

**Merced County Workforce Investment Board  
Planning and Policy Development Committee  
Merced County Department of Business-Economic Opportunities  
2000 "M" Street, Merced, CA  
July 18, 2001, 3:00 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes**

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**Members Present:** Andrea Baker, Nick Benjamin, Harry Dull, Peter Fluetsch (Chair), John Fowler, Brian Griffin, Grover Omyer

**Members Absent:** George Brown, Carol Greenberg

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

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** - The Chair called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.
2. **Approve Agenda** - Information item (Kings View Report) was added to the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Fowler/Omyer* to approve the June 20, 2001 minutes.
4. **Opening Comments from the Chair** – The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
5. **Public Opportunity to Speak** – No members of the public were present.
6. **Public Benefit Corporation** – The committee reviewed a background paper on the Public Benefit Corporation (PBC). The WIB Chair and WIB members have discussed a desire to create PBC. The primary purpose of this corporation would be to solicit funds to finance those areas for Workforce Development and community development that are not directly provided by the Workforce Investment Act. It has been envisioned that selected members of the WIB would serve as the Board of Directors of this Public Benefit Corporation. The corporation, however, would not be part of the WIB but rather affiliated with the WIB based on its mission.

Issues:

- a. Are there WIB partners with 501(c)(3) status that could serve the same purpose?
- b. Does the WIB wish to establish an official relationship with the proposed PBC?

The committee also reviewed a draft Articles of Incorporation and a recently approved Articles of Incorporation. A 30 plus minute discussion by the committee is summarized as follows:

- WIA dollars cannot pay for the incorporation costs.
- PBC purpose would be to write grants to foundations that do not fund public entities.
- Who pays up front costs? Issue of staffing is a question mark.
- Are other WIBs doing the same thing?

- The PBC would not be officially controlled by the WIB, but all or most of the directors would be WIB members.
- Would the PBC be in competition with other non-profits in the county?
- More discussion is required. There are too many unanswered questions. What do the WIB members pushing PBC really want to do with it?

The committee recommended this item be brought back to the Executive Committee by the Director with the issues raised by the committee. Plus, the Executive Committee should consider the specific goals of the PBC. The Executive Committee must be convinced they want to go forward with this concept.

**7. WIB/CLEO Draft Agreement** – The agreement was brought back to the committee with requested changes. The agreement was drafted by the WIB Chair, WIB Consultant, Ms. Strump, and County Counsel. It was *M/S/C Fowler/Griffin* to approve the agreement and place it on the WIB agenda as a discussion item.

**8. H1B Grant Application** – Merced County, Madera County, Stanislaus County, and Mother Lode Workforce Investment Boards, as well as Merced College, UC Merced and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will work together to pursue a Technical Skills Training Grant from the Department of Labor. This is a two-year \$3 million grant which requires a 50% non-federal match contributed by Merced College. An additional match in the form of in-kind support and supportive services will be contributed by the various partners. The funds will be used to expand, develop, and support high technology and health care training programs at Merced College. The Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, and Mother Lode Workforce Investment Boards will refer One-Stop users from their areas to the program and will provide supportive services to those individuals, as well as monitor the participants' progress through the program. It was *M/S/C Griffin/Fowler* that the Board pursue the described grant funding and authorize the Chair to execute required documents.

**9. Plan Modification** – Staff presented outcome and cost information requested at the last committee meeting (Clients Employed at Exit/Clients Employed and in Follow-Up and Training Costs). The committee also reviewed the Budget Summary Sheets and Participant Plan Summary that are required for the plan modification.

Also included in the plan modification are amended MOUs. The amendments are all basically the same except for cost allocation. It was *M/S/C Griffin/Omyer* to approve plan modification and accept the amended MOUs. All committee members voted on the plan modification and abstained on that portion that required approval of their MOUs. Harry Dull/Community Action Agency; John Fowler/Merced Co. Department of Business-Economic Opportunities; Nick Benjamin/Housing Authority; and Andrea Baker/Private Industry Training Department.

**9. Added Item – Kings View Report** – At the May 2001 WIB meeting, the WIB agreed to provide the \$105,472 to Kings View Graphics (\$81,238 for the purchase of embroidery equipment/and \$24,234 for marketing). After the meeting, a detailed breakout of the marketing plan was requested. The committee reviewed a letter from Kings View, which outlined the “plan”. This subject will be part of the committee's report during the WIB meeting on July 26, 2001. It was *M/S/C Fowler/Omyer* to accept the report.

**11. Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. Next meeting will be on August 22, 2001, at 3 p.m., at the Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities office, 2000 M Street, Merced, CA.

Minutes Prepared by Debby Hoban