



**LANE WORKFORCE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, January 20, 2022**

**11:30am – 1:00pm**

**MINUTES**

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**In Attendance:** Stan Pickett, Celeste Marshall, Shondra Holliday, Solomon Harris,  
Joe Berney, Greg Ervin, Damien Pitts

**Absent:** Jennifer Adams, Mike Clark

**Guest:** Sara Hummel

**Staff:** Ashley Espinoza, Tiffany Cink, Anne Nestell, Stephanie Lovell

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<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Seconded</b>	<b>Status</b>
Approved Executive Board Meeting Minutes November 18, 2021	Joe Berney	Shondra Holliday	Unanimous Approval

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Stan Pickett called the meeting to order.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – *In accordance with Lane Workforce Partnership’s Public Comment Policy: Speakers will be taken in the order in which they sign up and will be limited to three minutes per public comment.*

There was no public comment.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Joe Berney made a motion to approve the November 18, 2021 Executive Board meeting minutes. Shondra Holliday seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

IV. 2020-2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT PRESENTATION

Sara Hummel from Jones & Roth presented the financial audit to Executive Board members. Per LWP Board by-laws, staff left the meeting during the presentation.

Once the group reconvened, Stan Pickett noted that Sara Hummel had expressed that LWP had done an outstanding job with the audit and making sure that LWP was in compliance throughout the year. The board expressed their appreciation to the LWP staff.

## V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRANSITION

Ashley Espinoza shared how she has worked for over a decade in the community, with her strength being community engagement and taking big idea projects and bringing them across the finish line.

Ms. Espinoza would like to setup recurring monthly meetings with Executive Board members (two or three members at a time) so that everyone can get a chance to know each other. Mr. Pickett noted that as a board, they don't work daily with Ms. Espinoza so having the opportunity to meet individually or in groups with Ms. Espinoza will help in the evaluation process. Joe Berney said that executive board members meeting one on one with Ms. Espinoza would be of great benefit for all involved.

Question came up around the timing of the performance evaluation that will be due in May. The evaluation will need to go out the beginning of April in order to collect responses and have ready by the Executive Board Meeting on May 19, 2022.

The board also expressed interest in what the process is if the position is opened up and a search is initiated. Tiffany Cink said that from a Finance/HR standpoint, if the board is looking at doing a comprehensive search, timeline would be a few months approximately. The cost for the search is an allowable cost with our federal funds and will not impact other line items in our budget.

Damien Pitts said that although there is a lot of good local talent, we should not discount possibly doing a national search. Sometimes in order to move forward, you need to bring in someone from the outside. Shondra Holliday also expressed that a search shouldn't be ruled out.

Ms. Espinoza will be reaching out individually to executive board members to schedule one on one meetings.

## VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Espinoza shared that the Oregon Legislature will begin a short session on February 1<sup>st</sup> and two workforce bills will be considered during this session.

Workforce Development Boards have a \$50M ask (Prosperity 10,000+), which is focused on providing rapid resources to the existing, regional public workforce system, which will allow them to quickly ramp up and expand programs to communities most impacted by COVID and the economic downturn. It uses existing Local Workforce Boards and their local partners in education, labor, training programs, and community-based organizations.

Governor Brown is bringing Future Ready Oregon 2022 (developed by the Racial Justice Council) to the session. Future Ready Oregon 2022 proposes a \$200M investment in Oregon's workforce system that utilizes existing infrastructure to expedite short-term solutions, while making investments that aim to address inequities in the workforce system. It prioritizes key populations and advances collaboration and partnerships with diverse community-based organizations and workforce education and training providers.

There are still negotiations going on behind the scenes to see if there is a way to blend these two bills into one bill moving forward and utilizing the local workforce boards. LWP is also working on three grant proposals:

- EDA Good Jobs Grant: Looking at supporting our four current sectors and launching four additional sectors (healthcare, bio science, transportation, and the creatives). Funding will allow for the design, development, and implementation in order to get individuals into these high wage, high demand jobs.
- Strategic Innovation Grant: These competitive funds go to workforce boards. We are working with Arcimoto on this proposal. Arcimoto does not have a formal work-based training program and assistance is needed from subject matter experts to develop the training plan and curriculum. Arcimoto plans to ramp up production of new vehicles in 2022, which will necessitate doubling the number of Arcimoto employees in Eugene by the end of 2022.
- YouthBuild Grant: In collaboration with Connected Lane County and Lane ESD. Looking to serve young adults through Construction and Manufacturing Technology pathways during the first three years as YouthBuild is developed and brought to scale. Proposing to launch YouthBuild within two school districts whose student body represents our most at risk populations (4J and Bethel). In subsequent years, the plan is to expand YouthBuild throughout the entire County.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

Stan Pickett adjourned the meeting.

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