



FULL BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

The Full Board met on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 4071 Port Chicago Highway, Conference Room A and via a ZOOM meeting. Chair Terry Curley called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm and reminded everyone of potential conflict of interest.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Curley, Nichol Carranza, Gregory Brooks, Leslay Choy, Steve France, Richard Johnson, Douglas Lezameta, Brandon Matson, Michael McGill, Alison McKee, DeVonn Powers

MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomas Hansen (EX), Joshua Anijar (EX), Jerry Aranas, Timothy Jeffries, Steve Older (EX), Natasha Paddock (EX), Kelly Schelin (EX)

OTHERS PRESENT: Marla Stuart, Aisha Teal, Rebecca Darnell, Anne Barrett, Jennie Fald (EHSD), John P. Jones (CocoKids), Vi Ngo (Rubicon), Celina Shands (Full Capacity Marketing), Anita Kasim (IRC), Patience Ofodu, Dawn King

WDB STAFF PRESENT: Tamia Brown, Maureen Nelson, Noramah Burch, Verneda Clapp, LaTosha Stockholm, Rochelle Soriano, Patricia Conley, Serena Moore, Jon Rodriguez, Ken Austin, Jed Silver, Yelena Miakinina, Charles Brown, Veronica Ramos, Anisa Smith, Iyadunni Adeyemi, Lijia Lumsden, Davon King

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anita Kasim, Economic Environment Manager at International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Oakland.

Briefly shared updates about programs to support Contra Costa residents, especially refugees and immigrants.

Home-Based Child Care Business Development Program

This program helps refugees, immigrants, and now other populations start their own home-based childcare businesses. IRC provides essential support including business management skills, literacy training, certification assistance, licensing applications, and inspections. So far, IRC has helped around 13 entrepreneurs launch their businesses, creating over 110 childcare slots in Contra Costa County—helping meet a critical community need.

Afghan and Ukrainian Newcomer Support Program

Starting in April, IRC launched a dedicated program to assist Afghan and Ukrainian refugees and immigrants, who have been displaced due to conflicts in their countries. This program offers employment services, case management, housing assistance, help navigating healthcare systems, as well as financial and digital literacy training.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Two New WDB Staff:

Davon King Experienced Level Clerk and Lijia Lumsden, Admin. Aide

They are currently supporting the Measure X projects, which are in full swing. We're thrilled to have them on board. We are also in the final stages of hiring for two more key positions: **Program Projects Coordinator** and **One Stop Administrator**. The recruitment is complete, and we are moving through the interviewing and hiring process. These positions were approved over two and a half years ago, so it's great to see them finally coming to fruition.

On the broader front, there are some developments at the Federal level worth noting. President Trump recently issued a "skinny budget" proposal that includes potential cuts of up to 35% to the Department of Labor. Several

programs critical to our work, including the Senior Employment Program, are under threat of elimination. This is concerning, as these programs play a vital role in our system and partnerships.

Additionally, there are new requirements around funding reimbursements. For example, the county must now justify cash drawdowns more rigorously under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, adding a layer of oversight to the reimbursement process.

While workforce development programs had been relatively quiet recently, WDB is beginning to feel the uncertainty and challenges faced by other departments.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

P1 CocoKids

CocoKids Childhood Champions

- Child Care Resource and Referral agency
- Alternative Payment Program
- Over 5,000 children enrolled in childcare
- Quality Improvement Programs
- Child Health and Nutrition

Subsidized Child Care – Measure X Funding

The need for Child Care in Contra Costa

1. High Cost of Child Care
 - \$4,056 Family Child Care – Full time
 - \$8,580 Center Based – Full time
2. Insufficient Supply of Child Care Spaces
3. Economic Stability and Workforce Participation
4. Support for Vulnerable Populations
5. Long-term Benefits

In Partnership CocoKids Responsibilities

- CocoKids will be responsible for identifying low-income that need childcare services in order to work, go to school or look for employment
- CocoKids will pay for childcare services for each child enrolled in the program.
 - Aligned with state funding care programs
 - Two years eligibility

CocoKids Responsibilites

1. CocoKids will maintain an ongoing eligibility list
2. Services will be located and available throughout the country. Staff will be located in Antioch, Concord, and Richmond.
3. Contractor will enroll approximately 300-350 children into the Measure X Program
4. Enrollment qualifications will be based on the current California Department of Social Services Regulations for subsidized childcare services for Alternative Payment Programs
5. Parents will be able to choose a licensed childcare provider (either a licensed family childcare home or licensed childcare center) of their choice.

