

## **CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FULL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY**

**October 23, 2024**

The full meeting is available to view on the CWDB YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anvaUJ0Ck4Y>

Full meeting documents, public comments, agenda, and future meeting dates may be found on the [CWDB website](#).

### **Members Present in Sacramento:**

- Chairperson Dr. Imran Angelov “Angelo” Farooq
- Jamil Dada
- Secretary Stewart Knox, represented by designee Abby Snay
- Fabrizio Sasso
- Honorable Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo, represented by designee Ravi Kahlon
- Jeremy Smith
- Superintendent Tony Thurmond, represented by designee Carolyn Zachary

### **Members Present in San Francisco:**

- Dean Fealk
- Leonard Gonzales
- Floyd Trammel
- Gloria Young
- Secretary Kim Johnson, represented by designee Jim Suennen

### **Members Present in Los Angeles**

- Honorable Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, represented by designee Omer Sohail
- Diane Factor
- Jason Haider
- Hilary Lentini

## CWDB Staff:

- Kaina Pereira, Executive Director
- Emily Sunahara, Director of Operations and Program Implementation
- Jeffrey Jacobstein, Section Manager – Human Resources & Communications
- Myranda Love, Executive Analyst/Executive Directorate
- Ross Villegas, Communications Analyst – Operations & Program Implementation Branch
- Brooke Barnum-Roberts, Chief Counsel
- Ben McDonald, Deputy Counsel & Board Meeting Clerk
- Ashley Anglesey, Legislation, State Plan, and Policy Branch Manager

## Agenda

### A. Welcome & Opening Remarks

- A. Roll Call
- B. Call to Order

### B. Updates & Discussion

- A. Labor Agency Update
- B. Budget Update
- C. Legislative Update
- D. State Plan Update
- E. Potential Board Resolution: Standards for Infrastructure-related funds

### C. Action Items

- A. Approve August 28, 2024, Meeting Summary
- B. Regional and Local Plans Modification: Recommend Approval of North Coast/Humboldt's Regional Plan
- C. Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification: Recommend Approval of the City of Los Angeles

### D. Other Business

### E. General Public Comment

### F. Adjournment

## 1. Opening Remarks & Action Items

### A. Roll Call & Call to Order

- a. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 am.
- b. CWDB Deputy Counsel conducted roll call and found 12 members present and advised the Chair that a quorum was not present.
- c. The Chair advised that since a quorum was not present, the Board would not be able to vote on action items on the agenda and would proceed to Updates and Discussion.

## 2. Updates and Discussion

### A. Labor Agency Update

- a. Subject: Update from LWDA Secretary's designee on the Career Education Master Plan, which is the Governor's Executive Order to create a new master plan for career education and career pathways. There is draft plan expected in November and a final plan to be released in December. The State Board, the Workforce Services branch, and apprenticeship standards are issuing solicitations or preparing to issue solicitations such as the CWDB HRTP for Healthcare and the Opportunity Young Adult solicitation. Other solicitations include technical assistance, farmwork advancement program funding, and funding for supportive services in employment social enterprises.
- b. No Public Comment.

### B. State Plan Update

- a. Subject: Update from CWDB's Legislation, State Plan, and Policy Branch Manager on the State Plan and revisions. The State Plan was finalized and accepted by the Department of Labor (DOL) in June 2024, but the CWDB is currently restructuring the plan to further align with DOL's software. CWDB will be reaching out to partners in early Spring 2025.
- b. No Public Comment.

### A. Legislative Update

- a. Subject: Update from CWDB's Policy, and Legislative Branch Manager reported that only one bill affecting CWDB directly passed in this session, AB 2873. This bill changes the requirements on an existing program, Breaking Barriers, and does not provide any allocation for it in the future.
- b. No Public Comment.

### B. Budget Update

- a. Subject: No update.

### C. Board Member Questions to CWDB's Legislation, State Plan, and Policy Branch Manager

- a. No Public Comment.

### D. Potential Board Resolution: Standards for Infrastructure-related Funds

- a. Subject: Board Members provided an update on a draft summary of Standards for Infrastructure-related Funds that is not yet available for distribution. The draft is ongoing in collaboration with several other board members and the CWDB staff. Discussion regarding the goals and timelines in the future for submitting drafts followed.
- b. No Public Comment

### E. Additional Board Members in Attendance

- a. Board Members in San Francisco noted that two additional members arrived since roll was conducted.
  - i. Chair acknowledged that they had arrived but that a quorum was still not met.
- b. Board Members in Los Angeles noted that one additional member arrived.
  - i. Chair acknowledged the additions.

### 3. Other Business

#### A. Future Board Meetings

- a. The Executive Director proposed scheduling two meetings in 2025 in March and September to increase board member engagement as well as help meet quorum. Discussion regarding the future of the board meetings followed. Board Members commented that they would like to agendaize and vote on the frequency of meetings. The Chair acknowledged the feedback and said staff would follow up accordingly in the March meeting. The Executive Director announced that the CWDB will send out a survey to the Board Members to assess what the cadence for future meetings will be.
- b. Public Comment
  - i. 40:24 – [Sacramento Public Comment](#)

#### B. Additional Board Member in Attendance

- a. Board members in San Francisco noted that one additional member arrived.
  - i. Chair notes that the CWDB is still one member short of quorum.

