

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County

WIB Finance Committee

Department of Workforce Investment (Small Conf Rm)

1880 W. Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA

Wednesday, March 5, 2003, 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes



Members Present: Lee Andersen, Andrea Baker, John Fowler, Alfonse Peterson (Vice Chair), Vann (Mike) Smith (Chair)

Members Absent: Susan Armstrong

Staff Present: Dave Davis, Dee Knight, Jackie Walther-Parnell

1. **Call to Order:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.
2. **Approve Agenda:** It was *M/S/C Fowler/Baker* to approve the agenda as published.
3. **Approve Minutes (February 6, 2003):** It was *M/S/C Fowler/Andersen* to approve the February 6, 2003 minutes after changing para 4.b. (2nd sentence) in part to state "... he is already committed to the point where he is not willing to allocate more time".
4. **Public Opportunity to Speak:** Ms. Andrea Baker noted on her trip to Washington, DC, she learned the fiscal issues are still ugly, so this committee has its work cut out. The President is still planning to cut the in-school youth program.

5. Action Agenda:

a. Select Private Sector Volunteer for the Worknet Certification Process Examination Team: It was *M/S/C Fowler/Andersen* to recommend to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Ms. Susan Armstrong, if she is available. Ms. Baker will talk to Ms. Armstrong and give her all the information.

b. Limited Funds Policy: It was *M/S/C Andersen/Fowler* to recommend the WIB Executive Committee put the Limited Funds Policy for Adult Employment and Training Services on the WIB's March agenda for approval. The Chair asked staff to submit the definitions of the law with the request.

6. Information Agenda:

a. Fiscal Report: Staff provided handouts showing the Allocations, Obligations and Expenses for Fiscal Year 2002/03 (Jul 1, 2002-Jan 31, 2003), gave an overview of the report, and answered specific questions.

Staff noted some modifications would be made to the plan module to move money around because more customers than expected are being seen at the One-Stop. There is more of a demand for Core A services. It was requested staff provide a comparison graph for last year (Jan-Jun 2002) to see if the number of customers decreased at the end of the year.

It was noted the Adult and Dislocated Worker expenses were up. At the end of December approximately 45% of available funds had been spent, and this jumped to approximately 63% by the end of January.

The youth carryover at the end of this year is estimated to be about 1/10 of the carryover from last year. Under WIA reauthorization, it is anticipated that youth funds will be focused on out-of-school youth—dropouts, those not in the work force, those attached to foster care, and juvenile offenders.

b. Grant Application Status Report: The Dislocated Workers Assistance grant is being held up at the State. All additional funding requests are being reviewed under a microscope. Each time it's looked at, they ask for additional information. We have provided all the requested information. The need for these funds is time sensitive. It was recommended that if there are a number of these requests being held up for a period of time, those agencies involved should notify their respective representatives and ask them to go in as a group and request the funds be released.

c. Rapid Response Funds: The current year Rapid Response allocation has been received, and is less than what was requested.

d. Status of PY 03 Federal Funding: Ms. Baker noted the allocation for the State of California will determine what we will receive. There was a change to California's allocation because of its unemployment rate in the year the calculated data was collected. Instead of the 15% cut, CA received a 23% cut. It will be passed down to us in formula, and hopefully we can identify what our allocation would be. Staff noted that unless something has changed, for CA the decrease will be a little over 5% for Adults, 5 1/2 % for Dislocated Workers, and over 11% in youth.

7. Chair Comments: The Chair noted Ms. Kirsten Lee (Dept of WI) and Mr. Dennis Haines (Family Resource Council) made a presentation to the Youth Council on Feb 19, 2003. From that meeting the Youth Council Operations Committee is forwarding a recommendation to the Youth Council that it recommend the WIB set up a 501c3 rather than the Youth Council. The Chair asked if it would be feasible for the Finance Committee to start collecting information; i.e., economic status, to use as an argument for why Merced County should receive independent funding, and put this information into a database to be used for all grant requests.

It was recommended that the WIB set up a formal arrangement with the Family Resource Council if it wanted to start an initiative to draw in funds for the Youth Council under a 501c3. One of the goals for the Youth Council is to fund Ms. Evelyn Eagleton's program. Ms. Baker will have staff work on these issues, and have an outline for the next meeting of the process and steps taken to begin working with the Family Resource Center.

8. Next Meeting Date: The next meeting is Wednesday, April 9, 2003, 7:30-9:00 a.m., in the Wardrobe Small Conference Room.

9. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.