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HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**Date:** April 9, 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 Meeting (Link below)

**Participation:**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87598071787?pwd=7nsO9jzacDwa1FgrSHfUIx2QIbl6kH.1>

Meeting ID: 875 9807 1787

Passcode: 210776

Dial-in: +1 (719) 35904580

**Agenda:** The agenda was posted to the State electronic calendars as required by §92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”)

**Board Meeting Materials:** Meeting materials are available for review at

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/>

**Attendance:**

Carla Kurokawa, Committee Chair

Amber Akana, Committee Vice Chair

Lea Dias, Dias, WDC Board member

Michael Barros, Presenter, Hawaii Future Farmers of America, Career Technical Student Organization

Matt Stevens

Sherrie Garedo

Erin Nicole Fernandez

Vincent Kimura, Presenter, Agriculture & Technology Workforce Development Coordinator, Leeward Community College (joined meeting at 1:41 p.m.)

Lei Ana Green, Workforce Development Division (joined meeting at 1:41 p.m.)

David Miyashiro (joined meeting at 2:12 p.m.)

**Staff:**

Bennette Misalucha – Executive Director, Workforce Development Council

Jeanne Ohta – Employment Specialist, Workforce Development Council

Tyrone Apolinar – Program Specialist, Workforce Development Council

Margaret Miura - Program Specialist, Workforce Development Council

- I. [Video 00:00:00] The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by new Chair Carla Kurokawa
- II. [Video 00:07:10] Minutes were approved without changes
- III. [Video 00:08:00; 00:26:21] Presentations
  - A. Hawaii Future Farmers of America (FFA) - Michael Barros, State FFA Co-Coordinator
    1. FFA is one of 3 parts that address Agricultural Education: Classroom/laboratory, Supervised Ag Experience (SAEs), and Leadership (FFA)
    2. Challenges
      - a. Professional development for teachers
      - b. Staff support district and state events
      - c. Identify/coordinate industry partners for SAE expansion, work-based learning, internships, and ag science events
  - B. Workforce Development, Leeward Community College (LCC) – Vincent Kimura,
    1. Professional Development Courses
      - a. School Farm Manager Series
      - b. Farm Manager Series
    2. CDL Master Trainer program – Train-the-trainers concept
      - a. CDL and other skilled trades
      - b. Learn how to teach
      - c. Ag education
- IV. [Video 00:53:23] Executive Director’s Report
  - A. Update on the 2024-2028 State Unified Plan Implementation & Plan Modification
  - B. Focus for the new calendar year
- V. [Video 01:00:35] Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual Videoconferencing Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 830 Punchbowl Street,  
Room 317, Honolulu, HI 96813
- VI. [Video 01:01:43] Meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

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Reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities is available upon request. Requests for accommodations should be submitted via email to [Bennette.E.Misalucha@hawaii.gov](mailto:Bennette.E.Misalucha@hawaii.gov) or by calling Bennette Misalucha at (808) 586- 3018 (voice) as soon as possible. Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for Bennette Misalucha to contact the requester if more information is needed to fulfill the request. Last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to accommodate. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats.