



Bridging the gap between job seekers, employers, and community organizations

**Workforce Development Special Board Meeting
MINUTES**

March 12, 2026 • 3:00 – 3:30
Via Teams

Present: Dave Shaw, Nathe Lawver, Deanna Keller, Lin Zhou, Deb Tuggle, Dona Ponepinto, Jenna Pollock, Umi Wagoner, Misty Sullivan, Robin Baker, Blaine Wolfe, Nino Gray, John Adams, Ann Medalia, Rachael Pease, Lynn Strickland

Staff: Katie Condit, Debbie Lean, Autumn Hughes, Karen Downing, Christian Reed, Shellie Willis

- **Welcome & Public Comment**
Dave called the meeting to order at 3:03pm. No public comments were made.
- **Young Adult Provider Approval**
Katie shared that after a thorough review, ranking, and scoring, the committee for young adult providers is requesting the board to consider and approve three. Our current providers, Career Team and Palmer Scholars, do incredible work with young people in the community. We want to keep consistency with that work and continue funding them for what they do well. Following the board's desire to stay locally focused, the request is for board approval to bring Tacoma Community House as a new young adult provider for our workforce services. They have a robust young adult center, the REACH Center, and a long history of engaging with young adults who are disconnected from work and school. They also serve a diverse population of young people in the region. Dave shared that as a committee member, the process was thorough and deep. They are pleased with the selection and have full confidence it was the right decision.

After a brief discussion, Dave called for a motion to approve the selection of Career Team, Palmer Scholars, and Tacoma Community House as young adult providers.

Motion to approve made by Rachael; seconded by Nathe; Approved
- **Good of the Order**
Katie shared that she appreciates everyone attending this special meeting and the committee's exceptional work.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:28pm

