

FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (FWDB) MEETING

Minutes of November 19, 2025 FWDB Meeting

INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

Chair Selinske called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. Staff member Raymond Delgado conducted the roll call, and a quorum was established at 9:11 AM

Present - FWDB

Tom Selinske, Chair, Owner, Selinske and Associates Consulting
Laurie Wheeler, Vice Chair, President/CEO, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Dan J. Lien, DJL Professional Services
Adriana Rios, Program Manager , Los Angeles/Coastal, EDD-Workforce Services (Alternate)
Keshia Darden, Owner, Simply Divine
Rachelle Arizmendi, President, Arizmendi Consulting Group
K-Rahn Vallatine, CEO, Inner Sun Consulting
Zachary Solomon, Business Representative, IBEW Local 11
Soyinka Allen, Program Director, Hospital Association of Southern California
Dr. Salvatrice Cummo, Vice President – Economic & Workforce Dev., Pasadena City College – 9:17 AM
Amy Foell, Workforce Development Consultant, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership – 9:25 AM
Anthony Angulo, Owner, Legacy Kenpo Karate

Absent - FWDB

Denise McKnight, District Administrator, California Department of Rehabilitation
Noel Tony De Trinidad, Business Representative, Painters & Allied Trades DC 36
Flint Fertig, Director of Adult Education, Monrovia Unified School District
Vicki Brannock, Senior Director, Workforce Strategy and Innovation Biocom
John Frala, Owner, Clean Fuel Education
Hector Delgado, Vice President, Teamsters Local 986
Gene Hurd, President, UAW Local 509

Staff Present

Michael Trogan, Sarah Mendoza, and Raymond Delgado,

Other Attendees

David Baquerizo – ProPath, Elaine Chapman – Pasadena City College
Donald Loewel – Pasadena City College, Jacqueline Sacoto – Pasadena City College

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Joint FETC and FWDB Full Board Meeting August 20, 2025, FWDB meeting were approved.

Motion: Zachary Solomon **Seconded:** Anthony Angulo

Roll call vote: Ayes- Unanimous (Selinske, Wheeler, Lien, Rios, Darden, Arizmendi, Vallatine, Solomon, Allen, Angulo)

Nays – 0

CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Selinske shared that he serves as an advisor for the Pasadena City College Foundation. He noted that the Foundation has been receiving grants to support Career Technical Education (CTE). One of its primary goals is to construct a dedicated building for CTE programs, with Harbor Freight identified as one of the major donors. Chair Selinske also announced that an informal brainstorming session for the Business Services Committee will take place immediately following the Full Board Meeting.

Additionally, Chair Selinske reported that during the recent Executive Committee meeting, key program metrics were discussed as areas of focus for the Board. Acting Executive Director Michael Trogan will provide further details later in the meeting. Chair Selinske requested input from Board members regarding which metrics they would like to track on an ongoing basis.

PCC SKILLS TO REBUILD – Dr. Salvatrice Cummo, Vice President, Economic & Workforce Development, Pasadena City College

Chair Selinske introduced the item and invited Dr. Salvatrice Cummo to present.

Dr. Cummo welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the following initiatives through a PowerPoint presentation:

- **Skills to Rebuild**
- **Summer Construction & Career Academy**
- **Rough Carpentry & Construction Trades Lab**
- **Regional CTE – Construction Training Center**
- **PCC College Corps**
- **America's SBDC California**

Following the presentation, Chair Selinske thanked Dr. Cummo and opened the floor for questions. Board Member Arizmendi inquired about ways the Board could strengthen partnerships with PCC's current initiatives.

Dr. Cummo explained that discussions have taken place between Acting Executive Director Michael Trogan and PCC leadership to explore collaborative opportunities. Mr. Trogan added that he recently attended a conference focused on fostering collaboration between community colleges and workforce development organizations.

Both Dr. Cummo and Mr. Trogan emphasized that the relationship between PCC and the Board is currently in the discovery phase, with plans underway to develop an on-the-job training program in partnership.

PROGRAM UPDATE – Michael Trogan

Chair Selinske introduced the item and invited Acting Executive Director Michael Trogan to provide the update.

Mr. Trogan referred to the program data included in the packet, noting that figures are current through October 30, 2025. He reported that staff has achieved 64% of the enrollment goal for individuals served.

Mr. Trogan highlighted improvements in training costs over the past two years:

- Two years ago: **\$6,000 per client**
- Last year: **\$4,200 per client**
- Current average: **\$3,200 per client**

He explained that staff has been successful in guiding clients toward training programs that lead to employment outcomes, emphasizing that higher-cost training does not necessarily equate to better results. The reduction in training costs allows the program to serve more clients effectively.

