

Workforce Investment Board
Department of Workforce Investment Lg Conf Rm
1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA
November 18, 2010, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes



<http://www.mercedwib.com/>

Members Present:

Alfonse Peterson (Chair)
Michael Altomare
Lee Anderson
Edward Dietz
Karen Dower
Chuck Falkenstein
Rennise Ferrario
Debra Glass

Henry Ildefonso
Albert Montejano
Joanne Presnell
Cordell "Corky" Price
Al Romero
David Spaur
Greg Vincelet
James Wood Jr.

Members Absent:

Mario Delgado
Agustin "Auggie" Beltran
Steve Newvine
Supervisor Hubert "Hub" Walsh

Peter Fluetsch
Darren Hughes
Loretta Schlosser
Ernie Flores

Joseph Lombardi
Terry Nichols
Richard Liszewski
Brenda Callahan-Johnson

Others Present:

Andrea Baker
Alfredo Mendoza
Mark Cowart

Brian Cutler
Jackie Walther-Parnell
Guest of Mr. Ildefonso

Nancy Havens
Cynthia Mount

Mr. Lee Anderson announced that he will be retiring and will not be able to continue as a WIB member. He thanked everyone and especially the Director and staff. Chair and the Director recognized Mr. Lee's accomplishments and stewardship of various projects.

The Chair introduced David Spaur as a new member of the WIB who spoke on the Rural Business Enterprise grant.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:18 pm and roll call was taken.
2. Approval of Agenda: It was *M/S/C Vincelet/Woods* to approve the Agenda as published.
3. Approval of Minutes: It was *M/S/C Falkenstein/Ferrario* to approve the September 16th, 2010 minutes.
4. Public Opportunity to Speak: The Chair introduced Mike Altomare as another new WIB member.
5. Consent Agenda: It was *M/S/C Dower/Montejano, Anderson abstained on Items 5c and 5g, Glass abstained on Item 5c* to approve the Consent Agenda.
 - a. Supportive Services Policy: to ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve the revised Support Services Policy.
 - b. Relocation of the Merced One-Stop: to ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve the Merced Worknet One-Stop currently located at 1200W. 16th Street be collocated at the Department of Workforce

Investment (WI) facility at 1880 Wardrobe Avenue in Merced thus relieving WI of costs associated with the 1200 W. 16th Street facility.

- c. Request for Proposal (RFP) – Youth Programs: to ratify the 11/1/2010 Executive Committee’s recommendation to request the Merced County Board of Supervisors to let a new RFP for the WIA In-School (Younger) and Out-of-School (Older) Programs.
- d. Disposition of Incentive Funds from 07/08 and 08/09: to ratify the 10/4/2010 Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve the use of Incentive funds from 07/08 and 08/09 approximately \$23,049 to supplement WIA services for adult and dislocated worker participants.
- e. Performance Measures – Negotiations: to ratify the 10/4/2010 Executive Committee’s decision to approve the attached letter to the State recommending reductions in local performance measure goals in WSDD-49 for Average Earnings for Adult and Dislocated Worker as well as reductions in the Literacy and Numeracy goals for out-of-school youth for Program Years 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- f. Worknet Employment Resource Centers Recertification Extension: to ratify the 10/4/2010 Executive Committee’s decision to approve the Quality Employment and Development Ad Hoc Committee’s (QUED) recommendation to extend the certification of the Merced and Los Baños Worknet Employment Resource Centers for a period of two years to take effect from November 3, 2011 to November 3, 2013.
- g. Green Jobs Corps Contract Amendment to San Joaquin and Merced Projects: To ratify the 11/1/2010 Executive Committee’s decision to reduce the Green Jobs Corps agreement with San Joaquin County y \$25,000, increase the Merced County Office of Education’s agreement by the same amount, extend the Merced agreement by two months, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

6. Action Agenda

- a. Youth Council Membership: It was *M/S/C Ildefonso/Vincelet* to accept the resignations and approve the nomination of the following members and forward for final approval to the Board of Supervisors.

Resignations: Ms. Lori Minor - Merced County Probation Department
(Juvenile Justice Representative)
Mr. Alexander Hall - Merced City Parks and Community Service
Sgt. Robert Bender - California National Guard Recruiter

Nomination: Ms. Rhonda Walton, Community Member

- b. WIB Nomination For Membership – Mary Mendoza: It was *M/S/C Falkenstein/Ildefonso* to accept the nomination of Ms. Mary Mendoza, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- c. Merced County EDC Green Jobs Initiative and Agreement

Mr. Spaur presented that the non-binding Green Jobs Initiative collaborative Agreement would allow the creation of a resource guide and referral basis for Merced County. He invited the Chair to attend an annual meeting to be held December 9th, 11:30 to 1:30, where there will be a public signing of this agreement.

