

**HAWAII STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MEETING**

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 310  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Minutes from December 10, 2024

Held In-Person and Virtually on Zoom

**Members:**

**Employer Representatives**

Gregg Serikaku, Chair  
Jeffrey Durham (absent)  
James Hardway (virtual)  
Seunghye Hong (virtual)  
Cristina Vocalan  
Melodie Vega (absent)

**Employee Representatives**

Travis Murakami  
Rick Subiono  
Patrick Sullivan  
Francis Tau'a (absent)  
Aaron Tilton (excused)  
Terry Uyehara

**Public Representative**

Ellen May  
Caroline Soga (virtual)

**Public Attendees (Presenters):**

Eric Nadrasik, HETF Local 1186  
Dan Doerger, PCATT-Honolulu Community College

**Public Attendees (In-person):**

Eric Nadrasik, HETF Local 1186  
Dan Doerger, PCATT-Honolulu Community College  
Leyton Torda, IBEW Local 1186

**DLIR/WDD Staff Attendees:**

Maricar Pilotin-Freitas	Administrator, WDD
Leila Shar	Acting Program Officer, WDD
Edgar Fernandez	Program Specialist, WDD
Jaimee Tabangay	Program Specialist, WDD
David Min	Program Specialist, WDD

**I. Call to Order**

SAC Chair Gregg Serikaku called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Chair Serikaku conducted roll call of the SAC members; 10 members were present (7 in-person, 3 virtual). Aaron Tilton was excused. Jeffrey Durham, Francis Tau'a, and Melodie Vega were not present.

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

WDD Staff (Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Leila Shar, Edgar Fernandez, Jaimee Tabangay, and David Min) introduced themselves.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

The council reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on September 26, 2024. There were no objections or corrections to the minutes as presented. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. Reports/Updates**

**A. State of Apprenticeship Council**

- No updates from the Council members

**B. Workforce Development Division Report**

Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, WDD Administrator, reported the following updates:

- 5,406 registered apprentices in the State of Hawaii, as of December 9, 2024.
- For the period of October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024:
  - 1,621 newly registered and reinstated apprentices
  - 1,119 cancelled apprentices
  - 496 completed apprentices
- Compliance reviews were recently completed for the Hawaii Laborers Training Program on October 9, 2024, and the Hawaii Carpenters Training Program on November 26, 2024.
- USDOL withdrew its' Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on National Apprenticeship System Enhancements; it will not advance to the final rule stage.

- Debra Martinson left the Workforce Development Division, effective November 23, 2024.
- During Hawaii Apprenticeship Week 2024, there were 72 individuals who joined WDD on a bus tour of two registered apprenticeship training sites (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 675 in Pearl City and the Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund in Kapolei). WDD hopes to add more sites to the tour next year.
- Hawaii Apprenticeship Week 2024 held a virtual event which included presentations from several registered apprenticeship programs (Associated Builders and Contractors Hawaii, UH Manoa-Hawaii Behavioral Health Training Institute, and Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund). This virtual event allowed attendees from the neighbor islands to stay informed about apprenticeship programs.
- The USDOL will replace Apprenticeship Week next year, with an Apprenticeship Day on April 30, 2025. Council members were asked to save the date, as more information is forthcoming.

## V. **New Business**

### A. **Revised Standards of Apprenticeship for Wireperson Apprenticeship Program, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund (HETF)**

- Eric Nadrasik, HETF Assistant Training Coordinator, presented revisions to the Wireperson standards.
  - Section 4, Selection of Apprentices – Exceptions: On page 17, it was clarified that applicants possessing a certificate of completion in electricity or electronics, may qualify for direct entry if the program was a minimum of 2-years or 240-hours. The revision adds “240-hours” to keep up with self-paced programs that people complete online in less than 2-years.
    - Ellen May asked if the online programs are accredited or validated by an industry-recognized board.
    - Erik Nadrasik replied the State license is validated by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. All the online programs would be reviewed by the Apprenticeship Committee, prior to accepting apprentices into the program and granting them previous credit.

- Terry Uyehara added that the program’s curriculum is reviewed by Honolulu Community College.
  - Section 4, Selection of Apprentices – Exceptions: On page 20, it was specified that individuals from an industry-related, Department of Defense SkillBridge program may qualify for direct entry. This will make it easier for veterans to enter the trade and receive credit for the training they received in the military.
    - There were no questions or comments on this proposed revision.
  - Ellen May motioned for approval of the proposed revisions. Travis Murakami seconded the motion.

