

CUSTOMER ADVISORY MEETING MINUTES

[Meeting Recording](https://youtu.be/ebNObIC4ZNw)

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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| Item |
| Call to Order   * Welcome and Introductions - *Paul Francis, Executive Director*   Attendees:   * Arlen Harris, Sam Herriot, Anna Olson, Joe Krels, Emmanuel Flores, Harry Birak, Maryann Braithwaite, William Belden, Paul Francis, Carolyn McKinnon, Gary Kamimura, Joe Wilcox, Michael Lee, Coutney Robinson, Annette Herup, Neil Strege, Kim Wheeler |
| Action Items – *Paul Francis*   * [February and May 2024 Minutes](../../2024/Fall%20October%202024/Spring%202024%20Minutes.docx)   + Motioned to approve – Emmanuel Flores   + Seconded – Harry Birak   + Motion passed to adopt minutes with no edits. * Bylaw Updates   + Move the Northwest Career College Federation to Non-Government Agency (non-voting) from Education (voting)   + Article 3, Section 1; thoughts to have the committee have a better reflection of the diversity of the communities they serve and the diversity of community and technical college demographics and the geography of the state.   + Request that we hold that amendment until the next meeting (Winter 2025).     - Paul and Bill clarified that this doesn’t limit our ability to have additional meetings. Current policy is 4 (quarterly), current practice is 3 (quarterly, not during Sumer quarter), intent of change is 2 times a year with the option to call for an additional meeting during the year.       * Question was asked if these 2 meetings would be in person. Would they follow the current meeting format of **day 1** – Industry Tour, **day 2** – Business Meeting   + Agreement was to hold the entire bylaws amendment until next meeting, retain Gary’s addition.   + **Motioned to approve the edited bylaws – Harry Birak**   + **Seconded – Held off due to request for amendment discussion for Winter 2025**     - Emmanuel wants to discuss proposed changes to frequency of minutes w/ his leadership. |
| Executive Director’s Report - *Paul Francis*   * SBCTC Board Updates   + Contacted in late August by Office of Financial Management (OFM) that the community and technical college system was overfunded for the next biennium year in error by an estimated $47 million, included $28.6 million in this fiscal year.     - Due to this error, there is discussions of budget cuts, but was request * SBCTC Legislative Priorities   + 2025 Legislative session to start in January with new leadership in place.   + $183 million request around staff compensations, with a 6.5% increase in raises.   + $9.2 million for foundation request for colleges under the operating budgets.   + There is a request from the Tribal Elders around tuition waivers to change the age requirements from 60 years old to 55 years old.   + Council of Presidents is looking to expand the financial aid navigator’s role     - Adding enrollment tracking to see how students are competing for FAFSA and WAFSA.     - Continuing to enroll/transfer 2-year students to 4-year institutions.   + SBCTC has about an $88 million capital bond capacity request out of the $652 million request.   FY25-27 Partner Legislative Priorities   * Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board   + WAVE request to increase the amount to award students and for sustainability to the portal application     - Currently covers 2 years of college courses; asking to increase award amount to cover up to 4 years of colleges courses   + Looking at the Long-term Healthcare Initiative pathways for LPNs to RNs. * Employments Security Department   + A $9 million ask around Economic Security for All (EcSA) to continue supporting/maintaining the program     - Launched in October 2024; the matched investment savings account compensates the program using community reinvestment funds   + $14 million dollar ask to reestablish the ESD’s Justice Involved Employment Services     - There is currently a federal program in the federal prisons and jails, but ESD is looking to reinstate the WA program in the state funded prison and jails.     - The 2025 session ask is to restart the Reentry Program by 2030.   + Working to replace the current Workforce Management Case System with the Workforce Technology Replacement project with a projected completion of November 2028. * Department of Commerce   + Currently has 11 different decision packages across the agency.   + The Energy department is looking to establish an office to address the issues around permitting and speeding up timelines with new energy generation projects.     - This project coincides with the national barriers that state across the country are running into about electrical capacity issues that vary from state to state. |
| Olympic College Program Highlight/Student Panel – *Wendy Fox; Joell Johnson; Lauren Pitt; Amanda Pile; Paul Castro*   * Paul graduated 5 years ago from the Worker Retraining program and was able to open a bakery that highlights baked goods from around the world. * Carolina Rivas heard of the Worker Retraining program while going through the ESL classes at the college and was able to get a job as a registered nurse through the programs offered through Olympic College. * Olympic College - Bremerton campus accepts around 300 plus students into the health care programs. * Olympic is working with local partners and other educators to assist veterans get credit for all the work experience that they gain during their active duty service that can transfer over to civilian life. * Olympic College has an MOU with local hospitals that they will have slots held for the graduates of their programs. * ESD WorkSource office and Olympic College partner to promote multiple programs across many different occupations. |

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| Workforce Program Updates   * [Job Skills Program](../../2024/Fall%20October%202024/CAC%20JSP%20Slides%20Fall%202024.pptx) – *Carolyn McKinnon, WF Policy Associate; and Danny Marshall, WF Program Administrator*   + Funding & Application Update     - Projects now have to start and finish within the same year, cannot start a project at the start of the biennium and go through the second year of the biennium.     - Not all the projects were not awarded during round 1 of 2025 and there are changes to projects that are occurring in round 2 of 2025.     - Have a small pot left over from return funding and looking to reallocate those funds to projects that are already awarded and approved.     - Colleges that are regular contributors to JSP have offered to mentor new colleges and employers that would like to start their JSP pathways.     - Canceled round 3 due to resources being all allocated during rounds one and two.     - $15.4 million allocated to JSP for the biennium.   + Out of state vs. In-state Worker Training Participation     - Guidelines are clear that wages and benefits paid to employees while in JSP training are eligible to track for business required match to the grant.     - No specific guidance is provided on whether employees who live and work out of state can participate in training courses.     - There needs to be clarification what ‘out of state’ employees consider - - could a person working out of the country for a WA company would be considered eligible still?     - Is the trainings hybrid or only in-state and in person? Is there cost difference for a person who is out of state worker vs an in-state worker?       * There is no cost variation, and most trainings are conducted on-site in WA but that brings up the question on companies that moved to WA but are still functioning outside of WA state. However, what state is the company paying taxes due to conducting hybrid working?     - Looking at a reasonable commute into WA state to be considered eligible per the statute that JSP operates under. * Worker Retraining Program - *Anna Olson, WF Policy Associate*   + CTC Funding Formula Update     - The eligibility for displaced homemakers is 48 months versus 24 months to stay within compliance and to stay within federal compliance also.       * Motion to align policies Emmanuel       * Annette seconded the motion       * No objections; motion passed   + Enrollment Trend Update     - Enrollments in worker retraining mirror the unemployment rates; high unemployment means high enrollment rates.     - Currently only enrolled in Workforce programs but have opened pathways into healthcare pathways. |
| * Future Meeting Dates & Topics   + Winter virtual meeting to discuss committee bylaws   + Spring meeting in June 2025 * Adjourn |

Statutory Authority: Laws of 1999, Chapter 28C.04.390 Revised Code of Washington

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under RCW 42.30.110, an Executive Session may be held. Action from the Executive Session may be taken, if necessary, as a result of items discussed in the Executive Session.

PLEASE NOTE: Times above are estimates only. The committee reserves the right to alter the order of the agenda. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities if requests are made at least seven days in advance. Efforts will be made to accommodate late requests. Please contact the Executive Director’s Office at 360-704-4309.