

**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. June 23, 2003**

Members Present: Kathleen Crookham, Harry Dull, John Fowler, Scott Galbraith

Members Absent: Mike Boardman, Carol Greenberg, Ana Pagan

Staff Present: Dave Davis, Joanne Presnell

2.

d. The Industry Clusters were discussed. The Occupations with the fastest growth, Occupations with the Greatest Absolute Growth, Emerging Occupations, and Industry Employment Projections were reviewed as the Action Team defined and developed Industry Clusters. One of the WIB's Goals, "Respond to business needs by targeting 3-5 of the area's industries and work with those specific industries to develop emerging and current worker skills and assist the industry to develop worker retention strategies. Assist the specific industries with developing plan to expand and attract new workers," was considered during the discussion.

The industries identified are: 1.) Agriculture/Food Processing, 2.) Wood/Metal Fabrication, 3.) Construction /Materials and Ancillary Services, 4.) Warehouse Distribution, 5.) Healthcare and Education, 6.) Business Services, 7.) Tourism, Visitor Services, and Hospitality, and 8.) Child Care (crosses over many industries and is being addressed in the ABC Initiative).

e. and g. The BEO Department and the Department of WI have had a meeting to discuss revamping the business retention and expansion program. The next meeting will include the Greater Chamber CEO and The MCEDCO CEO and is tentatively scheduled for July 10, 2003. Along with planning for joint retention/expansion activities they will also be discussing new tools and resources to support the Business Competitiveness Program.

f. John Fowler reported on the CDBG that is available for 1-2 million dollars. The application time line is July 1 through September 1, 2003 and could provide funds for the 6 cities and the county for gazelle companies looking for the next level of funding. Half of the money would go into a revolving loan fund. This has been referred to the Angel Network and V-3 Capitol Company.