

**Workforce Investment Board**  
**Dept of Workforce Investment, Large Conference Rm**  
**1880 W. Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA**  
**May 8, 2008, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**



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

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**Members Present:**

Lee Andersen  
Bob Bittner  
Ernie Flores  
Henry Ildefonso  
Anne Newins  
Vann (Mike) Smith

Andrea Baker  
Kathleen Cookham  
John Fowler  
Joseph Lombardi  
Alfonse Peterson  
Mike Sullivan

Don Bergman  
Rennise Ferrario  
Robert Harmon  
Albert Montejano  
Al Romero  
Nancy Ugarte

**Members Absent:**

Edward Dietz  
Carol Greenberg  
David Long  
Rick Osorio  
Thomas Tsubota

Ben Duran  
Darren Hughes  
Steve Newvine  
Carole Roberds

Peter Fluetsch  
Garith Krause  
Terry Nichols  
John Stewart

**Others Present:**

Brian Cutler  
Teresa Kinney  
Joanne Presnell  
Jackie Walther-Parnell

Eddie Harding  
Dee Knight  
Loretta Schlosser

Amalee Jayasinghe  
Alfredo Mendoza  
Pedro Vargas

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call – The Chair, Mr. Robert Harmon, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Roll call was taken.
  2. Approval of Agenda – It was *M/S/C Romero/Peterson* to approve the agenda as published.
  3. Approval of Minutes – It was *M/S/C Bergman/Montejano* to approve the March 13, 2008 minutes.
  4. Public Opportunity to Speak – None.
  5. Consent Agenda: It was *M/S/C Fowler/Montejano* to approve items a. through g. of the Consent Agenda (*abstain Newins on item b., and abstain Andersen on item e.*).
    - a. Merced PLATO Lab – Merced Adult School
    - b. Los Banos PLATO Lab – Merced College
    - c. Memorandum of Understanding Amendment with Dept of Rehabilitation
    - d. One-Stop Certification
    - e. Youth Program Provider Selection
    - f. Workforce Investment Board Membership – Ms. Debra Glass
    - g. Workforce Investment Board Membership – Ms. Loretta Schlosser
  6. Action Agenda:
    - a. Workforce Investment Board Election: It was *M/S/C Bergman/Anderson* that the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) approve the following slate of officers:

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Albert Montejano | WIB Chairperson            |
| Alfonse Peterson | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair |
| Steve Newvine    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair |

b. Amendment to In-School Youth Contract: It was *M/S/C Peterson/Fowler (abstain Andersen)* to approve the amendment for the rescission of \$31,692 to the In-School Youth contract, and forward to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval.

c. Amendment to Out-of-School Youth Contract – It was *M/S/C Montejano/Smith (abstain Andersen)* to approve the amendment for the rescission of \$21,128 to the Out-of-School Youth contract, and forward to the BOS for approval.

7. Presentations:

a. Monitoring Process: Mr. Brian Cutler gave a PowerPoint presentation on the monitoring process of the State and Federal contracts and grants received by the Department. Also, the objectives of the internal monitoring process were explained.

b. Washington, DC Trip: In February 2008, Ms. Andrea Baker, Mr. Don Bergman and Mr. Robert Harmon attended the National Association of Workforce Board Forum in Washington, DC. They provided the following information:

- Mr. Harmon noted the following things of interest the WIB should think about:
  - ✓ Help the businesses in developing their pipeline in hiring, retaining and retention.
  - ✓ Find out what businesses have in common and work with them to bring in talented employees.
  - ✓ Through the local Chambers of Commerce start a Junior Achievement.
  - ✓ Instead of summer jobs, change to internships for our youth.
  - ✓ At age 28, a large population return home for jobs.
  - ✓ The greatest satisfaction of retirement is the first six months.
  - ✓ People pick a place to work by finding a place where they would enjoy staying.
  - ✓ In making a presentation to Congress for funding, get excited about your program and send letters of support.
- Mr. Bergman noted the following:
  - ✓ Get all Chambers involved by having a representative on the WIB.
  - ✓ The Merced Chamber currently has a nine-month (once a week) Junior Leadership Training, which could be tied in with Junior Achievement.
  - ✓ In one of the sessions he attended, the keynote speaker focused on training young people for the future and not the current present. It is important to have a concentration on the math and sciences.
  - ✓ Another session he attended focused on the shortage of healthcare. We should be working with our universities to develop more medical training.
  - ✓ WIBs need to tell their story, to create a picture of that story and what they're doing, and get the public acquainted with that story. Also get the local and state politicians to know the importance of the WIB.

