

**Merced County Workforce Investment Board
Planning and Policy Development Committee
Merced County Department of Business-Economic Opportunities
2000 "M" Street, Merced, CA
May 23, 2001, 3:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Nick Benjamin, George Brown, Harry Dull, Peter Fluetsch (Chair), John Fowler

Members Absent: Carol Greenberg, Brian Griffin, Grover Omyer

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

1. – **Call to Order and Roll Call** - The Chair called the meeting to order and a sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.
2. – **Approve Agenda.** An information item (Local Modification Plan) was added to the agenda.
3. – **Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Brown/Fluetsch* to approve the April 17, 2001, minutes.
4. – **Opening Comments from the Chair** – The Chair thanked the Action Business Center for hosting the meeting.
5. – **Public Opportunity to Speak** – None.
6. – **Reconsideration of Self-Sufficiency Wage** –The committee members approved Self-Sufficiency Wage on April 17th. It was revisited due to rather substantial changes in both the wage and cost of living data reflected in the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) package and attached to the agenda. It was *M/S/C Brown/Dull* that the committee recommend to the WIB to establish the Self-Sufficiency Wage as newly calculated.
7. – **WIA Sponsored RN Program** – After reviewing the information, it was *M/S/C Dull/Brown* that the committee recommend to the WIB that it approve funding to increase WIA sponsored RN students at Merced College from 6 per year to 12 per year and extension of the term of the contract from one to two years.
8. – **WIB Oversight of WIA Title I Programs** – It was decided to table this item. It was suggested that, when the initial draft of the WIB CLEO Agreement is available, copies should be distributed to the committee members for review.
9. – **Tattoo Removal Program** – It was *M/S/C Fowler/Brown* to recommend that the WIB approve the Tattoo Removal Program provided that (1) total expenditures be limited to \$15,000 in any fiscal year unless the limit is increased by action of the Board and (2) the program be evaluated at six month intervals as to cost and success. Further, tattoo removal shall only be offered to clients who are receiving Intensive Services. Concurrent approval of the Finance Committee is required.

“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.”

10. – Review of Existing WIB Approved Policies/Priority of Policy Issues

Staff had previously presented an informational handout on several of the policies for review. After reviewing the existing WIB Approved Policies/Priority of Policy Issues, the committee members proceeded to agenda item 11.

11. – Priority of Policy Issues for Future Consideration – It was decided to prioritize the policies in the following order:

- Priority 1 Supportive Services
- Priority 2 Sufficient Funds Declaration & Targeted Groups
- Priority 3. ITA Policy & Exception to ITA Rules
- Priority 4 ETPL

12. - Local Plan Modification – Staff informed members that plan adjustments for the next fiscal year should be submitted. Staff will hold meetings, doing forecasts, and analyzing historical data. The committee will start receiving information in the next 10 to 12 days. Plan modification requires the opportunity for public comment (ads in newspapers to make information available to general public). It was decided to meet the third Wednesday in June to allow time for the required comment period. Public hearing will be held at the WIB meeting in July.

13. – Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. The next meeting will be June 20, 2001, at 3:00 p.m., at the Merced County Business Economic Opportunity office, 2000 M Street, Merced, CA.

Minutes prepared by Debby Hoban.