

# FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING

Virtual Zoom Meeting

## MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2021 FWDB MEETING

### INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

The Foothill Workforce Development Board Chair, Dan Lien, welcomed the board members, staff members and guests and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

### Present - FWDB

Dan J. Lien, Chair, DJL Professional Services  
Salvatrice Cummo, Pasadena City College  
Tony de Trinidad, Painters & Allied Trades DC 36  
Hector Delgado, Teamsters Local Union No.396  
John Frala, Rio Hondo College  
Gene Hurd, UAW Local 509  
Denise McKnight, Department of Rehabilitation  
Betty McWilliams, Foothill Unity Center, Inc.  
Helen Romero-Shaw, Southern Gas Company  
Tom Selinske, FocusOut LLC  
Brenda Trainor, Frontier Trail, Inc.  
Laurie Wheeler, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

### Absent - FWDB

Keshia Bowen, Simply Divine  
Shomari Davis, IBEW Local 11 (Excused)  
Elia Evans, UEI College  
Flint Fertig, Monrovia Unified School District  
Steven Gutierrez, Rager's Abbey Flooring & Window Covering  
Robert Helbing, Air Tro, Inc.  
Victor LaGroon, City of Hope  
Sandra Mejia, M & R Professional Services  
Michael Wangler, Citrus College

### Staff Present

Dianne Russell-Carter, FWDB Executive Director, Alex Joya, Rita Magno, Julie McElrath, Sarah Mendoza, Rey Okamoto, and David Eder

### Guests Present

Denise Allevato, Employment Development Department  
David Baquerizo, ProPath Inc.  
Eric Duyshart, City of Pasadena  
David Shinder, Consultant  
Sho Tay, City of Arcadia  
Nona Yegiazaryan, Employment Development Department

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

M/S Delgado/Romero-Shaw Approved

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Dan Lien called the meeting to order at 9:10 am and called for the roll call of members and introduction of guests.

Chair Lien stated that Consultant, David Shinder, will be doing the presentation for this meeting. David Shinder will present and explain the EDD Directive WSD20-04-Local Area Modification Process

Chair Lien emphasized that the Foothill Workforce Development Board is doing a lot of good work and reiterated that FWDB is involved, not just in the LA basin, but in the entire state and region and FWDB is moving forward with the challenges of COVID. He thanked the board members and stated that the board members' commitment and involvement is the one of the driving forces for the Foothill Workforce Development Board to better serve the core clientele, the constituents looking for work and those seeking additional training. He also reminded the board members that any communication involving FWDB with the public should be coursed through Executive Director, Dianne Russell-Carter. He mentioned that there has been a continued movement and propagation of false information about the FWDB which has been publicly disseminated. He stated FWDB and the City of Pasadena is working on a formal reply to the false allegations and will be working on legal actions.

In closing, Chair Lien enjoined everyone to keep up the great work. He asserted that the FWDB has great partners and great board members and that FWDB is accomplishing a lot of exciting things.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director, Dianne Russell-Carter talked about the four (4) Beacon Journal news articles from Monrovia that contained so many mistruths about her role as the FWDB Executive Director with regards to the Intrastate Training Resources and Information Network (I-TRAIN) services that is being administered by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board. I-TRAIN is a centralized database system that offers an interactive, user-friendly and online electronic access to the Regional Training Vendor Directory (RTVD) for clients and it certifies the eligibility of training providers. It monitors performance and capacity of training providers and reimburses providers for actual training services provided to job seeker clients. Dianne explained that the City of Pasadena, FWDB Chair Dan Lien and FETC Policy Board Chair Rachelle Arizmendi are working together to send a rebuttal letter for these false allegations.

With regards to the I-TRAIN system, upon the suggestion of Board Member, Salvatrice Cummo, Dianne stated that she would invite SBWIB staff, Catherine Blaylock to conduct an information session about I-TRAIN for the Board members.


**PRESENTATION – OVERVIEW OF LOCAL AREA MODIFICATION PROCESS**

David Shinder, Workforce Consultant, facilitated the presentation of the California EDD Directive WSD20-04 Local Modification Process. He explained the background and policy and procedures of how the Local Area can apply for a Local Area Modification. He went through the Local Area Modification Request Process step by step from the Local Modification applicant submitting a Notice of Intent, then the application is submitted to the EDD Regional Advisor, and an assessment of the application is done, and finally, the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) takes action to recommend the approval or disapproval of the application to the Governor.

As part of the discussion on this topic, Board Member, Tom Selinske noted that he would want to see the data about services provided specifically in Monrovia. He also suggested that FWDB take a formal position with the Local Area Modification application filed by Monrovia. David Baquerizo of Propath suggested that the FWDB look closely at the application process done by Monrovia if it followed all the proper policies and process procedures needed to do a Local Area Modification request.

For the roundtable of announcements, Betty McWilliams of Foothill Unity Center announced to the Board that she was retiring on July 31, 2021. She stated that Tashera Taylor will succeed her as Executive Director of Foothill Unity Center.

Chair Dan Lien adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Signed:   
Dianne Russell-Carter  
Executive Director