.
- Credential Rate and Measurable Skill Gains also exceeded the target rates.

Executive Director Bennette Misalucha provided a summary. Overall, Hawaii is doing well except for credential attainment. WDD and WDC investigated the circumstances and WDD met with US Department of Labor. Factors that can have a big impact include working with small number of participants and results or data not inputted on time. As a result, the US Department of Labor will be offering technical assistance and providing advance warnings so we can address the situation before it is too late.

If failure in the same metrics occurs two years in a row, there are some financial consequences. The Fed could hold back as much as 5% of funding.

- B. [Video 21:27:00] Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grants – Ariel Nault, Accounting, provided the WIOA Financial Report.
 - Thank you to all counties for submitting reports on time
 - 9 Ready to Work invoices received are reflected under encumbrances
 - Transferring expenses from PY24 to PY23 to spend down funds
 - Rapid Response is still using PY23
 - Tracking Youth expenditures by county
 - We requested a waiver to reduce Out-of-school youth expenditures to 50% rather than 75% of the total appropriated for Youth. (50% Out-of-School, 50% In-School) If we do not meet the requirement, we are required to pay the federal government back these “disallowed funds” using general funds.

IV. General Appropriations (GA) Funds – deferred to confer with the Administrative Services Office

V. [Video 00:28:19] Executive Director’s Report

- A. Executive Director Bennette Misalucha provided a brief background on the 2024-2028 State Unified Plan Implementation
- B. The 2026-2027 Modified Plan was submitted April 3, 2026, ahead of the April 6th deadline, to the US Department of Labor. It normally takes about 60 days to review for approval.
- C. Accomplishments for First Quarter
 - i. We held four webinars on strengthening our ecosystem with presenters from Maine,

North Dakota, and North Carolina.

- ii. In collaboration with Hawaii Employers Council and the Workforce Development Division, the first Hawaii Internship Summit 2026 was held in March 2026. Individuals and organizations were chosen and recognized for various Internship Excellence Awards. Positive feedback and other indicators suggest this will become an annual event.

D. Focus for the second quarter

- i. Workforce Pell Working Group is developing the criteria for the Workforce Pell programs. A convening is planned for all the states in May to prepare for the July 1st implementation date. More information is to come.
- ii. We will continue to build strategic alliances with key community organizations.
- iii. Welcome “Ty” Tyrone Apolinar to the WDC staff.
- iv. Division of labor amongst the staff will be presented to the board once completed.
- v. Currently in the process of modernizing the ETP (Eligible Training Provider) List to make it more user-friendly and readily accessible.
- vi. Planning to procure services for employer engagement and research studies that will be presented to the board
- vii. The first of a four-part AI Symposium will be held April 30, 2026. Please sign up.

VI. [Video 00:35:32] Next Meeting

Scheduled for Thursday, July 2, 2026, 1:30 p.m.

Virtual Videoconferencing Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 830 Punchbowl Street,
Room 317, Honolulu, HI 96813

VII. The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Nakamura at 2:07 pm.