Workforce Development Board (WDB) – Executive Committee

Date       Monday, August 08, 2022
Time       12:00 pm
Place      https://workforce-org.zoom.us/j/83851342954

WELCOME

Sammy Totah – Chair
- Call the meeting to order
- Non-agenda public comment

AGENDA ITEMS:

Item #1: Virtual Meeting Resolution
Item #2: Minutes of June 1, 2022 Meeting
Item #3: WDB Officers Vote
Item #4: Membership Nomination - Efrem Bycer
Item #5: Membership Nomination - Jamie Gardner
Item #6: August 18th WDB Agenda Review

ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address the committee on issues on this agenda (three minutes per subject) and/or other items within the committee’s scope. To speak, utilize the “Raise Hand” feature. The SDWP will provide accommodations to persons who require assistance. Questions: (619) 228-2301.
Item #1: Virtual Meeting Resolution

**ACTION ITEM – VOTE REQUIRED:**

Resolution recognizing a state of emergency and authorizing teleconferenced meetings pursuant to AB 361

WHEREAS, in response to the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic, Governor Newsom adopted a series of Executive Orders allowing the legislative bodies of local governments to meet remotely via teleconference so long as other provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act ("Brown Act") were followed; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a statewide emergency arising from COVID-19 pursuant to Government Code section 8625; and

WHEREAS, on Sept. 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, which immediately amended the Brown Act allowing governing boards to continue holding virtual meetings outside the teleconferencing requirements of Government Code section 54953(b), if the board makes a finding that there is a proclaimed State of Emergency, and either (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures, or (2) meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the emergency; and

WHEREAS, social distancing measures have been imposed and implemented by the County and City of San Diego to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Workforce Partnership (Executive Committee) believes the spread of COVID-19 poses an imminent risk to the health and safety of in person meeting attendees; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee is committed to open and transparent governance in compliance with the Brown Act; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee is conducting virtual meetings by way of telephonic and/or internet-based services as to allow members of the public to fully participate in meetings and offer public comment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and fully incorporated into this Resolution by reference.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee recognizes that a State of Emergency in the State of California continues to exist due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee recognizes that social distancing measures remain recommended by state and local officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Executive Committee authorizes the use of teleconferencing for all meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and all other applicable provisions of the Brown Act, for a period of thirty (30) days from the adoption of this resolution, or such a time that the Governing Board adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).
**Item #2: Minutes of the June 1, 2022 Meeting**

**Members Present**
Sam Totah (Chair), Phil Blair, Kurling Robinson, Althea Salas, Carmen Summers, Rick Vaccari

**Staff Present**
Peter Callstrom, President & CEO
Shaina Gross, VP of Client Services

**Location:** Via Zoom

All reports, memoranda and letters contained in the agenda or distributed at the meeting shall by this reference become part of the original minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Sam Totah at 11:02 am.

**Non-Agenda Public Comment:** None

**Action Items**

**Item 1:** Virtual Meeting Resolution

Motion: Executive Committee approves the virtual meeting resolution

*Moved (P. Blair), Seconded (R. Vaccari), Carried unanimously*

**Item 2:** Minutes of the April Executive Committee Meeting

Motion: Executive Committee approves the meeting minutes

*Moved (R. Vaccari), Seconded (A. Salas), Carried unanimously*

**Information Items**

**Item 3:** Finance/Accounting & Audit Update

Peter provided accounting and finance staffing updates and solutions in process. FY22 reconciliations are near completion and all reconciliations for FY21 are complete.
Item 4: June WDB Agenda Review

The agenda for the June 16th WDB meeting was reviewed. Shaina previewed her team’s contract renewals. The committee requested an update on the Career Center transition to be added to the WDB agenda.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 am.

Next Meeting: August 1, 2022 at 12:00 pm.
Item #3: WDB Officers Vote

Action Item (Vote Required):

Executive Committee to discuss and vote on Board Officers for the remainder of the program year (through June of 2023). The nominees will be brought to WDB for full approval. Officer recommendations are as follows:

**Board Chair:** Rick Vaccari  
**Secretary / Treasurer:** Carmen Summers
Item #4: Membership Nomination - Efrem Bycer

Action Item:

Nominator: Peter Callstrom
Nominee: Efrem Bycer
Employer: LinkedIn

Senior Manager, Public Policy and Economic Graph, September 2020 - Present
Manager, Public Policy Partnerships, October 2017 – August 2020

- Lead North America workforce development policy partnerships for the company working closely with government agencies, workforce development organizations, and think tanks.
- Develop and execute LinkedIn’s global sustainability policy partnership strategy, including
- LinkedIn’s participation at marquis global events, such as COP26 and COP27.
- Staff LinkedIn executives in their engagements with public sector leaders and business coalitions.
- Serve as future of work subject matter expert in the development and roll out of impact-focused products, including LinkedIn’s data portal for economic development organizations.
- Manage the company’s engagement with public employment services in the U.S. and around the world, resulting in the training of 5,000+ workforce professionals.
- Advise business units on economic development and workforce development opportunities regarding compliance, narrative, and feature alignment.

Why are you interested in serving on the SDWP board?

