

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County
Finance Committee
Department of Workforce Investment (Small Conf Rm)
1880 W. Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA
Wednesday, September 24, 2003, 7:30–9:00 a.m.
Meeting Minutes



Members Present: Andrea Baker, John Fowler, Alfonse Peterson (Vice Chair), Vann (Mike) Smith (Chair)

Members Absent: Lee Andersen

Staff Present: Dave Davis, Dee Knight, Joanne Presnell, Jackie Walther-Parnell

1. Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.

2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Baker/Fowler* to approve the agenda as published.

3. Approve Minutes (July 30, 2003): It was *M/S/C Peterson/Baker* to approve the July 30, 2003 minutes.

4. Public Opportunity to Speak: None.

5. Information Agenda:

a. Grant Application Status Report: Ms. Baker noted that the Board of Supervisors approved submission of the Employment Development Department Disability Program Navigator grant request on September 23, 2003, which will enhance services to disabled clients at the One-Stop.

The Department should also be receiving a new nursing initiative grant application from the state the end of October. The Department is working with the Human Services Agency and Merced College to help in the transition of those clients in the Independent Living Program.

b. Fiscal Report: Staff provided handouts of the Allocations, Obligations and Expenses for FY 2003/04 (July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004), gave an overview of the report, and answered specific questions.

Also provided was an update of the WIA contracts. Ms. Baker announced that Jobs for California Graduates (JCG) has closed its doors. Its Executive Board decided to dissolve the corporate entity on Friday, September 19, 2003, due to a lack of sufficient funds to operate its programs. The Department is awaiting an official notification, which is due sometime today. JCG has hired a Fresno attorney to handle its affairs, and Ms. Irene Ayers has been designated the fiduciary.

After meeting with the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Executive Committee yesterday, several courses of action were proposed that will be taken to County Counsel for review.

The Department has taken possession of all the client files (approximately 280) from JCG. Any inquiries or communications regarding JCG are to be coordinated and/or directed to Ms. Baker only.

It was recommended that the JCG partners (subcontractors for Older Youth Program) be asked to continue servicing those clients already enrolled, and that a Request for Proposal (RFP) be given for the balance of the Program Year to whoever decides to be the "lead agency". This will allow the Department time to appropriately let an RFP incorporating changes of the law and corrections learned from the JCG experience for the new contract year.

The RFP issue (short-term/long-term) and the public relations factor (depth of investigation) of the Department and JCG will be proposed agenda items for the WIB Executive Board meeting on Monday, September 29, 2003.

Just in case no official word comes from JCG to cancel the contract, it was recommended that a request go to the Board of Supervisors for the October 7, 2003 Board meeting to sever the JCG contract. (Official notice was received September 24, 2003.)

6. Chair Comments: None.

7. Next Meeting Date: The next meeting is Wednesday, October 29, 2003, 7:30-9:00 a.m., in the Wardrobe Small Conference Room.

9. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Devilla D. Knight.