M/S Anderson/Montejano, Ildefonso-No, motion carried by a majority vote to approve the Green Jobs Initiative and Agreement with the Merced County Economic Development Corporation (Merced County EDC).

7. Presentations

- a. Merced County EDC Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program- Mr. David Spaur presented prior to the beginning of this meeting.

- b. Enterprise Zone Update: Mr. David Heyer noted that the Merced County Department of Workforce Investment has been the manager of the Enterprise Zone (EZ) since August 2009. Mr. Heyer went on to state that the Merced Regional Enterprise Zone applied for and was granted an expansion on July 26, 2010 of 1,877 acres, bringing the total acres under the EZ to 44, 608. The expansion added an additional 130 businesses to the EZ. The EZ still has approximately 4,500 acres to expand into until 2021, and a second expansion is being planned. The EZ is a State designated area that receives tax credits to offset State tax liabilities. The credits are dollar for dollar and not a deduction, so they are quite valuable to businesses located in the EZ.

In addition the California Department of Housing and Community Development has increased the State fee for EZ applications from \$10.00 to \$15.00 effective 12/1/2010. Since January the Department of Workforce Investment has received over 2600 voucher applications.

- c. County Information Systems/Information Technology Changes:
Mark Cowart, Director of Administrative Services, discussed County Information Systems (IS) taking over the Information Technology (IT) from the Department of Workforce Investment (WI). A service level agreement will be developed between WI and Mr. Cowart's office which is to outline and answer issues and concerns of the IT oversight of the WI and Worknet One-Stop centers.

On November 30th, the Board of Supervisors will vote on reassigning the WI Automation Information Analyst to the Information Systems department (vote did not take place and is now scheduled for December 14th). According to Mr. Cowart the benefits are: 1) the employee would become part of a team with back-up and have advancement opportunity in the County 2) no increase in cost at this time. The Automation Information Analyst currently with WI does more than work on the computers and that work load which is about 48% of his time will have to be absorbed by other WI staff.

There will be stand-by/on-call staff available for the evening hours when needed by the One-Stop centers. The network connectivity will increase by \$42.00 per computer. A reduction in cost to the lab computers is being discussed. Currently all computers are charged for network support at \$100.00 each per month plus the increase of \$42.00 for a total of \$142.00 per month. (Actual figures reflected based on draft SLA received from Mark Cowart)

Once developed, the Director will provide the information and the service level agreement to the Quality Economic Development Committee (QUED) and the Executive Committee for review prior to presenting it to the WIB.

The standard time to refresh equipment for Merced County is in 4 years. The WIB does not come under that schedule due to Department of Labor (DOL) funding.

8. Reports

- a. Youth Council- The Youth Council Chair again requested WIB members to consider becoming a member of the Youth Council. The WIB By-laws require 5 WIB members to be a part of the Youth Council. Two members did express interest. The CWA Annual Youth Conference is being held in Long Beach in January. The Resource Directory is completed and on the website. A group is currently looking at best practices for the next RFP. Dropout recovery is a key issue to be addressed in the next RFP.
- b. Quality Employment and Development Committee (QUED): The QUED reviewed WIB functions, One-Stop Center services, Strategic Scorecard item changes and the pending Information Technology changes at the WI to continue providing quality services and using staff resources more efficiently.

9. Information

- a. WIA Fiscal Report
- b. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Healthcare Grant Update

- c. Worknet Customer Satisfaction Report (SEP 2010)
 - d. Worknet Customer Service Report (SEP 2010)
 - e. Recertification of the WIB
 - f. Advocacy Letter AB 2058 and Update
 - g. Enterprise Zone State Fee Increase
 - h. YouthBuild Grant: Staff is collaborating with various partners to submit an application for the YouthBuild Grant which is for \$1.1 million. This grant focuses on drop out recovery, low income disadvantaged youth and at-risk-youth. The deadline to submit is December 3rd.
10. Director Comments: The Director did not have any comments and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Spaur wanted to express his thanks for the quick response to his request on labor market information. The information was needed quickly because the High Speed Rail engineers were to be evaluating and making a decision on which leg to start first. Mr. Wood mentioned that the trades are very active in the decision of the location of the maintenance yard and working to get situated in Merced. The various trades wrote letters and Mr. Wood will share those with staff.
11. Chair Comments: The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting with their busy schedules.
12. Next Meeting – January 13th, 2010 – Location to be determined.
13. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm.