

# **HAWAII HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE ADVISORY BOARD**

State of Hawaii

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

## **Minutes of Meeting**

Date: Wenesday, March 11, 2020

Time: 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Location: Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 329

### **Board Members Present:**

Scott Murakami, Chair, Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Aukahi Austin Seabury, Executive Director, I Ola Lāhui Rural Hawai'i Behavioral Health  
Lorin Kim for Bruce Anderson, Director, Department of Health  
Wesley Lo, CEO, Hale Makua Health Services (Teleconference)  
Laura Reichhardt, Director, Hawaii State Center for Nursing (Teleconference)  
Tetine Sentell, Director, Office of Public Health Studies, University of Hawaii  
Richard Taaffe, CEO, West Hawai'i Community Health Center (Teleconference)  
Kelley Withy, Director, Hawaii/Pacific Basin AHEC (Teleconference)

### **Excused:**

Lisa Radak, Dean of Health Academic Programs, Kapiolani Community College

### **Staff:**

Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Acting Administrator, Workforce Development Division  
Jay Ishibashi, Program Specialist, Workforce Development Division  
Phyllis Dayao, Office Chief, Research and Statistics DLIR

### **I. Call to Order**

With a quorum of members present, the meeting of the Hawaii Healthcare Workforce Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Scott Murakami at 1:38 p.m.

After opening the meeting, Chair Murakami explained to the board members and those in attendance that he will not be able to stay for the meeting and/but would like to provide the board with some direction and the department's goals and priorities for use of the allotted funding given the uncertainty of the current pandemic.

Director/Chair Murakami went on to explain that because of the Covid situation DLIR is prioritizing funds into areas that would have an immediate impact in helping the workforce and the economy. The department is looking to retrain those in industries impacted by layoffs/furloughs as soon as possible and get them in to industries such as healthcare (which has proven to be one of the more recession proof industries).

After questions arose asking for further clarification regarding the criteria outlined in determining the viability and acceptance of the proposals received; Chair/Director Murakami provided feedback as to what may work under the criteria and referred the board members to the priority areas (incumbent worker outcomes along with employment; improving employability; and post-secondary) to use as tools in evaluating and selecting proposals brought before the Board.

Chair/Director Murakami reiterated the funding priorities for the department and the criteria to use in selecting projects to fund in healthcare. He asked prior to turning over the meeting to Jay Ishibashi for the board to come up with their recommendations and to work with Jay to fine tune the selections and amount of funding over the next two weeks.

## **II. Approval of January 10, 2020 Minutes**

The approval of the minutes was moved to the end of agenda at which time Board member Laura Reichhardt moved to accept and approve the minutes of the January 10, 2020 board meeting as submitted to the Board; with board member Tetine Sentell seconding the motion. The minutes were accepted by the Board as submitted.

## **III. FY 20 Proposal Review and Recommendations for Budget Allocation**

Jay Ishibashi proceeded to share with the Board members the Chair Murakami's recommendation's on each of the proposals.

After hearing Chair/Director Murakami's suggestions to each of the proposals; the Board proceeded to review and discuss the merits of each of the proposals submitted using the criteria noted by the department. The Board further discussed how to evaluate the ramifications of interisland travel restrictions and the impact on the proposals.

### **A. Expanding Pre-Health Advising for High School and College Students**

Using the criteria outlined by the department, Director Murakami recommended not funding the proposal. After discussion, the Board agreed.

**B. Aiea High School Emergency Medical Technician Program (EMT)**

Chair Murakami recommended increasing funding to the tuition portion of the proposal as funding the equipment requested may not be a possibility. Jay Ishibashi spoke with the lead on the proposal who acknowledged having possible funding to pay for part of the tuition and equipment but would welcome an increase in funding for tuition. The Board agreed to the partial funding of the proposal with the increase to the tuition portion of the proposal.

**C. Nursing Workforce Development Program (Hale Makua)**

The program is pursuing partners to help fund a portion of their overall need for the program. Chair Murakami recommended using the Governor Ige's emergency preparedness proclamation to help with procurement. Pending the ability to use the Governor's emergency preparedness proclamation, the Board agreed to fund the cost request and increase the funding to the level proposed by Director/Chair Murakami.

**D. Hawai'i Solo and Small Practice Loan Repayment Program (JABSOM/AHEC)**

Chair Murakami recommended fully funding based on need and the past success of the program. The Board agreed.

**E. Medical Assistant Program (KCC)**

Chair Murakami recommended increasing the funding for this project if they can implement the courses quicker by moving to an online structure. The Board agreed to fully fund the request and add funds if the project is able to implement faster virtually. Jay Ishibashi will check with the project stakeholders and adjust to the board approved increase if the project can proceed as projected.

**F. Expanding Access to Evidence-Based Practice Education**

Laura Reichhardt furnished the Board with additional information on the proposal citing the need to make evidence-based practice education accessible and equitable for neighbor island nurses and their organizations. The nurses and their teams who go through this training would learn the process of identifying a clinical question, reviewing the expansive scope of literature related to the clinical question, assessing and grading the literature and developing an evidence based protocol for their organization and collecting. The Board agreed to fully fund the proposal.

**G. Waipahu High School Community Health Worker Program**

In keeping with the belief that travel and/or excursions may be limited or not allowed, the board agreed to fund the proposal but to remove the funding for the planned field trips in the proposal.

#### H. Telehealth Training Modules for Students in Health Science Professions

Using the department's criteria (more immediate impact), the Board agreed not to fund the proposal.

#### I. Farrington High School Learning Center

Jay Ishibashi explained that the proposal is requesting to purchase audio visual equipment which as written cannot be funded through these grants and is not in concert with the priorities set by the department for the use of the mini grants. The board agreed not to fund the proposal at this time.

#### J. Hawaii Sector Partnerships – Expanding Healthcare Internships

Using the department's criteria (more immediate impact) Chair/Director Murakami recommended not funding this proposal. The Board agreed not to fund the proposal.

The Board discussed and agreed on contingencies (prioritized) should a proposal/project not be able to use the funding in a manner that aligns with the department's funding criteria or if a projected funding source is not available. Board member Austin-Seabury motioned and board member Lorrin Kim seconded the motion to blanket approve the decisions of the Board on the healthcare workforce proposals received at DLIR for FY20.

#### **IV. Next Meeting**

The Board agreed to meet after the start of the new fiscal year to discuss FY21 proposal requirements, unless there is a need to revisit the funding for any of the approved proposals for FY20.

#### **V. Adjournment**

The Board meeting was adjourned by Jay Ishibashi at 2:43 pm.