

**Workforce Investment Board**  
**678 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Sam Pipes Meeting Room**  
**May 13, 2004 3:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**



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**Members Present:**

Paul Alderete	Nicolas Benjamin	Don Bergman
Bob Bittner	Sharon Cresswell	Kathleen Crookham
Ben Duran	Peter Fluetsch	Brian Griffin
Robert Harmon	John Heading	Charlie Lambert
Nellie McGarry	Ned Miller	Anne Newins
Terry Nichols	Al Peterson	Carole Roberds
Al Romero	Mike Smith	Helen Sullivan
Mike Sullivan	Steve Tinetti	

**Members Absent:**

Lee Andersen	Andrea Baker	Mike Boardman
Ernie Flores	John Fowler	Scott Galbraith
Carol Greenberg	Jeremiah Greggains	Albert Montejano
Rick Osorio	Thomas Tsubota	

**Others Present:**

Bunny Bentley	Rick Bungcayao	Elaine Craig
Dave Davis	Eddie Harding	Kirsten Lee
Donna Ornelas	Joanne Presnell	Jackie Walther-Parnell

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- I. Call to Order/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order by the Chair, John Heading and roll was taken by Donna Ornelas.
- II. Approval of Agenda** – It was M/S/C Alderete/Romero to approve the agenda as submitted.
- III. Approval of Minutes** - It was M/S/C Smith/Crookham to approve the minutes of March 11, 2004 as written.
- IV. Public Opportunity to Speak** - Ned Miller reported the Health Dept held a meeting to discuss the expected influx of Hmong families to the community. The 500 expected consist of 84 families with approximately 5-6 children per family. Carole Roberds noted school officials are meeting regularly and working with Lao Family. The Chair recommended the Youth Council become aware of the influx and get involved.
- V. Consent Agenda** - It was M/S/C Bergman/Tinetti to approve the Consent Agenda items a-h.
  - a. Self-Sufficiency Wage
  - b. Policy Statement for Fundraising
  - c. Youth RFP Recommendations
  - d. Continuation of RN Program 2004/2005
  - e. Performance Measures Negotiations 2003/2004
  - f. Youth Council Member – Natalie Culver
  - g. WIB Member Application – Phil Flores
  - h. WIB Member Application – Ed Anderson

- VI. WIB Election** – There were no nominations from the floor and it was M/S/C Crookham/Tinetti to appoint the current slate of officers: John Headding, Chair, Nellie McGarry, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Mike Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.
- VII. Follow-Up Reports - Regional Strategic Issues**
- a. Workforce Housing - Nick Benjamin discussed the issues with the lack of sufficient workforce housing and the challenges in the changing funding.
  - b. Economic Development – Scott Galbraith was not in attendance, however, update information on economic development was provided in the meeting packet.
- VIII. The State of Education** - Elaine Craig provided a presentation on workforce and education in Merced County. Ms. Craig shared statistics on workforce and education within the current and future population. The presentation was provided to serve as a springboard for the discussion. There was discussion on the skills gap for workforce.
- IX. Strategic Issues Working Session** – Mr. Headding noted the WIB began working on strategic issues as they related to workforce in our community. The work began in September of 2003 and to date, four sessions have been completed. It is the goal of the WIB to develop a state of the workforce report to include public policy statements addressing workforce, economic development, workforce housing, and education issues.

The group held a lengthy discussion on educational issues. It was also recommended that the Youth Council be involved with this.

Mr. Headding summarized the discussion with the following areas of primary concern as they relate to education in our community, and suggested that public policy statements be formulated:

- Lack of literacy
- Preschool Education – Universal Preschool
- Poverty – Social Support, Mentoring, Parental Support
- Vocational Education

The group also determined that the WIB can assist with these issues by:

- Lobby State Legislators for preschool funding
- Through business promote education with parents, be involved in public service campaigns – mentoring/literacy
- Reaffirmation that literacy is a priority
- Assist with dissemination of information to parents
- Provide a forum for dialogue between business and education

In addition, the WIB will continue this discussion with education and business at the July meeting and answer the following. The information will then be forwarded to the P-16 Council in August.

- What are the required skill-sets for your particular industry?
- What are your greatest concerns?
- What are you willing to do to improve education?

**X. Operational Reports**

- a. Nursing Program Outcomes – Joanne Presnell shared information on the outcomes of the nursing program for both RN and LVN programs, which included the county where the nurses were

employed up to 12 months after completing training.

- XI. Advocacy Report** - Joanne Presnell reported Andrea Baker was attending a NAWB meeting sponsored by DOL in Washington, DC to develop principles on how national farmworker programs and local workforce boards can increase collaboration through strategic planning efforts.

There is currently concern that the state will block grant programs, combining funding streams. It is anticipated this change would create less funding, and shift decision-making and control from local areas to the state.

Andrea Baker, along with six WIA Directors, met with Victoria Bradshaw from Department of Labor and EDD to establish a clear and better working relationship.

May 24-31, 2004, is National "One-Stop Day". The local areas are encouraged to have their congressional members visit One-Stops.

On June 2, 2004 there is a CWA meeting for WIB Chairs and Directors. John Headding and Andrea Baker will attend, and arrangements are being made to meet with Assemblyperson Matthews and Senator Denham.

**XII. Information Items**

- a. VITA Project Closeout Status
- b. Grant Application – EDD
- c. CARE Program
- d. Fiscal/Participant Data Reports
- e. Committee Reports - [www.co.merced.ca.us/wi/wib/wib.html](http://www.co.merced.ca.us/wi/wib/wib.html) (or faxed upon request)

- XIII. Spotlight on WIB Member** - Sharon Cresswell is the Special Events Marketing Manager in charge of sponsorship sales and major accounts with Buckley Radio Merced KUBB Country and Hot 104.7. Ms. Cresswell noted the media is a great voice to get information out and promote issues on workforce development. Ms. Cresswell provided handouts and statistical data from the last Job Fair co-sponsored with Buckley Radio.

- XIV. Chair Comments** – No additional comments.

- XV. Other** – None

- XVI. Next Meeting** – July 8, 2004, Location TBA.

- XVII. Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.