- Ms. Baker noted the following:
  - ✓ She attended a session on Innovative Funding Tactics, and one of the elements was regarding estates and trusts. Supervisor Crookham will introduce Ms. Baker to the Merced County Estate Commissioner for the possibility of looking at those who have left money to the community in the hope of using these funds for training services. There was also a lot of Washington updates given.
  - ✓ She also attended a session on getting Regional Innovation Grants. The Department just received one with Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties for biotech. A biotech professional will be hired to develop a plan for the three counties to meet the needs of the biotech community.
  - ✓ There was another session on biotech partnering where San Diego partnered with its university and some businesses to develop a program where teachers and students are sent to boot camp in the summer to learn about particular businesses. Our WIB could grow this type of program for our youth.
  - ✓ One of the profound statements about what workforce should be doing was made by a keynote speaker—“It has never been more important and less of a sure thing. It’s like training for the Olympics when you don’t know what sport you are going to be in. Two things you can count on: 1) The work in a diverse workplace and 2) You will need to be a problem solver.” This is the challenge to our educators.

c. Recognition of Outgoing Members: A Certificate of Appreciation was given to Mr. John Fowler, Ms. Anne Newins and Mr. Don Bergman for their many years of dedicated service to the WIB.

Ms. Baker presented a gavel plaque to the Chair, Mr. Robert Harmon, for his many years of devoted service to the youth and WIB, and the years he served as Chair.

## 8. Member Committee Reports:

a. P-16 Council: Mr. Lee Andersen noted at the last meeting they had representatives present from proud care, preschool, kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and all three primary higher education systems. They reviewed and approved a new set of goals for each of the sectors present that not only work for each sector, but work cross sector. The P-16 continues to get positive attention from a variety of funding sources, and just recently completed a cutting-edge project with some of that funding.

b. Ad Hoc Economic Development Committee: Mr. Albert Montejano gave an overview of the meeting held on Mar 27, 2008. Mr. Thomas Smith of PG&E gave a PowerPoint presentation on Renewal and Alternative Energy, and there was a question and answer period afterwards. The committee is continuing to look at other alternatives for renewal energy, and the next presentation will be made by Merced County Irrigation District.

c. BEAM Committee: Ms. Baker noted there was a BEAM meeting this week, and she received a plaque for her outstanding leadership in representing the WIB, and a Certificate of Appreciation that was also signed by one of the preschool children. The preschoolers gave a wonderful presentation. BEAM needs the continued support and involvement of the businesses in the community.

## 9. Information Agenda:

- a. Workforce Investment Act Budget Rescission
- b. Regional Innovative Grant (RIG)

- c. Advocacy
- d. Letter from Dr. Ben Duran
- e. WIB Resignation – Mr. Lyle Wright
- f. Fiscal Reports
- g. Participant Reports
- h. Labor Market Information
- i. Ad Hoc Committee Notes – Located on WIB Website (or faxed upon request)

**10.** Director's Comments: Ms. Baker noted the Department received a copy of a letter that was sent this week to the Governor from Assemblymember Galgiani requesting funding in behalf of the RN Program in Merced County.

**11.** Chair Comments: The Chair noted staff provided an information sheet to all WIB members that summarizes the committees, organizations and collaboratives supported by the WIB. The Chair noted three WIB members, Mr. Mike Sullivan, Mr. Joseph Lombardi and himself, would be attending the LVN/RN graduation on May 21 and 22, 2008. The Chair thanked each WIB member and staff for their support and dedication to the WIB. He is convinced this WIB can make a difference in Merced County.

**12.** Next Meeting – July 10, 2008, Dept of Workforce Investment, 1880 W, Wardrobe Ave, Merced.

**13.** Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned 4:07 p.m.