The members voted as follows:

Jeffrey Durham	(absent)
James Hardway	Yes
Seunghye Hong	Yes
Ellen May	Yes
Travis Murakami	Yes
Caroline Soga	Yes
Rick Subiono	Yes
Patrick Sullivan	Recused
Francis Tau’a	(absent)
Aaron Tilton	(excused)
Terry Uyehara	Recused
Melodie Vega	(absent)
Cristina Vocalan	Yes
Gregg Serikaku	Yes

**The Council voted to recommend approval of HETF’s revisions to the Wireperson Apprenticeship Program standards.**

**B. Review the IT Help Desk Support Technician Apprenticeship Program, Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training (PCATT), Honolulu Community College**

- Dan Doerger, PCATT Director, presented the new IT Help Desk apprenticeship program.
  - The program was initiated with funding from the Good Jobs Hawaii grant, which has already ended. PCATT wants to extend the program formally, into a registered apprenticeship program.

- 2,000 hours of on-the-job training will be required.
- PCATT will provide the related training instruction, in the form of CompTIA A+ (2 courses) and Cisco-certified support technician training. The employers can also choose from a variety of professional skills courses.
- Although there was only one employer (InTech Hawaii) onboard when the application was submitted, another one (Hawaii Tech Support) was subsequently added.
- The goal is to have each employer accept at least two apprentices.
- Recruitment will primarily be from the University of Hawaii system and the Department of Education. They are also targeting those looking to change careers.
  - Edgar Fernandez asked about the process of referring public inquiries regarding IT apprenticeship programs, to PCATT.
  - Dan Doerger replied that inquiries can be sent directly to PCATT, since they have staff to discuss the program details and provide guidance.
  - Ellen May asked about the costs an apprentice would incur.
  - Dan Doerger replied that apprentice costs would be related to the CompTIA A+ courses (about \$1200) and the Cisco support technician courses (about \$800). The employer could decide to pay for the courses as well.
  - Dan Doerger mentioned the courses can articulate into credits for an associate or bachelor's degree.
  - Ellen May asked if scholarships would be available for low-income apprentices.
  - Dan Doerger replied it would be the same scholarships offered to all university students, although there could be some limitations for non-credit students.
  - Maricar Pilotin-Freitas added that the American Job Centers in each county has funding to assist the low-income population, to defray costs such as tuition and support services.
  - James Hardway mentioned since the courses are on the non-credit side, the availability of financial aid would be limited. He asked if there was a plan to move to the for-credit side.

- Dan Doerger replied that it would be possible if the courses matriculated into a degree program, however, there are no current plans to do this.
- Travis Murakami asked if apprentices need to provide their own computers.
- Dan Doerger replied that PCATT has computers they can loan to apprentices, if necessary.
- Terry Uyehara asked if the employers would pay according to the wage scale in the standards.
- Dan Doerger replied the pay will increase from \$22.50 to \$25.50, once the apprentice is halfway through the program. Another pay increase to \$30.00 would occur upon program completion.
- Chair Serikaku asked who will track apprentice hours if they go from one employer to another.
- Dan Doerger replied their staff navigator and the mentor at the job site would track those hours.
- Ellen May asked if the employers can fulfill the apprentice-to-journey worker ratio of 3 to 1.
- Dan Doerger replied the employers who are onboard have committed to being compliant with the ratio.
- Travis Murakami motioned for approval of the new program standards.
- Terry Uyehara seconded the motion.

The members voted as follows:

Jeffrey Durham	(absent)
James Hardway	Yes
Seunghye Hong	Yes
Ellen May	Yes
Travis Murakami	Yes
Caroline Soga	Yes
Rick Subiono	Yes
Patrick Sullivan	Yes
Francis Tau'a	(absent)
Aaron Tilton	(excused)
Terry Uyehara	Yes
Melodie Vega	(absent)

Cristina Vocalan	Yes
Gregg Serikaku	Yes

**The Council voted to recommend approval of the PCATT IT Help Desk program standards, with the contingency that Dan Doerger submit revised standards to include both signatory employers (InTech Hawaii and Hawaii Tech Support). The current version lists InTech Hawaii only.**

**VI. Unfinished Business**

- None

**VII. New Business**

- Edgar Fernandez mentioned that going forward, SAC members will need to submit their New Business or Council Update items prior to the meeting date. The Office of Information Practices monitors and enforces the Sunshine Law, which requires discussion items to be on the agenda, to provide sufficient information so the public can decide to attend the meeting or not. If the item is not on the agenda, it cannot be discussed.

**VIII. Announcements**

- A. Chair Serikaku announced Terry Uyehara will resign from the Council, effective December 31, 2024, due to his retirement.

**IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 am**