



**WORKFORCE  
INVESTMENT BOARD**  
MERCED COUNTY

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

**Workforce Investment Board**

2222 M Street, Merced, CA

October 7, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Steve Newvine (Chair)  
Edward Dietz  
Debra Glass  
Joanne Presnell  
James Wood Jr.

Michael Altomare  
Karyn Dower  
Steve Gomes  
Cordell "Corky" Price  
Chuck Falkenstein

Jerry Sterner  
Terry Nichols  
Greg Vincelet  
Supervisor Hubert "Hub" Walsh

**Members Absent:**

Henry Ildefonso  
Jean Haskell  
Richard Liszewski

Brenda Callahan-Johnson  
David Spaur

Darren Hughes  
Rennise Ferrario

**Others Present:**

Andrea Baker  
Alfredo Mendoza  
Mark Bowden

Brian Cutler  
Jackie Walther-Parnell  
Elena Blanton

Nancy Havens  
Cynthia Mount  
Edward Harding

The Chair introduced Ms. Elena Blanton, Case Manager with the Department of Workforce Investment at 3:07 p.m. Ms. Blanton presented the success story of Hasan Husain, a program participant that obtained truck driver training successfully, found employment and has recently purchased his own truck (Mr. Husain was working and unable to attend the meeting).

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:11 pm and roll call was taken. The Chair recognized a new member, David Sharafian, and a prospective member, Mark Bowden and asked them to each introduce themselves.
2. Approval of Agenda: It was *M/S/C Altomare/Dietz* to approve the Agenda as published.
3. Approval of Minutes: It was *M/S/C Altomare/ Price* to approve the July 14, 2011 minutes.
4. Public Opportunity to Speak: None
5. Consent Agenda: It was *M/S/C Woods/Gomes* to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:
  - a. WIB Membership – Ms. Mary Mendoza: to ratify the Executive Committee’s decision to accept the nomination of Ms. Mary Mendoza, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
  - b. WIB Membership – Mr. Mark Bowden: to ratify the Executive Committee’s decision to accept the nomination of Mr. Mark Bowden for WIB membership, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
  - c. Worknet of Tulare County National Emergency Grant: to ratify the Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve a new Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County to satisfy the Regional Economic Impact – National Emergency Grant (REI/NEG) requirements, provided \$200,844 in revenue for assessments, work experience, and training related activities, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

- d. South Bay Workforce Investment Board Multi Sector Grant Agreement: to ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with South Bay WIB to serve local dislocated workers in the amount of \$455,022.00, for the duration March 18, 2011 through March 17, 2013, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
  - e. Stanislaus County Alliance Worknet Veterans Connect Grant Agreement: to ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Alliance Worknet to serve local veterans in the amount of \$90,000 for assessments, work experience, and training related activities, for the duration June 1, 2011 through March 31, 2013, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
6. Discussion/Action Agenda
- a. Hire One –It was *M/S/C Price/Dietz* to support a local initiative to have the Department of Workforce Investment investigate and help implement a “Hire One” program for the County of Merced, providing initial efforts prove promising.
  - b. Entrepreneurial Challenge: Ms. Baker presented the 2012 San Joaquin Entrepreneurial Challenge and the requirements to be represented as a full partner in the program. Ms. Baker requested the WIB approve the participation with Merced County Department of Commerce, Aviation and Economic Development to raise \$7,000 in cash or in-kind services as the share of the prize to the winner. All contributions will be tax deductible as the University of the Pacific's foundation is the holder of the funds. It was *M/S/C Dower/Altomare* to support the Entrepreneurial Challenge and approve the participation with the Merced County Commerce, Aviation and Economic Development.
  - c. Strategic Planning: Ms. Baker reported that the review of how other Workforce Investment Boards are structured is the result of the Quality Employment Development Committee (QUED) request of other state Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs) basic structures. Recommendations were made: 1) the Merced WIB remain a separate workforce investment area (if forced to consolidate based on numbers, our labor market focus would align with Stanislaus County to the north of us); and, 2) if funding is reduced significantly, seek efficiencies with Economic Development.
7. Reports
- a. Youth Council: Ms. Glass reported the last Youth Council meeting occurred on August 17, 2011. A number of items were discussed including the potential of a New Youth Council Member Orientation to better understand the purpose of youth council. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>. with EMPOWER and YOP program students scheduled to share their program experiences. This year the bi-monthly meetings will be held in various partner locations. Ms. Glass again mentioned that the Youth Council is still in need of WIB members to be in compliance with the by-laws which require 5 WIB members. Mr. Newvine requested that every member who is willing and able, to consider participating on the Youth Council in order to obtain the 5 required WIB members.
  - b. Quality Employment and Development Committee- Mr. Dietz, Chairman, explained that the QUED meets once a month. The QUED is the first line where issues/items are presented, reviewed, discussed, and passed on to Executive Committee and then to the WIB.
8. Information
- a. Fiscal Report
  - b. Grants Awarded for Training – Mr. Newvine reported that staff was requested to provide information to the WIB for a comparison breakdown of costs involved and funding received for each customer.
  - c. Advocacy: Ms. Baker reported that SB 734, SB 698, and AB 554 were signed by the Governor. The Department of Workforce Investment (WI) is already performing most of the new requirements. The State will provide additional information to ensure the programs are in compliance with the newly signed bills.
  - d. State WIB Certification/Logo
  - e. Strategic Scorecard
    - i. Customer Service Report
    - ii. Customer Satisfaction Report

- f. Youth Council Meeting Schedule/Locations
  - g. Ethics Training: Seminar – Ms. Havens shared that in coordination with Merced County Administration, two workshops for Ethics Training will be provided on: Nov. 15th at 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm and Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 am-12:00 noon, at the Merced County Board Chambers, 2222 M Street. Information will be sent to both WIB and Youth Council members. Both WIB and Youth Council members should complete two hours of Ethics Training every two years.
9. Director Comments: Ms. Baker reported that the Merced County unemployment rate is at 18.7% due to the harvest season in the area. A consortium of community colleges received a two year grant with WI receiving a portion to provide one-stop services at the colleges. Portions of the President's Job Training Bill may pass requiring individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to access One-Stop centers. Research by the government is underway which may change the way LWIA's receive fiscal funding. The current Fiscal Year is July through June and could change to the Federal Fiscal Year October through September. This change would require WI to reprogram how resources and customers are being tracked. Ms. Baker thanked all the members for their dedication and service. She shared that they have made our lives better for their input and that she will miss them.
10. Chair Comments: The Chair expressed "a special thank you" to Ms. Baker on behalf of the WIB for her service to the WIB and the department in acknowledgment of her last WIB meeting.
12. Next Meeting – November 10, 2011 – Room 310, Merced County Administration Office, 2222 M Street
13. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m. to a reception for Ms. Baker farewell.