

**WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF MERCED COUNTY
PROGRAM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION TEAM
DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM
1800 W. WARDROBE AVENUE
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. May 27, 2003**

Members Present: Mike Boardman, Mary Cervantes, Kathleen Crookham, Harry Dull, John Fowler, Scott Galbraith

Members Absent: Ana Pagan, Carol Greenberg,

WI Staff: Maria Castro, Joanne Presnell, Chuck Purcell

1. **Introductions** - A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of introductions.
2. **Discussion with possible Action**
 - a. **Action Initiative #2: Create a Collaborative Partner Network Section d, e, f and g**
 - d. ***Define and develop industry clusters*** - Scott Galbraith provided information on Merced County Industry Clusters. Economic Development Assessment Reports were made available for review. Scott Galbraith presented the *Emerging Industries; Agriculture and Food Processing, Wood Products, Fabricated Metal Products, Warehousing and Distribution, and Business Services as Industry Clusters* and recommended those be targeted for further discussion at the next meeting.
 - e. ***Revamp the existing business retention and expansion program into a collaborative business competitiveness Program*** – Collaborative partnerships are coming. The Department of Workforce Investment and Business and Economic Opportunity will meet to discuss business retention/expansion strategies and report at the next meeting.
 - f. ***Expand current business resources, services, and programs that support workforce productivity, specialized services, and innovation*** –Mr. Fowler made note that there is a possibility of creating an angel network in the County that would target businesses that have been in place and show promise for growth and provide both grant and loan support.
3. **Chair's Comments** – John Fowler made note that the Action Team would address Industry Clusters at next meeting.
4. **Next Meeting Date and Time** – June 23, 2003 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. located at 1880 W. Wardrobe Ave., Small Conference Room
5. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.