

**Planning, Policy Development, and Legislation Committee**  
**Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities**  
2000 M Street, Merced, CA  
July 24, 2002, 3:00 P.M.  
Meeting Minutes



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

**Members Absent:** Ernie Flores, Carol Greenberg

**Others Present:** Maryam Shabazz, Masoud Nirovmand

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

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** – The Chair called the meeting to order. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.
2. **Agenda** –The agenda was approved with addition of item 7b, Police Officers Training.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Griffin/Baker* to approve the June 26, 2002 minutes.
4. **Public Opportunity to Speak** – None present.
5. **Update – Meet the WIB Contest** – Brian Griffin stated all the visits he made were very interesting, very informative, and he learned a lot about places we support.
6. **Action Agenda:**
  - a. **Affordable Housing in Merced Area** – Mr. Nick Benjamin introduced Maryam Shabazz, a Director of Central Valley Coalition on Affordable Housing, and Masoud Norovmand, housing coordinator for City of Merced. They gave a presentation on lack of affordable housing in the Merced area. A discussion followed on the WIB involvement in obtaining additional affordable housing in the Merced area. Mr. Benjamin will draft a Statement of Support and present it at the next committee meeting. Item tabled until next meeting.
  - b. **First Source Agreement/Language** – Committee members were provided a proposed “First Source” language paper. After discussion, it was decided to include some of the benefits the new employers would receive by agreeing to utilize the WIB Worknet System of Services as a “first source”.

It was *M/S/C Fowler/Griffin* to incorporate the suggested changes at the next committee meeting and then present to the WIB for approval.
7. **Information Agenda:**
  - a. **Employability Card** – Item tabled.

**b. Police Officers Training** – Ms. Andrea Baker informed committee members about the shortage of police officers in the City of Merced and her meeting with Chief Dossetti. The nearest Post Academy is at Modesto Junior College. She will contact the college and see if they are interested in a contract to train WIA eligible participants. She will present a complete package at the next committee meeting.

**8. Chair Comments** – The Chair expressed concern about continuance of this committee. Ms. Baker stated the Executive Committee is still working on the WIB committee directive.

**9. Next Meeting Date and Time** – The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 28, 2002, at the Merced County Department of Business Economic Opportunities, 2000 M Street, Merced, at 3:00 p.m.

**10. Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Debby Hoban