

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SAN FRANCISCO
Local Workforce Investment Board for the City and County of San Francisco
Minutes of the
May 6, 2026
Meeting of the
Workforce Investment San Francisco Board (WISF) Executive Committee
San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development
Meeting conducted in hybrid format on Zoom and in-person at
One South Van Ness, Fifth Floor, Room 5005
San Francisco, CA 94103

**WISF Executive
Committee
Members
Present**

Jeanine Cotter, Luminalt
Jorge Tapia, California Employment Development Department (EDD)
Charley Lavery, Operating Engineers Local 3
Vikrum Aiyer, Heirloom
Sam Rodriguez, Rodriguez Strategic Partners, LLC

**WISF Executive
Committee
Members Absent**

**Ohlone Land
Acknowledgement,
Announcements, &
Housekeeping**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Jeanine Cotter, WISF Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. Secretary Jennifer Salerno (OEWD) opened the meeting by reciting the Ohlone Land Acknowledgement and the meeting guidelines.

Roll Call
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter requested that Secretary Salerno conduct roll call. Secretary Salerno took attendance, and quorum was achieved.

**Chair's
Welcome**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter welcomed the members and the general public who joined in person and on Zoom.

**Adoption of
Agenda for
May 6, 2026**
(Action Item)

Chair Cotter called the Adoption of the Agenda for May 6, 2026 and requested comments from members. Seeing none, a motion to adopt the agenda was made by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Member Tapia, and passed unanimously.

**Approval of
Minutes from
February 20,
2026**
(Action Item)

Chair Cotter called for the Approval of the Minutes from February 20, 2026. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Member Tapia and seconded by Member Lavery. The motion passed unanimously.

**OEWD
Executive
Director's
Report**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter called the Executive Director's Report and asked the Executive Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), Anne Taupier, to provide remarks.

Executive Director Taupier provided an overview of economic indicators and workforce activities, noting unemployment remains steady at approximately 3.7 percent.

She reported 18 WARN notices affecting 1,214 workers, primarily in tech, retail, and professional services, and highlighted OEWD's rapid response efforts. Modest job growth continues across several sectors aligned with OEWD strategies.

She announced completion of the RFP process, representing a \$23.8 million investment. Due to budget constraints, OEWD will prioritize maintaining core services while preserving flexibility for future investments.

Executive Director Taupier highlighted program successes, including CityBuild Academy recognition and a job fair serving over 500 job seekers and 66 employers, as well as youth employment initiatives and ongoing collaboration with EDD. She also shared program outcomes, noting over 90 percent of Community Health Worker graduates secure employment within 30 days and highlighting the impact of programs such as Farming Hope.

Chair Cotter asked a question regarding workforce system coordination, including potential opportunities to consolidate resources across city agencies. Executive Director Taupier acknowledged ongoing conversations on this topic and emphasized the importance of maintaining OEWD's specialized workforce development expertise.

Member Rodriguez inquired about sector-specific opportunities, including maritime and healthcare, noting that state and federal funding is available for healthcare workforce training—particularly for licensed vocational nurses, medical assistants, and nursing assistants—and could potentially be leveraged to support and expand the Healthcare Academy.

Member Aiyer asked Executive Director Taupier to clarify her characterization of the economy as "fragile." Executive Director Taupier explained that her concern centers on San Francisco's reliance on boom-and-bust cycles, as well as the potential impact of new and emerging policies on the city's overall economic stability.

Chair Cotter thanked the members for their contributions and transitioned to the next agenda item.

**OEWD FY
2026-27
Budget Update**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter introduced the next action item and asked Executive Director Taupier to provide updates on the 2026-27 budget.

Executive Director Taupier addressed the department's budget, noting OEWD was directed to identify \$10 million in cuts and eliminate 22 positions for FY 2026–27. The department has identified 19 positions for reduction, including 13 filled roles, and acknowledged the significant impact on staff.

Executive Director Taupier then made the following statement which was requested for inclusion in these minutes by the Executive Committee:

"I also just want to say that I cannot stress strongly enough how much I believe in public service. My parents were both public servants—my mom was a public health nurse. My four brothers

and sisters all work in public service, something that was really ingrained in us—that you work to provide support to the public. It’s something that has been core to me my entire career.

