

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SAN FRANCISCO

Local Workforce Investment Board for the City and County of San Francisco

Minutes of the
August 19, 2026

Meeting of the Workforce Investment San Francisco Board (WISF) Executive Committee

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, Chair, Luminalt
Jorge Tapia, EDD
Charley Lavery, Operating Engineers Local 3

WISF Executive Committee Members Absent Sam Rodriguez, Rodriguez Strategic Partners
Vikrum Aiyer, Heirloom

Ohlone Land Acknowledgment, Announcements, and Housekeeping
(Discussion Item) Jeanine Cotter, WISF Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07 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 the Agenda for August 19, 2026
(Action Item) Chair Cotter called the Adoption of the Agenda for August 19, 2026 and requested comments from members. Seeing none, a motion to adopt the agenda was made by Member Lavery, seconded Member Tapia, and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from Chair Cotter called for the Approval of the Minutes from May 6, 2026. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Member Tapia and seconded by Member Lavery. The motion

May 6, 2026
(Action Item)

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

passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter called the Workforce Director's Report and asked the Acting Workforce Development Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), Diana Ponce De León, to provide remarks.

Director Ponce De León provided an overview of current economic indicators, noting accelerated growth over the past 12 months. Apartment rents and housing prices have increased, transportation speeds declined 4 percent in the second quarter, downtown transit continues to recover, and office vacancy has declined 3.7 percentage points, although it remains above 30 percent. Growth continues in health services, tourism, and hospitality.

She highlighted workforce accomplishments, including the largest City EMT graduating class to date, with 19 graduates passing national certification exams and 11 continuing toward certification. OEWD is also implementing its new workforce portfolio following its largest procurement in four years and updating performance and monitoring measures to standardize goals across programs.

Director Ponce De León provided updates on the department's eight centralized job centers, including the addition of Mission Language Vocational School and the planned transition of Self-Help for the Elderly to a Comprehensive AJCC.

She highlighted recent workforce partnerships and events, including the launch of CityBuild Cycle 45 and a multilingual TNT Supermarkets hiring event that attracted approximately 500 applicants, resulted in more than 200 interviews, and generated approximately 190 job offers. She also noted continued efforts to expand climate workforce opportunities through partnerships with Mission Neighborhood Centers, the Department of the Environment, and the Port of San Francisco.

Finally, she provided updates on citywide coordination around HR1 and a new dual-enrollment and apprenticeship pilot being developed with the Mayor's Office, DCYF, SFUSD, CCSF, HRC, and early childhood partners. She emphasized the department's broader goal of strengthening collaboration across OEWD divisions to better leverage programs, support community partners, and increase impact.

Chair Cotter asked how performance metrics would ensure that hard-to-serve populations are not overlooked in favor of participants with easier-to-achieve outcomes.

Director Ponce De León explained that placement goals were based on four years of historical performance by program area and target population, with flexibility to account for funding requirements and the needs of harder-to-serve populations. She also acknowledged the scale of the impact on workers without work authorization and benefits recipients affected by HR1, noting that OEWD is coordinating across departments and exploring economic development, entrepreneurship, street vending, and cooperative models to create additional pathways to economic opportunity.

Member Tapia asked about WIOA funding allocations, including the 10 percent administrative allocation and the designated comprehensive AJCC. Ms. Hand explained that several centers provide

full scope workforce services, so Goodwill remains the designated Comprehensive AJCC, and OEWD will be certifying additional providers for AJCC status.

Member Tapia also inquired about how OEWD is serving dislocated workers. Director Ponce De León explained that OEWD is currently managing requests while finalizing grant agreements and mapping service opportunities, with a comprehensive list of available programs expected within the next month. Member Tapia requested a more detailed strategy for assisting dislocated workers that he could communicate to EDD.

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

**Commission
Streamlining
Task Force
Update**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Ms. Hand presented an update on Ordinance 099-26 and the City's review of its boards and commissions, noting that WISF and the Committee on City Workforce Alignment were designated as core boards and will continue. She reported that WISF's bylaws will need to be updated due to a new code location, with proposed revisions coming to the Board for review in October and approval in December. She also highlighted new Citywide policies reducing WISF's membership to 28, establishing a 12-year/6-term limit, and allowing a 60-day holdover period for members awaiting reappointment.

Director Ponce De León expressed appreciation for members' longstanding service and commitment, and noted that staff are exploring ways for members to remain engaged through a working group or similar structure. She also asked for members' support in maintaining a strong committee and noted that the proposed changes will be discussed in September.

In response to these new rules and forthcoming changes, Chair Cotter put forth a motion to establish a working group to support staff and facilitate the transition to new Executive Committee and Board membership and leadership, with current Executive Committee members agreeing to serve. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**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.

Adjournment
(Action Item)

Receiving no further comments, Chair Cotter adjourned the meeting at 10:03 A.M.

