



**Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board (LACWDB)
Business Engagement Committee Minutes**

Date: May 27, 2025

Location: Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Headquarters (Hybrid)

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeffrey Thompson called the Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board May 27, 2025, LACWDB Business Engagement Committee meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Staff from the LACWDB honored the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples, reaffirming the County's commitment to reconciliation and tribal engagement with the County of Los Angeles Land Acknowledgement.

Attachments: [Board Motion](#)
[Los Angeles City/County NAIC Website \(Click Here\)](#)

B. ROLL CALL AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A quorum was established with 6 members in-person attendance during roll call. The Conflict-of-interest protocol from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was read.

C. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Thompson thanked the committee members for appearing more frequently in the attempt to drive the Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) modernization forward and keep momentum for the committee

D. ACTION ITEMS

I. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LACWDB BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2024

Presenter: Jeffrey Thompson, Chair, LACWDB Business Engagement Committee

Summary: This item presents for review and approval, and any other action deemed necessary, the draft minutes of the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee meeting from December 10, 2024.

Discussion: There was no discussion on the item.

Moved by member Taylor and seconded by member Hewitt to approve December 10, 2024, minutes of the Business Engagement Committee meeting.

Motion passes with a majority vote.

In Favor (8): Mary Hewitt, Tami Hutchins-Nunez, Jorge Marquez, Larry Taylor, Maureen McIntyre, Jeffrey Thompson, Michelle Yanez, Amber Chatman

Abstain (0):

Recused (0):

Opposed (0):

Absent (0):

II. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LACWDB BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2025

Presenter: Jeffrey Thompson, Chair, LACWDB Business Engagement Committee

Summary: This item presents for review and approval, and any other action deemed necessary, the draft minutes of the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee meeting from April 28, 2025.

Discussion: There was no discussion on the item.

Moved by member Taylor and seconded by member Hewitt to approve the April 28, 2024, minutes of the Business Engagement Committee meeting.

Motion passes with a majority vote.

In Favor (8): Mary Hewitt, Tami Hutchins-Nunez, Jorge Marquez, Larry Taylor, Maureen McIntyre, Jeffrey Thompson, Michelle Yanez, Amber Chatman

Abstain (0):

Recused (0):

Opposed (0):

Absent (0):

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

I. CONTINUED REVIEW OF THE PURPOSE OF THE BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Presenter: Jeffrey Thompson, Chair, LACWDB Business Engagement Committee

Summary: This item is for continued discussion on the creation of a Business Engagement Plan

Discussion Highlights:

- The committee discussed refining its objectives by exploring opportunities for site visits to Los Angeles County America's Job Centers of California (AJCCs).
- Member Taylor shared his visits with the centers expressing his gratitude for the AJCCs in welcoming him as he visited the West Los Angeles AJCC.
- He also stated that his visits gave him a first person look at how the AJCCs currently operate and conduct community outreach.
- **Share AJCC outreach reports to the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee after reviewed by DEO.**
- Chair Thompson emphasized again the value of learning about AJCCs' specialties through more formal, structured visits.
- Member Marquez reaffirmed that a joint meeting with leadership from the Centers of Excellence (COEs) could be an effective use for the committee's time.
- Mr. DeGonia shared with the committee that the LACWDB team is planning off-site meetings for the Business Engagement Committee.
- **Coordinate the next meeting of the Business Engagement Meeting at conduct site visits and/or future Business Engagement Committee meetings at AJCCs starting with the Pomona AJCC.**
- The committee was told at its April 28 meeting that two AJCC procurement, the West San Gabriel Valley and the Southeast LA, are still under review.
- Member Marquez recommended that DEO contact the Los Angeles Regional Consortium which is a consortium of the 19 community colleges in Los Angeles County to discuss community outreach.
- **DEO to contact the Los Angeles Regional Consortium to discuss community outreach and engagement identifying best practices.**
- Chair Thompson requested that DEO provide data for the rest of the county that identifies who the top employers are for Los Angeles County and that the strategy for the committee should focus on those top employers.
- **Provide list of top employers to the Business Engagement Committee.**
- Member Chatman responded that she may have a list of employer intermediaries that could be used to identify those top employers to engage with.
- **Request Member Chatman to provide employer intermediaries on behalf of UNITE-LA.**
- Member Marquez brought forward the discussion of stakeholder groups that could be led or chaired by each member of the committee, including a chamber of

commerce/ stakeholder group. He also mentioned the idea to ask a member of a chamber of a commerce stakeholder group could possibly join the committee. He brought forward the idea of the Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce as a possible partner.

- Member Yanez mentioned the Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce as a partner as well as different Affinity Groups
- **LACWDB Team to discuss the formation of stakeholder groups that could be chaired by members of the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee and/or tied to Affinity Groups.**
- Chair Thompson would like to examine the Centers of Excellence (COE) and specifically what career ladders across the High Road Training Partnerships (HRTPs) are available and who the partners would be.
- Member Marquez asked what the operations would be like for the COEs and if DEO could present at the next committee meeting what the operation plans are for the COEs.
- **Present to the committee status of COEs including operation plans and allowing feedback from the committee to be given into the formation of those plans.**
- Member Taylor inquired about performance metrics used to evaluate COEs, noting that the AJCCs he visited do not have access to the Dun and Bradstreet reports. He asked what growth looks like across the system, what the metrics look like in report outs. He stated he was given a sheet of goals one of the AJCCs he visited, what accountability is there for the COEs, and if the AJCCs have shared their goals with DEO.
- **Present to the committee any goals that the AJCCs have shared with DEO.**
- Member Marquez requested committee members to report back to the committee and provide summaries for AJCC site visits. He also asked that within industry clusters being reviewed, to be mindful of what occupations and training needs would be in demand for those clusters.

F. NEXT STEPS

- **Share AJCC outreach reports to the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee after reviewed by DEO.**
- **Coordinate the next meeting of the Business Engagement Meeting at conduct site visits and/or future Business Engagement Committee meetings at AJCCs starting with the Pomona AJCC.**
- **DEO to contact the Los Angeles Regional Consortium to discuss community outreach and engagement identifying best practices.**

- **Request Member Chatman to provide employer intermediaries on behalf of UNITE-LA.**
- **LACWDB Team to discuss the formation of stakeholder groups that could be chaired by members of the LACWDB Business Engagement Committee and/or tied to Affinity Groups.**
- **Present to committee status of COEs including operation plans and allowing feedback from the committee to be given into the formation of those plans.**
- **Present to the committee any goals that the AJCCs have shared with DEO.**
- **Next LACWDB Business Engagement Committee for July 9, 2-4 pm.**

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Thompson called for public comment. There was no public comment.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Thompson adjourned May 27, 2025, meeting of the Business Engagement Committee at 10:25 am.