



**Workforce Investment Board
Finance Committee
Private Industry Training Department
Small Conference Room
1880 West Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA
March 8, 2001
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Bob Bittner, Ernie Flores, Leo Lamb, Tom May (Chair), Alfonse Peterson, Mike (Van) Smith, Steve Tinetti

Members Absent: Bob Carpenter, Ben Duran

PITD Staff Present: John Kasnick, Dee Knight, Carol Silva, Dick Skarke

1. – Call to Order and Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order and everyone signed the sign-in sheet.

2. – Review Agenda/Additions

Chair said staff helped prepare the agenda, and will present a breakdown of where our monies come from and how it is disseminated to the programs.

3. – Opening Comments from the Chair – none.

4. – Public Opportunity to Speak – none.

5. – Review Goals and Objectives Assigned by the Board

The Chair said committees are finding that some goals assigned belong to another committee or overlap. He wanted committee members to review its goals for changes or other inputs.

There were no changes to the goals of the Finance Committee.

A question was asked what power the committee has to negotiate with the county their charge to handle the WIB's administrative costs. Staff said the county charges \$355,699.00 for administrative costs, but wasn't prepared to discuss the particulars at this meeting.

6. – Review Sources and Applications of Funds by WIA and PITD

Staff handed out sheets containing information given on the PowerPoint presentation regarding the funds allocated to PITD--\$16 million a year, of which the WIB has oversight of 70%. The presentation showed how much money there is, how the money will likely be spent, and how the money gets from Congress to us. These funds consist primarily of the following:

“Merced County’s Workforce Investment System will keep pace with new growth, the emerging economy, and the ever-changing needs of the employers by creating a better educated, highly skilled workforce, that’s capable, prepared, and thoroughly knowledgeable.”

- a. Welfare-to-Work - \$2,251,510;
- b. CAA Welfare-to-Work - \$119,167;
- c. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) - \$8,807,747; and
- d. CalWORKs - \$3,604,744

The balance of funds is used for various grants and contracts. The legislative formula of how monies are allocated to each program was explained, and also how Congress gets its cut.

Explanations of funding sources and formulas were given for California on the following:

- a. Welfare-to-Work Grants
- b. WIA Funding Streams
- c. WIA Title I Allotments to California/Grants (Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth)
- d. Forecasted Expenditures from Funding Streams (Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth)

There was some discussion of the Labor Force Participation Rate (the number used to calculate the unemployment rate—those people who are working or who are seeking work). The rate statewide is 49%, and the rate for Merced County is 41%. The forecasted 17% unemployment rate is not the magnitude of the problem, but it is bigger in Merced County—the difference between the recorded unemployment rate and the real unemployment rate is probably bigger here than it is statewide.

There was some discussion on the difference between Core A and B. Staff will have copies of the Training and Employment Guidance Letter 7.99 (TEAGL), which defines the difference, at the next meeting. Staff explained that basically, the difference between Core A and B is a local decision because it is not definitive in the law.

It was explained that even though there's a formula for each allocation, that formula does not have to be adhered to. Counties are allowed to transfer up to 20% of funds from one allocation to another.

Ernie Flores asked that each member be furnished with a PITD organizational chart.

Steve Tinetti said he hoped this committee would be involved in helping to obtain a 501(C) (3), and in going after some private foundation monies.

7. – Establish Schedule for Regular Committee Meetings

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 15, 2001, at 8:30 a.m., in the Wardrobe Small Conference Room. The committee will be reviewing fiscal reports regarding monies allocated and spent on the different programs for CY 2001.

8. – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Devilla D. Knight.