

BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE

June 8, 2021
3:03 pm

MINUTES

Staff: Azevedo, Thoo, Tran, Woodworth

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Chao called the Zoom meeting to order at 3:03 pm

Roll Call

Present: Chao, Batra, Koepp-Baker, Smith (left at 4:00 pm),

Absent: Flynn, Gomez, McGrath, Takahashi

II. OPEN FORUM

None

III. BUSINESS

A. Minutes Approval

ACTION: Ms. Koepp-Baker moved, Ms. Smith seconded, and the committee members present unanimously approved the minutes of the April 13, 2021 Business Services Committee meeting.

B. Business Intelligence

Staff reported on various matters of interest to the committee, including:

1. **April LMI Summary** — Strategic Engagement Manager Thoo reviewed an updated version of the April Labor Market Information Summary included in the agenda packet. Ms. Koepp-Baker asked about the number of “refilers” for unemployment benefits in the county and Mr. Thoo responded that he would research that question. Discussion among committee members ensued.

2. **Recent Layoff Activity** — Analyst Huong Tran informed the committee that there have been no WARN notices in the previous two weeks. Ms. Tran also mentioned several upcoming recruiting events.

3. **Recommendations of the Automation, Artificial Intelligence, COVID-19, Future of Work study** — Mr. Thoo reported that the Social Policy Research consultant team are wrapping up work after presenting preliminary results to the Executive Committee at their June 4, 2021. The team would present their recommendations to the Board at their June 17, 2021 meeting.

C. Employer Engagement

1. **Facebook Digital Marketing Internships** — Economic Development Officer Dhez Woodworth reported that most of the young adults placed with COVID-impacted small businesses and non-profits would begin their internships the following week. He said that work2future would be extending the original 12-week internships to 26 weeks.

2. Resilience Corps — Mr. Woodworth explained that Resilience Corps is a Covid-response employment assistance project proposed by San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, with five pathways: vaccine distribution, food distribution, learning loss, environmental resilience and supporting business recovery. Work2future would lead the business recovery pathway, working in partnership with Goodwill Industries. They would focus on small businesses and unemployed young adults living in “low resource census tracts” identified for the California Fair Housing Task Force and take an approach similar to the Facebook Internships program: training in digital media/marketing skills and followed by placement in six-month internships with participating employers.

D. Services

Mr. Thoo reported on the following:

1. **Gilroy (Virtual) Job Fair** on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 11 am – 1pm
2. **Trades Orientation Program (TOP)** — The cohort training program component of this pre-apprenticeship program just graduated 28 participants in its second 2021 Cohort. Seven of the 28 graduates were accepted into apprenticeships within a couple of weeks of graduation.
3. **PG&E PowerPathway** — 19 participants graduated from a Gas Operations cohort training program organized and supervised by PG&E. It is expected that most of these graduates will eventually be hired by PG&E.
4. **Workforce Accelerator Fund 9.0 Grant** — California State Workforce Development Board awarded work2future a \$250,000 grant to create two innovative pathways to manufacturing careers working in partnership with Growth Sector, Cobham, and Evergreen Valley Community College and others.

E. Workplan

Mr. Thoo discussed the workplan with the committee, including a focus on Business Intelligence and Incumbent Worker Training in July and August, a new model of employment-related cohort training and Business Intelligence in August, and Incumbent Worker Training and Employer Engagement in September.

F. Other Staff Reports

Mr. Thoo reported that work2future is moving ahead with plans to move the San Jose Career Center, currently located at 1601 Foxworthy, San Jose to 1608 Las Plumas, San Jose by the end of the calendar year. The board will consider approval of the move at its June 17, 2021 meeting.

IV. Other - None

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Chao adjourned the meeting at 4:20 pm.