Regarding the Youth Program, Mr. Trogan reported that all goals have been met despite county-wide funding reductions. Meeting these goals positions the Board to request additional funding.

Mr. Trogan then reviewed geographic performance, referencing page 12 of the packet. Goals have been met for all cities served except South Pasadena, where efforts are

underway to follow up with attendees from a recent job fair to close the gap.

Turning to page 14, Mr. Trogan addressed priorities identified at the previous Board meeting:

- **On-the-Job Training (OJT)**
Progress has been slower than anticipated. Mr. Trogan encouraged Board members to refer businesses hiring unemployed individuals to the center. In response to a question from Amy Foell, he clarified that OJT is intended for full-time positions.
- **Sector Strategies and Apprenticeships**
Mr. Trogan noted opportunities to combine OJT with apprenticeship programs. The current federal administration is shifting toward a business-focused approach, emphasizing support for employers with existing apprenticeship programs rather than creating new ones. He highlighted Pasadena's MASH Program, which provides two-year hands-on experience for participants. The center now partners with the City to assist candidates with enrollment, coaching, and resources such as work attire. Chair Selinske requested outreach to other consortium cities to identify similar programs and suggested adding OJT reimbursement for those cities as a future agenda item.
- **Job Search and Direct Placement**
Mr. Trogan acknowledged support from David at ProPath in assisting clients with targeted job searches.
- **Expand Partnerships**
Plans include partnering with upcoming bootcamp cohorts, such as IBEW, to support participants with uniforms and tools until they receive their first paycheck.
- **In-School Youth Program**
The center will assist a cohort of youth through Pasadena Unified School District.

Chair Selinske thanked Mr. Trogan for the comprehensive update and opened the floor for questions. Board Member Amy Foell asked about funding follow-up. Mr. Trogan reported that the recent federal shutdown did not impact operations, as programs are forward-funded through June 30, 2026. He provided an update on federal workforce legislation:

- **A Greater Workforce for America Act** (introduced in 2024, vetoed by President Biden) would have required 50% of funding to be allocated to training and Support Services.

- The Act remains under consideration, alongside a new proposal—the **Make America Skilled Again Act**. State-level feedback indicates broader support for the Stronger Workforce for America Act.

Mr. Trogan emphasized that the situation is fluid and subject to change. He anticipates providing more definitive updates during the Board retreat in February.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Selinske introduced the item and noted that the discussion on federal funding ties into the Executive Committee report. He emphasized the importance of scheduling a Board Retreat to allow for a deeper understanding of key areas in workforce development.

Chair Selinske proposed holding the retreat during the next Board meeting in February, suggesting a four-hour session from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on February 18, 2025.

YOUTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Selinske introduced the item and invited Keshia Darden, Youth Committee Chair, to provide comments.

Ms. Darden reported that during the last Youth Committee meeting, Amy Foell presented highlights from the Foothill Consortium Graduation, where Foothill Workforce Development awarded stipends to 19 participants.

She also noted that the committee is currently working on developing a Mission and Vision Statement to guide future initiatives.

BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Selinske introduced the item and referred members to page 15 of the packet for the Rapid Response report. He announced that Board Member K-Rahn Vallatine will serve as the Business Services Committee Chair and will collaborate with David Baquerizo on committee initiatives.

Chair Selinske also reminded members that an informal brainstorming session for the Business Services Committee will take place immediately following the Board meeting for those who wish to participate.

He reiterated the importance of the upcoming Board Retreat, previously discussed, noting that with new and existing Board members and significant developments at the federal level, it is critical to invest time in exploring workforce development topics in depth.

Board Member Arizmendi suggested including the Policy Board in the retreat. Chair Selinske agreed and requested that the Policy Board be invited to participate.

FWDB MEMBER COMMENTS/ROUNDTABLE UPDATE

Chair Selinske introduced the item and invited Board members to share comments or updates.

- **Vice Chair Laurie Wheeler** reported on the recent Job Fair in South Pasadena, noting that over 105 job seekers attended and 22 employers participated.
- **Board Member Dr. Salvatrice Cummo** shared that one of the boards she serves on recently approved a new workforce education agreement and requested that FWDB be included in future discussions.
- **Board Member Amy Foell** announced that she was accepted to join a national Chamber initiative focused on developing high-quality curriculum for business leaders. She will represent the San Gabriel Valley and Foothill Workforce Development Board. Chair Selinske asked Ms. Foell to provide a handout with details about the Chamber.

Chair Selinske thanked all members for their contributions and adjourned the meeting at 10:34 AM.