

BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE
December 13, 2022

MEETING SUMMARY

STAFF: Tran, Thoo, Walter

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Pro Tempore Ricardo Benavidez called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Benavidez, McGrath, Shah, Smith, Takahashi, Taunk, Koepp-Baker (ex officio)

Absent: Chao

II. OPEN FORUM

There was no public comment.

III. BUSINESS

A. Minutes Approval

Ms. McGrath moved and Mr. Takahashi seconded approval of the minutes of the August 30, 2022, and the October 11, 2022, Business Services Committee meetings. The committee approved unanimously.

B. Employer Engagement

Staff reports and discussion, including without limitation

- 1. Layoff Activity** – Lead Business Services Analyst Huong Tran gave a year-to-date report on Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) activity in work2future’s service area and subsequent Rapid Response efforts. Ms. Tran noted that many of the recent WARN notices were from companies with large workforces spanning multiple workforce service areas throughout the state. She reported a high level of coordination among local workforce development boards to provide Rapid Response support to impacted workers. There was some discussion comparing regular seasonal layoff activity with the current uptick of layoffs in the technology sector.
- 2. WAF 9.0 Career Accelerator Update** – Strategic Engagement Manager Lawrence Thoo announced a third pilot of the Career Accelerator program with Flex Interconnect Technologies serving as the employer partner for the pilot. Thoo noted that recruitment has begun, with a December 26, 2022, deadline for applications. In a change from previous pilots, efforts are underway to move ‘employer of record’ responsibilities to Evergreen Valley College.
- 3. AMTAP (Advanced Manufacturing Technician Apprenticeship Program)** – Mr. Thoo briefed the committee about Lockheed Martin Space’s plan to introduce its Advanced Manufacturing Technician Apprenticeship Program to California at its Sunnyvale facility. work2future, NOVAworks and the Alameda County Workforce Development Board have begun regular meetings with Lockheed Martin Space staff.

C. Services

Staff reports and discussion, including without limitation

- 1. Career Fairs** – Ms. Tran provided a year-end report on career fairs in the first half of the Program Year, noting 191 employers and 978 job seekers served. She also highlighted the recent Fall Career

Fair held on November 9, 2022, in collaboration with San Jose City College, with 55 employers and over 220 job seekers in attendance. Ms. Tran noted that talks are underway to plan another event with San Jose City College in April of 2023 and she anticipates an additional job fair within the first quarter of the year. There was a discussion about the qualifications for employers participating in work2future job fairs.

2. **Incumbent Worker Training** – Project Manager Deanna Walter gave a status report on the Incumbent Worker Training program. Ms. Walter discussed ongoing outreach efforts and requested committee input on, and assistance with, the rollout of the program.

D. Election

This agenda item was moved forward in the meeting schedule to ensure a voting quorum.

Election of one Committee member to serve as the Business Services Committee Chairperson for the period January 1 through December 31, 2023.

Mr. Takahashi volunteered to serve as committee chairperson. There were no other nominations. Mr. Takahashi was elected to serve as the Business Services Committee Chairperson by all committee members present. Mr. Takahashi abstained from the vote.

E. Business Intelligence

Staff reports and discussion, including without limitation

1. **Manufacturing USA Institute Workforce Strategy Meeting** – Committee member Emily McGrath, Director of Workforce Development, Training and Education at Nextflex, gave a report to the committee about the Manufacturing USA Institute Workforce Strategy Meeting hosted by NextFlex on December 9, 2022. The event included representatives from the nation's 15 manufacturing institutes, the US Department of Labor, The US Department of Education, and others. These groups have been tasked by the White House to develop a 10-year workforce development strategy for the industrial sector.
2. **October 2022 Labor Market Summary** – Strategic Engagement Manager Thoo reported on the status of the labor market in Santa Clara County and the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). He noted many mixed signals in the overall national economy. Unemployment rates remained stable in the MSA, along with a modest month-over-month increase for the County, moving from 2.1% in September to 2.2% in October. In the same timeframe, the MSA added over 17,000 jobs, with notable hiring numbers in private education and health services, professional and business services, government, as well as trade, transportation, and utilities. For the year ending in October 2022, the MSA has added over 56,000 jobs.

F. Member's Roundtable

Committee members shared thoughts and experiences about a variety of topics. Of note, technology companies are exercising a lot of caution regarding expenditures and holding off on planned expenses at the end of the year and into 2023.

G. 2023 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Thoo presented a proposed schedule of Business Services Committee meetings in 2023. No objections or concerns were noted.

IV. OTHER

Mr. Thoo informed the committee that the Executive Committee will be voting on the nomination of a new Business Services Committee member at its upcoming meeting on December 15, 2022.

Nicolle Stone, San Jose Labor Market Consultant at the EDD Labor Market Information Division, introduced herself to the committee.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Benavidez adjourned the meeting at 4:23 pm.

Draft summary prepared by D. Walter, reviewed by L. Thoo.