I appreciate every single employee in OEWD who has dedicated their careers to public service, and I cannot emphasize enough how meaningful that has been to me. To be able to work with the people we have at OEWD, I take incredible pride in it every single day. I came into OEWD in 2009, and I feel like so much of who I am comes from the experience I’ve had working here.

I take a great deal of pride in the portfolio that our workforce team manages every day—it is broad and deep. It is important to me, and I appreciate questions about whether there are ways to consolidate what we do so that we can provide more services across the city. I think that is something worth exploring.”

She also outlined the budget timeline, with submission to the Board of Supervisors and hearings in June.

Member Tapia asked about how many administrative positions are funded by WIOA. Executive Director Taupier agreed to follow up with additional information, including a breakdown of funding allocations and staffing supported by specific funding streams.

Member Tapia also requested clarification on the -4,500 figure in the economic indicators graph related to government employment. Jennifer Hand, OEWD’s Workforce Impact Manager, clarified that the decline reflects losses in state and local government jobs. Member Lavery then asked about the age of the data.

Chair Cotter asked how the Executive Committee could best support OEWD during the budget process.

Future Discussion Items
(Action Item)

Chair Cotter opened the floor for Board members to propose future discussion topics or presentation requests for upcoming WISF meetings.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items
(Discussion Item)

Chair Cotter called for public comment on non-agenda items. Secretary Salerno informed the public on how to provide public comments in the meeting and on Zoom. There was no public comment in the room nor on Zoom.

OEWD staff member, Tai Seals-Jackson, made the following statement which was requested in these minutes by the Executive Committee:

“I would like to express my sincere appreciation for each of you. It has been an honor to serve our community alongside such dedicated, knowledgeable, mission-driven colleagues.

As an Indigenous San Franciscan, born and raised in one of the city’s most underserved and disinvested neighborhoods, Bayview-Hunter’s Point, I remain profoundly humbled by the opportunity to serve at this table. As a woman with lived and professional experience in the community, it has been deeply meaningful to contribute alongside individuals who are investing in San Francisco’s workforce and creating real impact.

So, for this, I offer my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. It has truly been an honor working alongside each and every one of you. It has meant so much to me.

As I transition into the next chapter of my journey, I offer my warmest wishes for your continued health and success. The relationships built here and the collective progress we have achieved will remain with me.

Before I depart, I offer a call to action: continue to advance this work with intention for the community—the very individuals who entrust us with this responsibility. Work boldly, use your voice boldly, unapologetically, and with purpose. Stand firmly against injustice, inequity, and oppression. Do not normalize racism or discrimination, because unfortunately, it does exist. If we do not name it and address it, we allow it to persist in our workplaces.

This work requires integrity, respect, compassion, humility, and a deep understanding that meaningful change in underserved communities is only possible through collective effort. It demands authenticity, collaboration, and a commitment to safeguard the goodness inherent in this work, rather than align with those whose intentions undermine it or seek to dismantle it.

In the midst of ongoing local economic challenges, each of us has a responsibility to ensure that our communities are supported, uplifted, and not left behind. Ultimately, the people we serve matter.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of contributing to this committee and to the community that raised me. I will carry this experience forward with great effect.

Let your purpose guide you, your courage ground you, and your impact speak for you. With much appreciation, thank you.”

OEWD staff member Gladys Soto shared that today would be her last day with the department. She emphasized her tireless commitment to serving the community and noted that she will continue to uphold this work even though she will no longer be at OEWD.

Adjournment
(Action Item)

Chair Cotter expressed gratitude to all the attendees for their participation in the meeting and invited any member comments before proceeding with a vote to adjourn.

Members expressed a desire for both Ms. Seals-Jackson’s comments and Executive Director Taupier’s comments to be reflected in the official meeting minutes.

Receiving no further comments, Chair Cotter called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Aiyer made the motion, which was seconded by Member Lavery and was unanimous. Members adjourned the meeting at 10:07 A.M.