

Merced County Workforce Investment Board
Planning, Policy Development and Legislation Committee
Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities
2000 “M” Street, Merced, CA
February 27, 2002, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Andrea Baker, Nick Benjamin, George Brown, Harry Dull, Peter Fluetsch (Chair), John Fowler, Carol Greenberg, Brian Griffin

Others Present: Harry Gossett, Sarah Greene

PITD Staff Present: Debby Hoban, John Kasnick, Ed McLaughlin, Dick Skarke

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** - The Chair called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken.
2. **Approve Agenda** – Agenda was approved as published.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Fowler/Dull* to approve the January 23 minutes with a minor typo correction in paragraph 7a.
4. **Public Opportunity to Speak** - None
5. **Update – Meet the WIB Contest** – Brian Griffin attended a function at Action Business Center hosted by John Fowler.
6. **Information Agenda:**
 - a. **TANF Reauthorization** – Ms. Andrea Baker briefed the committee on the President’s TANF reauthorization proposal. One of President’s proposals is allowing, at the state level, the Governor to transfer dollars in and between different programs to assist TANF participants to take advantage of workforce programs. There is a possibility for the Governor to move workforce dollars into the welfare funding without the WIB having oversight over those dollars. Attention needs to be paid to the way program dollars move across public assistance and workforce development programs. The committee needs to watch very closely and decide how to proceed with the WIB. The Chair requested Ms. Baker and staff to bring to the attention of the committee any information on TANF reauthorization and any other specific items that may affect the WIB.
 - b. **Monitoring Presentation** –Monitoring oversight includes oversight authority, standards for WIB oversight, monitoring objectives, monitoring activities program fiscal and technical assistance. PITD’s Monitoring Unit performs all oversight activities on behalf of the WIB. Contracts are monitored at least once per program year and objectives are three-fold: compliance with contracts, providing technical assistance, and ensuring quality. The monitoring process consists of a desk review, on site review, and a written report.

7. Action Agenda: Request to move 7b as next item on the agenda was approved.

b. Expanded Registered Nurse (RN) Training

Following is a proposal by Merced College for an Expanded RN Training Program:

- (1) Twenty-four (24) new students will be enrolled each semester, starting August 2002; six (6) of the twenty-four (24) will be WIA eligible and funded by the WIB.
- (2) By January 2004, ninety-six (96) students will be enrolled in the RN program; twenty-four (24) will be supported by the WIB for maximum of two years.

Staff provided an overview of the current RN Training Program, the proposed Expanded RN Training Program, and the budget proposed by Merced College.

The budget for the expanded RN program (August 2002 – Jun 2004) would be:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--|
| Contract | \$297,417 | (as proposed by the College) |
| Supportive Services | | (average \$3,950 per year per participant) |
| 24 Students | <u>118,680</u> | |
| | \$416,097 | |

The WIB/County/College also has a contract (Aug 2002 – Jun 2003) for 12 RN students as follows:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Contract | \$ 83,856 |
| Supportive Services (12 students) | <u>47,400</u> |
| | \$131,256 |
| | |
| Total Cost for 36 Students (through Jun 2004) | \$547,353 |

Staff advised that both RN programs (contract with the College and supportive services of \$547,353) would be approximately 27% of the overall Adult/Dislocated Worker training budget.

Sarah Greene and Harry Gossett, both Deans of Instruction at Merced College, provided background for the expanded RN program and efforts to obtain funding for the expansion.

It was *M/S/C Griffin/Benjamin* to 1) Recommend to the Board the expansion of the RN program supported by the WIB for six (6) students each semester for a minimum of two years. 2) Direct the Department to negotiate a cost per participant to assist the expansion not to exceed 20% of the training dollars and supportive services for a two-year period.

- a. **Conflict of Interest Policy** – Staff presented an overview. After the County sent out Form 700 there was serious concern by some WIB members about the degree or extent of disclosure. State law requires most state and local government officials and employees to publicly disclose their personal assets and income. There are two groups who have to make the disclosure.

First group includes those individuals enumerated in Code Section 87200 who must provide full disclosure. The second group includes all other officials and employees covered by Code Section 87300 and their disclosure is limited. Members of the WIB fall into this second group.

It was *M/S/C Fowler/Greenberg* to recommend to the Board that it adopt a rule to serve as the “Local Code” for conflict of interest and disclosure and that such rule be substantially equivalent to the conflict of interest provision of the Board’s existing bylaws, modified only to the extent required to make the rule compliant with Government Code Section 87300 et seq.

- c. **Individual Training Account (ITA) Policy** – Staff prepared ITA Policy from the input at the last committee meeting and presented it to the committee members for final approval.

It was *M/S/C Griffin/Fowler* to recommend to the full Board to adopt the ITA Policy to include an amendment to Item 2 to read – The “Maximum Training Funds Available” on any individual ITA shall not exceed six thousand dollars (\$6,000) without the prior written approval of the Assistant Director of the One-Stop Operator **or in his absence the Program Manager of the One-Stop Career Center.**

- d. **Enterprise Zone (Assembly Bill 1846)** – John Fowler noted BOS took action to endorse this legislation and they are preparing letters to Assemblyman Cardoza and Senator Montieth in support of the bill.

It was *M/S/C Greenberg/Benjamin* to recommend to the full Board that it write letters of support for AB 1846 to Senator Monteith and Assemblyman Cardoza.

8. Chair Comments – None

9. Next Meeting Date and Time – Next meeting will be March 27, 2002, at 3 p.m., at the Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities, 2000 M Street, Merced, CA.

10. Adjournment – It was *M/S/C Baker/Griffin* to adjourn.

Minutes Prepared by Debby Hoban