Child Care Boost Initiative

Program Structure

- Two cohorts and 18-months for each cohort
- 120 educators for first cohort (60 Family Child Care Educators & 60 Child Care Center Educators)

Program Details and Recruitment

- Recruitment was done through newsletter and social media

- Two information sessions, both were recorded:
 - January 13 – FCC. Translated to Spanish (146 attendees)
 - January 16 – CCC (106 attendees)
- Applications opened the day after information session

P2 CCC Guaranteed Basic Income Program

Population: Families with young children experiencing financial hardship

Guaranteed Basic Income

Periodic and time-limited – It is a recurring payment issued regularly for the duration of the program

Direct cash payment – It is paid in cash directly to the individual, allowing them to use it for what they need.

Guaranteed – It is paid to targeted members of a specific population

Unconditional – It is provided without a work requirement or any other conditions.

Board of Supervisors Action

Date: October 22, 2024

Funding: \$3.25 Million Measure X & \$1 Million AB 109

Purpose: Guaranteed Income Pilot

Suggested Populations:

- Youth transitioning out of foster care
- Unhoused and unstably housed residents
- Families with young children experiencing financial help
- Low-income seniors
- Residents returning to the community after incarceration

Proposed Families Eligibility & Selection

Eligibility Criteria

- Approximately 40 engaged Welfare-to-Work and Cal-Learn families
- Ages 18-26
- At least one child aged 5 years or younger
- At least 18 mos. remaining on CalWORKs

Referral Process

- Welfare-to-Work case worker
- Cal-Learn case worker

Selection Process

- Randomized Selection Process
- Project Stratified
- Random Sampling Tool

Existing Case Management

- Assessment
- Plan development
- Regular check-ins
- Referrals
- Supportive services

Proposed Payment Plan

Amount: \$18,000 over an 18-month period (three payment options)

One-time mandatory benefits counseling

Payment Process: prepaid debit cards, issued 15th of the month

Option 1: \$1,000/month for 18 months

Option 2: \$1,250/month for the first 12 months; gradually reduced payments over final 6 months - \$950 to \$150

Option 3: \$3,000 lump sum payment upfront; \$1,000/month for the first 12 months, gradual payments over final 6 months - \$750 to \$250

CONSENT AGENDA

C1 Approve February 4, 2025 Full Board Meeting Minutes

C2 Approve Appointment to Board (Business Seats #12 & #13)

C3 Approve Selection for Youth Services Providers RFP #1215

Motion/Second Alison McKee/Brandon Matson
Motion Passed

AYES: Terry Curley, Nichol Carranza, Gregory Brooks, Leslay Choy, Steve France, Richard Johnson, Douglas Lezameta, Brandon Matson, Michael McGill, Alison McKee, DeVonn Powers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Thomas Hansen, Joshua Anijar, Jerry Aranas, Timothy Jeffries, Steve Older, Natasha Paddock, Kelly Schelin

ABSTAIN: None

ACTION ITEMS

A1 Approve Selection of WIOA Youth Services Providers

That the Full Board approve the Youth Committee's recommendation for:

- 1) The selection of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Service Providers
- 2) Issuance of award letters to **Contra Costa County Office of Education and Mt Diablo Unified School District**
- 3) WDBCCC staff to enter contract negotiations with awarded organizations in a cumulative amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Motion/Second Alison McKee/Brandon Matson
Motion Passed

AYES: Terry Curley, Nichol Carranza, Gregory Brooks, Leslay Choy, Steve France, Richard Johnson, Douglas Lezameta, Brandon Matson, Michael McGill, Alison McKee, DeVonn Powers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Thomas Hansen, Joshua Anijar, Jerry Aranas, Timothy Jeffries, Steve Older, Natasha Paddock, Kelly Schelin

ABSTAIN: None

A2 Approve Selection of Marketing Services and Public Relations Services Provider

That the Full Board approve:

- 1) The selection of **Full Capacity Marketing, Inc.** to provide marketing and public relations services for the Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County (WDBCCC).
- 2) Issuance of award letter to **Full Capacity Marketing, Inc.**
- 3) Authorize staff to negotiate and execute a contract with **Full Capacity Marketing, Inc.** for an initial term beginning July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$199,980.

**Motion /Second
Motion**

**Leslay Choy/Richard Johnson
Passed**

AYES: Terry Curley, Nichol Carranza, Gregory Brooks, Leslay Choy, Steve France, Richard Johnson, Douglas Lezameta, Brandon Matson, Michael McGill, Alison McKee, DeVonn Powers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Thomas Hansen, Joshua Anijar, Jerry Aranas, Timothy Jeffries, Steve Older, Natasha Paddock, Kelly Schelin

ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATIONAL/UPDATE ITEMS

Informational reports have been shared with both the board members and the public. These reports were disseminated, ensuring transparency and accessibility for all relevant parties.

I1 Early Childhood Care and Education Report

I2 WAF 11 Close-Out

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:37 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle Martin-Soriano, Board Secretary

/rms