



**WORKFORCE
INVESTMENT BOARD**
MERCED COUNTY

Workforce Investment Board
Dept of Workforce Investment, Large Conference Rm
1880 W. Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA
March 9, 2006, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes

<http://web.co.merced.ca.us/wi/wib/wib.html>

Members Present:

Lee Anderson
Kathleen Cookham
John Fowler
Terry Nichols
Al Romero

Nick Benjamin
Phil Flores
Robert Harmon
Alfonse Peterson
Vann (Mike) Smith

Sharon Cresswell
Robert Fore
Nellie McGarry
Larry Pitts
Steve Tinetti

Members Absent:

Andrea Baker
Ben Duran
Scott Galbraith
Charlie Lambert
Rick Osorio
Mike Sullivan

Don Bergman
Ernie Flores
Carol Greenberg
Albert Montejano
Chris Rosander
Thomas Tsubota

Bob Bittner
Peter Fluetsch
Jeremiah Greggains
Anne Newins
Carole Roberds

Others Present:

Dave Davis
Dee Knight
Joanne Presnell

Eddie Harding
Alfredo Mendoza
Stacie Dabbs

Darrell Fonseca
Nannette Potter

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – The Chair, Ms. Nellie McGarry, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Roll call was taken. Due to lack of a quorum, the Chair noted approval of the agenda and minutes, and the Consent Agenda could not be covered.

Staff introductions were made, and the Chair recognized and introduced Ms. Stacie Dabbs from Congressman Cardoza's office.

2. Presentations:

a. City of Dos Palos Economic Development – Mr. Darrell Fonseca, City of Dos Palos, showed maps depicting the growth and developmental phases of Dos Palos. He gave an overview of the following important issues facing the City of Dos Palos:

- Closings of Michael's Cooperage Co., DeFrancesco & Sons, Inc, Dole and Koda Rice Mill
- High school students are being trained to work in the high tech sector
- Booming industry of housing
- Local people are hired to work in the housing industry
- Redevelopment of downtown buildings
- New Home Construction and phase development
- Median home price
- Largest employers are Ag Industry and School System
- Annexation
- Impact Fee Studies

b. Rapid Response Activities – The Dept of WI staff provided a handout, gave an overview of the

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Rapid Response process and activities accomplished in 2005/2006, and answered several relevant questions. Mr. Larry Pitts noted the Rapid Response services were very helpful and well received by those laid off at Unilever.

3. Announcements:

- a. There is a Central Valley Career Fair on March 29, 2006, 3-6:30 p.m., at the Fairgrounds Commerce Building. Worknet is a major sponsor.
- b. The P-16 Council is having its first Regional Council meeting on March 30, 2006, at UC Merced.
- c. Merced County Office of Education is having a Career Fair for credential teachers only on March 25, 2006.
- d. Tinetti Realty is sponsoring the Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer on Thursday, March 16, 2006.

4. Information Agenda:

- a. WIRED Grant Update – The grant was not awarded to the Valley group.
- b. Implications for Action – The P-16 Council is continuing to establish goals for each segment of the education sector. The Council is being looked upon very favorably by the State agency that will be funding P-16s and other similar collaboratives.
- c. Letter of Appreciation – Guerrilla Marketing
- d. Fiscal Report
- e. Participant Report
- f. LMI Updates
- g. Committee Reports- www.co.merced.ca.us/wi/wib/html

5. Director's Comments – The Chair noted Ms. Andrea Baker was attending a meeting in San Francisco, but she provided written comments that were passed out to everyone. The Chair gave an overview of Ms. Baker's comments.

6. Chair Comments – The Chair noted that at the May meeting, she would like to have a discussion on how the Workforce Investment Board could continue to move forward in bringing together economic development, workforce preparation and education.

7. Other – Dr. Robert Fore noted that he, Mr. John Fowler, Mr. Frank Quintero, Ms. Andrea Baker and Ms. Young met to discuss what kinds of higher-skilled businesses could open around UC Merced, what kinds of things can be put in place to attract these businesses, and what things could be removed that would prevent the development of such businesses.

8. Next Meeting – May 11, 2006, Dept. of Workforce Investment, 1880 W, Wardrobe Ave, Merced.

9. Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned 4:20.