

**Workforce Investment Board
Executive Committee
1880 W. Wardrobe Ave
April 3, 2006, 7:30-9:00 a.m.
Meeting Minutes**



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

Members Present:

Kathleen Crookham Albert Montejano Nellie McGarry (Chair) Mike (Vann) Smith
Mike Sullivan

Members Absent:

Rick Osorio

Others Present:

Andrea Baker Dave Davis Dee Knight Alfredo Mendoza
Joanne Presnell Jackie Walther-Parnell

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.
 2. Approval of Agenda: It was *M/S/C Crookham/Montejano* to approve the agenda as published.
 3. Approval of Minutes (February 6, 2006): It was *M/S/C Crookham/Montejano* to approve the February 6, 2006 minutes, with the change in spelling of Ms. Marchini's name.
 4. Public Opportunity to Speak: None.
 5. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Renewal of WIB Members' Terms
 - b. Limited Funds Policy
 - c. Merced PLATO Lab Contract
 - d. 2005/06 Performance Measures
 - e. Individual Training Account Exceptions – Post and RN Contracts

It was *M/S/C Smith/Montejano* to approve items a-e on the Consent Agenda.

6. Action Agenda:
 - a. Subcommittee Attendance and Membership: It was *M/S/C Crookham/Smith* to approve the temporary resignation of Workforce Investment Board (WIB) members from a subcommittee for a period up to, but not exceeding, four months.
 - b. WIB Alignment: Ms. Joanne Presnell led a focus discussion on the following elements of alignment:
 - Definitions: Webster's and Greg Newton'sQ: What word(s) stands out, and what do you think about when relating to workforce alignment?
A: Shared purpose, linking people, moving in the same direction, strategy, groups of forces, relations.

- Give examples of WIB alignment with education, economic development and workforce housing:

A: Collaborating with Merced College in the LVN/RN Programs, WIB members on the P-16 Council and help funding the secretary position, the Workforce Housing Taskforce, the One-Stop concept, Merced College, Golden Valley Healthcare and the WIB pursuing grant funding through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, One-Stop certification, Worknet Leadership Team, and Younger Youth Program.

- Most exciting alignments:

A: Education and youth, because that's the long-term solution to the problems; healthcare, but it needs to be taken to the next level; business strategies—helping Quebecor with new hires; WIB participation in certification of the One-Stop.

- Most critical alignments:

A: Is it the youth or is it the business; making a commitment or choice.

- The importance of alignment:

A: If there is no alignment, you won't have the breakthrough results; efficiency and use of resources—leveraging different groups.

- The central issue or key problem area in alignment:

A: Economic development—don't know where they are going; being kept informed of the skills needed for the workforce; too many targets in the Industry Clusters.

- What changes need to be made?

A: Looking at the entire cluster and not just one aspect; after getting consensus of the WIB about a what directions to take, reorganize the WIB committees into smaller ad hoc committees to tackle the specific issues, and bring it back to the WIB after the work is done; invite those with expertise to the working groups; list the things being done and take a poll to find out what members are passionate about.

- What has been learned from today's discussion?

A: That this committee is aligned—there is a focus; by defining education, workforce housing, economic development the WIB began to align even more, and had been aligning all the time and just didn't know it.

- What are the next steps?

A: To get education and economic development on the same page; education should start at the junior high level to prepare students for the workforce and the kinds of jobs needed and coming to the area, because not all students will go to a two- or four-year college; keep being exposed to other ideas and concepts, and what other WIBs are doing.

It was recommended that this type of discussion would be covered at the next WIB meeting.

7. Information Agenda:

a. Joint Request for Funds: This is a collaboration between the Dept of WI and Central Valley Opportunity Center in requesting from CA State Employment Development Dept \$175,000 to serve 25 dislocated workers affected by the closure of Unilever and Dole.

b. PY 2006 Allocation: The normal allocation process has been disrupted, which will impact the WIA Adult and Youth Programs.

8. Director Comments: Ms. Andrea Baker noted the Department received a “thank you” letter from Congressman Cardoza for expressing concerns about the President’s budget. The Department will not know its full PY 2006 allocation until after July 2006.

The CA Partnership for San Joaquin Valley Economic Development will be having countywide meetings. The first one will be in Fresno, and the proposed date for Merced County is May 19, 2006.

The Fresno Hospital Council is putting together a Central Valley Nursing initiative. We are waiting for a report from Merced College on the concept. If Merced County will not benefit, then it should not be called a Central Valley initiative.

Microsoft is distributing free Digital Literacy certification software. It has been downloaded on the computers at Worknet Merced. The software is available for anyone to use. A goal is to expand hours at Worknet so businesses can take advantage of it.

The Governor may be attending the Construction Trades Career Fair at Castle Airport on April 7, 2006.

9. Chair Comments: None.

10. Next Meeting: May 1, 2006, Dept of Workforce Investment Large Conference Room, 1880 W. Wardrobe Ave.

11. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:39 a.m.