

**Workforce Investment Board**

**Executive Committee**

**Minutes of May 13, 2020**

**Members Present:** Ananda Sweet, Ed Barr, Robin Bartholow, Kristyn Byrne, Judy Coffey, Steve Herron, Roy Hurd, Stephen Jackson, and Scott Kincaid

**Absent:** Michael Pickens

**Staff:** Katie Greaves, Patricia Andrews, Jessica Taylor, Sharona Elfus-Schatzkin, Katie Stohlmann, and Judy Oates

**I. Public Comment**

None.

**II. Approval of Minutes of April 8, 2020; and Review Action Items**

The April 8, 2020 action items were completed.

**Motion to approve Minutes of April 8, 2020: Steve Herron /s/ Roy Hurd.** Approved (Ananda Sweet, Ed Barr, Robin Bartholow, Kristyn Byrne, Judy Coffey, Steve Herron, Roy Hurd, Stephen Jackson, and Scott Kincaid.) There were no “nay” votes. There were no abstentions. The motion carried.

**III. WIB Business**

**A. Membership**

New member John McEntagart was approved at the Board of supervisors yesterday.

Stephen Jackson was nominated as the Chair-Elect.

**Motion to approve Stephen Jackson as the WIB Chair Elect: Scott Kincaid /s/ Roy Hurd.** Approved (Ananda Sweet, Ed Barr, Robin Bartholow, Kristyn Byrne, Judy Coffey, Steve Herron, Roy Hurd, Stephen Jackson, and Scott Kincaid.) There were no “nay” votes. There were no abstentions. The motion carried.

**B. Attendance Report**

No report this month as the March full WIB meeting was cancelled.

**IV. Operations Update**

Amanda Gayda shared that the My Pathway Program (MPP), formerly the Youth Education and Employment Services program, issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on February 20, 2020 administer the program for the next four years. She highlighted the three changes to the program from previous years.

- 1) The Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps (SCYEC) work experience program is no longer part of the year-round contract. The RFP for this program was done in January this year and awarded to Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB) as the sole applicant. We are requesting your approval to take the contract with CCNB for the SCYEC program for the Board of Supervisors' June 9, 2020 meeting for approval.
- 2) MPP continues to offer the same core services but proposes going forward with all paid work opportunities which will be developed in house by Job Link's WIOA Program Staff, Business Services Team, and Youth Programs Coordinator. This will allow us to leverage Job Link's expertise and let the youth program provider to focus on education support, training, work readiness preparation, and case management for the youth and young adults.
- 3) The youth program provider is required to serve high need youth and young adults in all geographic regions of the County. This is a change from our previous five region approach and will allow us to maximize resources. WIOA allocations have been decreasing annually and we no longer have enough funding to support the administrative costs of five regions. We believe this is the best way to maintain and strengthen the program.

Five proposals were submitted. They were reviewed and scored by a Proposal Review Committee who concluded that one contractor could meet the requirements as specified in the RFP to provide county-wide services, and recommended Social Advocates for Youth for funding as they had the highest score.

The summer program will run June 15 to August 16. There will be a year-round crew working with Sonoma County Water Agency, who will provide various internships. Training will be held for crew leaders in two weeks. Some enrichment activities that can be done virtually are being planned.

Comments from the public and questions from WIB Executive Committee included the following.

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- Feel it is dangerous to have the whole program under one umbrella and also has concerns that service providers who are not from the same region, won't understand the unique needs of that region's youth.
- Feel concern that not having to have CCNB connected to the MMP program will impact options for youth.
- Youth want their services where they are living. Feel we are sacrificing our youth's needs by having only one provider. They need regional services.
- There are a lot of differences between what issues each of the County's regions' have. In the past members of the Board of Supervisors wanted service in each of their regions. Although it is cheaper administratively to have one service provider, it is very important to the people being serviced, and our supervisors, that these services be provided regionally.
- Q. What is the total funding amount available?  
A. Approximately \$510K.
- The RFP required that submitted proposals be able to provide services county-wide. Submissions that did not include coverage for all areas would not have been scored as high as those that followed the instructions to provide a plan to provide county-wide coverage.
- Q. What was the basis to go from regional to a county-wide approach?  
A. That was an internal county decision to ensure that all areas received the best service with the declining funding that we receive.  
A. The plan is to try this updated program and staff will monitor its success. If the needs of youth are not being met, it can be reevaluated and changed. We do not have to wait four years for the next RFP if it is not working.
- Criteria to evaluate and monitor success will be in the reports at the WIB meetings and will include measurement of outreach efforts and location of participating youth.
- Youth currently in program with other providers will complete their programs by the end of June or be transferred to SAY to finish their assignments.
- In the future the WIB Executive Committee would like program changes to be shared with them in advance of the date they are being asked to vote.

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- There is concern how this will affect youth if it is not successful. If we had to change how the program is managed it would be harder on youth in the program than those managing the program.
- Q. If SAY is the only youth provider will they be the only one who can qualify for ARLA funds?
- A. Staff does not know as that information is not available yet.

**Motion to approve Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps program contract with Conservation Corps North Bay to go to the Board of Supervisors for approval on June 9, and accept the Proposal Review Committee’s recommendation for funding Social Advocates for Youth as the sole provider for the My Pathways Program to be taken to the Board of Supervisors for approval on July 7, 2020, with the provision to review the program after the first year to ensure this change to a single provider is working well: Scott Kincaid /s/ Roy Hurd.** Approved (Ananda Sweet, Robin Bartholow, Judy Coffey, Steve Herron, Roy Hurd, Stephen Jackson, and Scott Kincaid.) Nay (Ed Barr and Kristyn Byrne.) There were no abstentions. The motion carried.

**V. Prepare for May WIB Meeting Agenda**

Ananda shared there will be a discussion of the use of Supportive Services funding due to the changes in the economy in 2020.

**VI. Other Items**

Katie announced that Robin Bartholow passed the bar to practice law. ***Congratulations Robin!***

Roy announced that Empire College School of Law just produced their 16<sup>th</sup> judge.

**VII. Upcoming WIB Executive Committee Meetings and WIB Meetings**

June 10, 2020	Executive Session:	4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Via Zoom Teleconference
July 8, 2020	Executive Session:	2:45 pm to 3:00 pm	Via Zoom Teleconference
July 8, 2020	Full Session:	3:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Via Zoom Teleconference

**VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.