

**Planning, Policy Development, and Legislation Committee**  
**Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities**  
**2000 M Street, Merced, CA**  
**April 24, 2002, 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.**  
**Meeting Minutes**



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

**Members Absent:** Andrea Baker

**Others Present:** Dr. John Spevak

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

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** – The Chair called the meeting to order. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.
2. **Agenda** – The agenda was approved as published.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Griffin/Fowler* to approve the March 27, 2002 minutes.
4. **Public Opportunity to Speak** – None present.
5. **Update – Meet the WIB Contest** – Brian Griffin visited five sites and Carol Greenberg one site.
6. **Action Agenda:**
  - a. **Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) Contract** – Staff advised committee members the present LVN contract will expire in June, and Merced College requested a new contract be developed for 18 months starting July 1, 2002.

Dr. John Spevak, Merced College, was invited to speak. He noted there is a great need in this area for more LVNs. Merced College will make an appeal to local hospitals to fund some of the supportive services.

It was *M/S/C Fowler/Brown* to recommend the WIB approve the 18-month, \$54,000 contract with Merced College to provide LVN training for six (6) WIA eligible participants. Also, as the Policy Committee recommend to the Executive Committee and WIB to consider adding four (4) additional WIA eligible participants with the funds that will be available from the reduced RN program budget.

- b. **Building Trades Program** – Tabled until next meeting.
- c. **Community Colleges Economic Development (SB 1566)** – Mr. John Fowler informed the committee members of the Economic Development program that works with the community colleges. Program emphasis is on workforce training and benefits the colleges, students, and faculty. Senator Polanco has introduced the bill for an extension. It was recommended the committee support this activity.

It was *M/S/C Griffin/Greenberg* to recommend the WIB Chair sign a letter of support for the bill.

**7. Information Agenda:**

- a. Registered Nurse (RN) Contract Update** – Staff provided handouts of a revised proposed budget for the expanded RN program. Since the March 24, 2002 WIB meeting, Merced College revised the budget regarding the WIB’s involvement. Total budget remains over \$594,000; however, the WIB’s cost would be approximately \$137,348 vs. \$297,417.

Dr. Spevak explained the breakdown of expenses. One instructor will retire and that position will be moved to the RN area. The college will cover one of the faculty positions, which means the college is picking up \$105,000 as opposed to asking PITD for WIA funds. The college will receive an additional \$20,000 per year for two years from the governor, and they received confirmation of contributions from various partners. Merced College will work with the hospitals to help reduce PITD’s cost of supportive services.

This will be an information item at the next WIB meeting.

**8. Chair Comments** – None.

**9. Next Meeting Date and Time** – The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 22, 2002, at the Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities, 2000 M Street, Merced, CA, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**10. Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Debby Hoban