#### C. A Board Member provided a report regarding the State Rehabilitation Council.

- a. October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)
  - i. The theme for NDEAM 2024 is “Access to Good Jobs for All” which is aligned with DOR's mission and statewide initiatives focused on equitable employment opportunities for all Californians. Disability inclusion is good for business – hiring people with disabilities helps employers expand their talent pool, strengthen the workforce, diversify the organization’s culture, increase employee motivation and reduce turnover rates. In addition, there are federal and state tax incentives for hiring people with disabilities.
  - ii. The Employer Assistance and Resource Network (EARN) offers information and resources to help employers recruit, hire, retain and advance people with disabilities and build inclusive workplace cultures. DOR is hosting a special free webinar, "Advancing Inclusive Employment," on Thursday, October 31 from 10 to 11 a.m. DOR Director Joe Xavier and California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot will discuss the progress, challenges, and

future of inclusive employment practices within state agencies and beyond. Register online at <https://bit.ly/3YaSiaJ>. Employers can connect with DOR's Disability Access Services (DAS) Section at [DASInfo@dor.ca.gov](mailto:DASInfo@dor.ca.gov) for information, training, consultation, and technical assistance to remove employment barriers for people with disabilities.

b. Updates to Section 188 Disability Reference Guide

i. The US Department of Labor, Section 188 Disability Reference Guide provides information and technical assistance that can help American Job Centers and their partners in the workforce development system meet the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements for individuals with disabilities in Section 188 of WIOA. In October 2024, the U.S. Department of Labor added amendments to the guide that include information on:

1. Affirmative outreach to diverse populations;
2. Effective communication to increase accessibility, including practices related to Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals;
3. Intentional inclusion of the use of newer technologies; and
4. Promising practices in design and delivery of services to respond to the needs of traditionally underserved communities.

c. DOR Student and Consumer Handbook

i. During the September 11, 2024, SRC meeting, DOR reported they are updating the DOR Student and Consumer Handbook, a guide that provides information on pre-employment and employment services. The focus of the updates is balancing regulatory requirements with usefulness of the handbook, utilizing plain language and a user-friendly question and answer format, emphasizing accessibility and gender neutrality, including information on Student Services, including DOR's Title IX nondiscrimination and Office of Civil Rights (OCR) contact information, and including contact information for counselors, the Client Assistance Program, and DOR's District Offices.

d. No Public Comment.

D. The Executive Director noted that based on board member engagement in the discussion of board meeting cadence, a survey would be sent to the board to determine what cadence members believe would maximize participation. Discussion followed regarding the size of the Board and how quorum requirements are affected by the legislative requirements of the composition of the Board.

## 4. General Public Comments

- A. No public comment received at Sacramento, San Francisco, and Los Angeles Locations, or via Email.

## 5. Adjournment

- A. All CWDB business without quorum having concluded, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

## 6. Zoom Comments

10:11:55 From DLA Piper San Francisco to Everyone:

Floyd Trammell is attending in person at the San Francisco location

10:17:18 From DLA Piper San Francisco to Everyone:

Jim Suennen, Associate Secretary, CA Health & Human Services Agency as designee for Secretary Kim Johnson. Attending in person at the San Francisco location.

10:42:58 From CWDB to Everyone:

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) The theme for NDEAM 2024 is "Access to Good Jobs for All" which is aligned with DOR's mission and statewide initiatives focused on equitable employment opportunities for all Californians. Disability inclusion is good for business – hiring people with disabilities helps employers expand their talent pool, strengthen the workforce, diversify the organization's culture, increase employee motivation and reduce turnover rates. In addition, there are federal and state tax incentives for hiring people with disabilities.

Below are resources to learn more:

10:43:28 From CWDB to Everyone:

The Employer Assistance and Resource Network (EARN) offers information and resources to help employers recruit, hire, retain and advance people with disabilities and build inclusive workplace cultures. DOR is hosting a special free webinar, "Advancing Inclusive Employment," on Thursday, October 31 from 10 to 11 a.m. DOR Director Joe Xavier and California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot will discuss the progress, challenges, and future of inclusive employment practices within state agencies and beyond. Register online at <https://bit.ly/3YaSiaJ>.

10:43:43 From CWDB to Everyone:

Employers can connect with DOR's Disability Access Services (DAS) Section at [DASInfo@dor.ca.gov](mailto:DASInfo@dor.ca.gov) for information, training, consultation, and technical assistance to remove employment barriers for people with disabilities.

10:44:18 From CWDB to Everyone:

Updates to Section 188 Disability Reference Guide The US Department of Labor, Section 188 Disability Reference Guide provides information and technical assistance that can help American Job Centers and their partners in the workforce development system meet the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements for individuals with disabilities in Section 188 of WIOA. In October 2024, the U.S. Department of Labor added amendments to the guide that include information on:

Affirmative outreach to diverse populations;

Effective communication to increase accessibility, including practices related to d/Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals;

10:44:29 From CWDB to Everyone:

Intentional inclusion of the use of newer technologies; and Promising practices in design and delivery of services to respond to the needs of traditionally underserved communities.