

**Workforce Investment Board  
Program Planning and Development Committee  
Department of Workforce Investment  
1880 W. Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA  
May 4, 2004, 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.  
Meeting Minutes**

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**Members Present:** Andrea Baker, Sharon Cresswell, Peter Fluetsch (Vice Chair), John Fowler, Scott Galbraith, Anne Newins, Rick Osorio (Chair), Mike Sullivan, Thomas Tsubota

**Members Absent:** Paul Alderete, Don Bergman, Carol Greenberg, Al Romero

**WI Staff Present:** Dave Davis, Dee Knight, Joanne Presnell

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**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.

**2. Agenda:** It was *M/S/C Fowler/Baker* to approved the agenda as published.

**3. Public Opportunity to Speak:** None.

**4. Action Agenda:**

**a. MC Office of Education Workplace Learning Academy, Construction/Building Trades Program:** This is a request from Merced County Office of Education (MCOE) Workplace Learning Academy to place its Construction/Building Trades Program on the Eligible Training Provider List.

Members asked staff to contact MCOE and Firm Build to have them make a presentation at next month's meeting, and to answer relative questions.

**5. Information/Discussion:**

**a. Regional Economies Project:** Ms. Baker noted the California Regional Economies Project is looking at different regional economies and doing specific research for each of the economies. She, Mr. Fowler and several Worknet Leadership Team members attended a meeting in Fresno regarding the project. Staff would like committee members to identify employers in Merced County who would be willing to participate in the project's interviews. Fisher Electronics, Los Banos, was recommended.

**b. Workforce Investment Board Selected Industry Clusters:** Staff provided a handout showing Industry Clusters (in bubble format) for Merced County along with a matrix and graph depicting information regarding the selected industry clusters of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB). This gave everyone a visual of the economic impact on Merced County, which can help the WIB in deciding how to invest its training dollars. It was recommended that this information be provided to the P-16 Council.

**c. P-16 Council Update:** Several committee members are participating on the P-16 Council, which is a collaborative effort between Merced County Superintendents, business leaders and economic development to broaden the range of education in relation to economic development and workforce development activities in the County.

*"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."*

To start a dialogue and possibly get some direction, one member will be addressing the Golden Valley DECA class on Thursday, and hopefully this will open doors to address other such groups.

**d. Youth Employability Card:** It was decided that since there is no one who can dedicate time to solicit employers to participate in this program, it should be discontinued.

**6. Chair's Comments:** None. It was recommended that there be an update on the "Surviving and Thriving in the Workplace" Workshop at the next meeting.

**7. Next Meeting Date/Time:** Next meeting is May 26, 2004, 3:00-4:30 p.m., in the Merced Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 690 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced.

**8. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Devilla D. Knight.