Serving as a member of the workforce development board would be a way for me to contribute to and shape a community about which I care deeply. It’s an opportunity for me to put my skills, passions, and networks to work toward an organizational mission that neatly aligns with my own. I share SDWP’s belief in San Diego’s potential while also realizing that our region has a long way to go to achieve the inclusive economy we envision. Working alongside fellow board members and SDWP staff, I’m confident I could help govern an organization working to bring that vision closer to reality. As someone who works at the intersection of labor market insights and how workers and employers empirically find each other and ultimately fill a job, I could bring a valuable perspective to the board that rounds out the presence of some of the region’s largest employers. Through my work, I’ve engaged with workforce organizations at the strategic level all the way down to how they deliver frontline services in the American Job Centers. As
SDWP navigates a changing economy and its new service delivery model having brought its career centers in-house, my expertise and experience could prove useful.

Workforce development is inherently a partnerships and networks-based endeavor within a complex marketplace of workers/job seekers, employers, and training providers. As SDWP seeks to build partnerships locally and nationally that will help it deliver on its mission, I’m excited to be an advocate and relationship builder who opens doors for the organization, strengthen its position as it seeks to develop and fund some of the country’s most innovative workforce efforts, and connects dots between SDWP’s work and an array of partners across government, philanthropy, nonprofits, and the private sector. While I’ve spent much of my career working directly with workforce development organizations, I haven’t yet had the opportunity to join a workforce board. Joining the board will provide an opportunity for me to learn and ultimately become more effective at driving impact for the causes I care about, driving positive employment outcomes chief among them. I expect to learn more about San Diego as a region, and I also expect to learn more about how workforce organizations work in practice. Knowing the deep expertise and passion that already sits on the board and within SDWP staff, I’m excited for what I could learn in addition to how I can contribute.

Please describe any other community involvement activities:

My entire career has included various forms of community involvement. That engagement in the community has helped me hone my skills as a strategic volunteer, influenced my perspective on the pressing issues in or community, and reinforced my desire to keep working to make a positive impact. Most recently, I focused my civic activities in San Francisco, where I lived with my family from 2015 – 2021. That service included participating in Code for America’s Workforce Development Advisory Board, the San Francisco Foundation’s Bay Area Workforce Funders Collaborative, and as a mayoral appointee on the Commission for Community Investment and Infrastructure (San Francisco’s redevelopment agency successor), among others. All of those activities has me squarely thinking about the populations served by SDWP and the various ways they need support, skills, and networks to access economic opportunity. Through this work, I engaged directly with low-income neighborhoods as well as senior leaders in the community. My engagement in San Francisco built upon years of civic engagement in San Diego. Service on the Head Start Policy Council at Neighborhood House Association remains one of my foundational and most meaningful civic experiences. I was able to empower and learn from Head Start parents on their journeys to become effective advocates for their children. I also launched and development BoardNEXT to train young professionals, particularly young professionals of color, in the fundamentals of nonprofit board governance so they could deepen their own involvement in the community. These experiences combined with committee service at the San Diego Foundation, United Way of San Diego County, Equinox Center’s Leaders2020 initiative, as well as working at the San Diego Regional EDC helped me develop deep networks and deliver impact across San Diego’s nonprofit, civic, and corporate communities.
My family and I decided that we wanted to make San Diego our forever home, the place where we will raise our three children. I’m looking forward to continuing my service to the community.
**Item #5: Membership Nomination 2 - Jamie Gardner**

**Action Item:**

Nominator: Phil Blair

Nominee: Jamie Gardner, M.S., M.B.A., SHRM-SCP

Employer: Watkins Wellness

Title: Director of Talent Acquisition & Employer Branding

Oversee the U.S. and Mexico Talent Acquisition Teams, building and developing talent strategies for these teams and business stakeholders supporting multiple, functions within Watkins Wellness. Lead the Talent Acquisition and Employer Branding efforts that includes recruiting strategy, process improvement, strategic sourcing, analytics, branding, and overall candidate experience.

As a member of the Watkins Wellness People & Culture Team, provide HR partnership to assigned groups leaders, developing and executing HR strategy in support of business objectives, while serving as the first point of contact for people leaders and employees in assigned groups to provide counsel, coaching and support on HR fundamentals and employee related questions.

*Why are you interested in serving on the SDWP board?*

As someone with a passion for community involvement and for helping people to start, advance, and in some cases re-start their careers, serving as a member of the SDWP Board is an exciting opportunity. I am a firm believer that people achieve fulfillment when they are able be engaged in a meaningful profession where they feel that they are able to bring their best to work every day, and they are valued. As a member of the Board, it would be a privilege to help members of our community achieve this.

*Please describe any other community involvement activities:*

I am presently a volunteer member of the Board of Directors with San Diego SHRM (Society for Human Resources Management), and have recently joined the Board for Hire Minds, a startup non-profit with a focus on supporting job seekers with mental health challenges and educating employers on issues of mental health in the workplace. Additionally, I work closely with the EDD supporting their Employer Veteran’s panels and lead a Veteran Success Workshop every other month. Lastly, I am partnered with the San Diego Veteran’s Council.
**Item #6: August 18th WDB Agenda Review**

**Discussion Item (No Action Required):**

**Action Items (Vote required):**
1. Virtual Meeting Resolution
2. Minutes
3. Officers Update: Chair and Sec/Treasurer
4. Board Membership Nominees
5. Foster Youth Subrecipient Award

**Information Items (No vote required):**
6. Faces of Workforce - Prison to Employment (P2E) Program
7. CEO Report
8. Finance Update
9. Google Certificates Update