

Workforce Investment Board
678 West 18th Street
Sam Pipes Meeting Room
July 8, 2004 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes



Members Present:

Lee Andersen	Ed Anderson	Andrea Baker
Nicolas Benjamin	Don Bergman	Bob Bittner
Sharon Cresswell	Kathleen Crookham	Ben Duran
Peter Fluetsch	John Fowler	Scott Galbraith
Brian Griffin	John Headding	Nellie McGarry
Ned Miller	Albert Montejano	Anne Newins
Terry Nichols	Rick Osorio	Al Peterson
Carole Roberds	Al Romero	Mike Smith
Mike Sullivan	Thomas Tsubota	

Members Absent:

Paul Alderete	Mike Boardman	Phil Flores
Ernie Flores	Carol Greenberg	Jeremiah Greggains
Robert Harmon	Charlie Lambert	Helen Sullivan
Steve Tinetti		

Others Present:

Michelle Allison	Elaine Craig	Dave Cramer
Dave Davis	Biff Ingels	Dee Knight
Al Kratzer	Teresa Machado	Joanne Presnell
Jackie Walther-Parnell		

-
- I. Call to Order/Roll Call** – The Chair, John Headding, called the meeting to order and Dee Knight took roll.
 - II. Approval of Agenda** – It was *M/S/C McGarry/Fowler* to approve the agenda as published.
 - III. Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C McGarry/Fluetsch* to approve the May 13, 2004 minutes as written.
 - IV. Public Opportunity to Speak** – None.
 - V. Introduction of New WIB Member** – The Chair introduced Mr. Ed Anderson, who is the Regional Senior Vice President for County Bank.
 - VI. Consent Agenda** – It was *M/S/C Bergman/Crookham* to approve Consent Agenda items a-c.
 - a. Continuum of Care Grant
 - b. Youth Employability Card
 - c. Eligible Training Provider List – MCOE Workplace Learning Academy, Construction/Building Trades
 - VII. Action Agenda** – It was *M/S/C McGarry/Miller* to approve Action Agenda item a.
 - a. Transition Youth Grant – Staff noted this is to authorize the Department of Workforce Investment to prepare and submit a grant application that would commit a match of \$109,600 for

in-kind services over a five-year period. The Dept of WI is requesting 548,000--\$68,000 in year one of the grant, and \$120,000 in years two through five. The money will fund a demonstration project to ensure that youth with disabilities can obtain the necessary services needed within the local workforce investment system.

- VIII. Strategic Issues Working Session – Education (Continued)** – The Chair noted he asked three WIB members—Lee Andersen (on Education), Scott Galbraith (on Economic Development), and John Fowler (on Castle Reuse)—to give follow-up reports:
- a. **Education** – Mr. Andersen noted he is a member of the P-16 Council, which is a collaborative organization of groups representing the full scope of education in the San Joaquin Valley. They have gotten early childhood providers to start attending these meetings, and will start identifying new goals that will include this group.

They are intensively focusing on career-related issues in education. The Merced County Office of Education is about to begin presenting Academic Achievement Awards to the K-12 districts in Merced County. The awards are for performance on the State Accountability Test System. Awards will be provided in three categories—Top Score, Overall Score Growth, and Growth in Students Subcategories (focusing on the increase academic performance in various categories).

On Wednesday, June 30, 2004, there was a forum regarding Merced County Outlook for Tomorrow on industry sectors of growth, emerging economy, etc. They are looking to develop a model of collaboration among a broader community—nonprofit agencies, schools, business and industry—particularly concentrating on school-to-career needs. They will be meeting with San Bernardino County next week to look at their model.

- b. **Economic Development** – Mr. Galbraith noted that through the California Central Valley Economic Corporation, they have sent postcards, mailings, made phone calls to over 2,000 businesses within California and surrounding states. They have attended trade shows, undertaken some big business missions, and met with professional groups that are involved with site selection and corporate selection to show that this Valley does have a lot more to offer and is globally competitive.

In the last few months, there has been more significant activity in the State of California—more referrals from the California Business Investment Services. Their website should be operational within the next two weeks. Atwater has a new website. Their target objectives are food processing, warehouse distribution, aviation, sports and entertainment, and retail sectors.

- c. **Castle Reuse** – Mr. Fowler noted the term is no longer Castle Reuse, but “Castle Development”. He noted the master developer, Federal Merced Associates LLC, was selected the end of May 2004, and is now developing an initial plan for Castle and marketing Castle at the same time. They should have something to present to the board at the end of September 2004. They have begun a \$2 million project on the runway, and when it’s finished the runway portion will be certifiable under Part 139 (General Aviation/Commercial Aviation Certification). The airport will be certified after the airport changes have been made. Their target includes cargo maintenance, and training aircraft companies. There is no news on the National Guard.

The final survey results have been received for Castle Airport. This will allow them to proceed in obtaining the remaining parcels connected to Castle Airport, and expect to have the deeds in the next 6-8 months.

IX. Operational Reports –

- a. **Employed Worker Training** – Ms. Michelle Allison, Business Services Program Manager, noted Ms. Teresa Machado and Mr. Biff Ingels would be talking about Employer Worker Training and Skills Upgrade and Retention Training.
 - Ms. Machado talked about the various openings of IdleAire within Merced County, and how Business Services assisted them in their hiring and interview process.
 - Mr. Ingels talked about the new Skills Upgrade Training Program they started in May 2004. The training helps employers upgrade their existing employees into better positions. After training, they ask that the employer give the employee at least a 15% pay raise.
- b. **Five-Year Plan Modification** – Ms. Joanne Presnell provided a PowerPoint presentation giving highlights of the timelines for the Five-Year Plan Modification of the Participant Plan for Adults, Dislocated Workers, Younger Youth and Older Youth Programs. She also gave a WIA Comparison Funding Summary for PY 2002, 2003 and 2004.
 - The 30-day comment period ends July 31, 2004.
 - July 26, 2004, Plan Mod Public Meeting and Executive Committee meets for approval and signature.
 - August 23, 2004, is the meeting backup date.
 - September 9, 2004, the Plan Mod goes for the WIB for ratification.
 - September 13, 2004, the Plan Mod will be mailed.
 - September 21, 2004, the Plan Mod goes to the Board of Supervisors as an information item.

- X. Advocacy Report** – Ms. Andrea Baker thanked members and noted she appreciated their efforts in submitting the letters that were subsequently forwarded to the State and Federal legislators. They made an impact because the House Subcommittee on Appropriations approved funding increases of \$1.1 million in Adult, \$25 million in Dislocated Worker, and \$5.9 in Youth for next year. In the House Committee report there is language to prevent the Administration from redefining administrative costs prior to reauthorization.

XI. Information Items:

- a. **LMI Updates** – It was noted the Labor Market summary was included in the meeting packet for members to review.
- b. **Fiscal/Participant Data Reports** – It was noted copies of the Fiscal Report through May 2004 were located on the back table. A final report for the 2003/2004 fiscal year will be submitted at the September 2004 meeting. It will show the carryover along with the allocations for 2004/2005.
- c. **Director's Notes** – Ms. Baker noted a new California Secretary of Labor, Ms. Victoria Bradshaw, was appointed, and she is supportive of programs at the local level. The Secretary of Labor is including local level officials in her quarterly meetings, and in activities with her planning team.
- d. **Committee Reports** - www.co.merced.ca.us/wi/wib/wib.html (or faxed upon request) – None.

- XII. Spotlight on WIB Member** – Mr. Terry Nichols is a supervisor with the State Department of Rehabilitation. He came to Merced in November 2002 from San Diego, CA. He supervises a group of professional rehab counselors who cover Merced, Madera and Mariposa Counties. He has received much exposure to the WIB through the Worknet Leadership Team. He has been very pleased in working with everyone in the Merced community.
- XIII. Director's Comments** – Ms. Baker noted that in regards to the Enterprise Zone, the Governor will include in the State budget proposal a fee that has to be paid to the State for every Enterprise Zone Voucher submitted. In addition, the State is encouraging LWIA to charge for issuing vouchers as well. The Department will be submitting a plan to the Board of Supervisors that will allow the Department to charge a fee for service, and will allow for a mechanism to pay the State. The Enterprise Zone program is scheduled to end December 31, 2006.
- XIV. Chair Comments** – No additional comments.
- XV. Other** – Mr. Duran recommended that the group return to sitting in a roundtable formation versus sitting in chairs.
- Mr. Fowler noted the Action Business Center is now officially located at Castle Airport.
- XVI. Next Meeting** – September 9, 2004, location TBA.
- XVII. Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.