



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Social Services  
**Department No.:** 044  
**For Agenda Of:** Mar 16, 2021  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director, (805) 346-7101  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Raymond McDonald, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board  
(805) 681-4540  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendations for Appointment of Workforce Development Board Members

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Appoint the recommended individuals to the Workforce Development Board.
- b) Determine that the above actions do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and therefore it is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) and (5) as the proposed action is also an organizational or administrative activity.

**Summary Text:**

The Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which replaces the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), requires the County of Santa Barbara to appoint new Workforce Development Board (WDB) members and institute changes in structure and program design. The County Executive Office has worked with the WDB Executive Director to develop recommendations for Workforce Board appointments. The initial members were appointed in September 2015. The resignation of Jesse Cuevas, a mandated partner, has left a vacant seat that must be filled. The WDB Executive Director is putting forward two new appointments today, to fill vacant positions.

**Background:**

On July 24, 2014, the President signed into law the WIOA that replaces WIA of 1998. Both WIA and WIOA legislation create a publicly-funded workforce system across the nation via public/private partnerships. In Santa

Barbara, the Public Partner is the County of Santa Barbara and the Private Partner is the WDB, with each partner having equal standing and legislatively-mandated responsibilities. In addition, the Federal legislation requires an Executive Director of the Workforce Board to foster the collaboration between the County and Workforce Board and provide the day-to-day management of the workforce system.

The WIOA is intended to build upon the successes and lessons learned over more than fifteen years that the WIA was in existence and to review, renew, and revitalize the current systems and structures. The key elements of WIOA are: systems alignment (between workforce, economic vitality, community colleges, and the private sector), industry sector strategies, multiple-county regional collaboration, smaller and more strategic workforce boards, and continuous improvement of the delivery system.

### *Board Recruitment*

Principal among the activities required for implementation of WIOA is the selection of the WDB. The Act requires that the majority of members must be from the private sector. According to the Act, these members should be Chief Executives or Executive level decision makers within organizations that provide high quality employment opportunities, and they should be representatives from the County's designated high growth industry sectors.

In addition to the private sector requirements, the Act also mandates that the Board include at least one representative from: Labor Organizations and Community Based Organizations; Apprenticeship Programs; Adult Education; Institutions of Higher Education; Economic Development; The State's Employment Development Department (EDD); and Vocational Rehabilitation Programs.

Because the Chief Local Elected Official (CLEO), as designated by the State of California and prescribed by the WIOA, has fiduciary responsibility for funds received, the WIOA stipulates that the WDB members must be appointed by the CLEO. The stated intent of the WIOA is to foster a "public/private" partnership between the CLEO and the private sector led by the WDB. Consequently, all appointments and reappointments to the WDB must be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Based on the above criteria, the Workforce Development Board Executive Director recommends the following applicants to fill the vacant positions on the Board:

- Cesar Valladares, Deputy Division Chief, Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Petra Gomez, Program Manager, Santa Barbara Foundation

Their applications are found in Attachment A.

**Special Instructions:** Upon approval, please send one copy of the minute order to Anthony Garduno via email to [a.garduno@sbcsocialserv.org](mailto:a.garduno@sbcsocialserv.org).

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Applications

Attachment B: Roster of recommended WDB Appointees

### **Authored by:**

Raymond L. McDonald, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board