

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County

Youth Council

UC Cooperative Extension

2145 West Wardrobe Avenue, Merced

Friday, September 13, 2002, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes



MERCED COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL

Members Present: Micki Archuleta, Bob Bittner, Mary Cavazos, Chuck Dean, Rennise Ferrario, Robert Fore, Alexander Hall, Robert Harmon, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Jerry Johnson, Charlie Lambert, Rebecca Lincoln, Richard Mahacek, Jim Newberry, Suzanne Nuñez, Mayra Ramirez (Vice-Chair), Mike Smith, Ralph Vigil, Jean Weaver, Rev. Craig E. White, Sr.,

Members Absent: Suzannah Campbell, Claudia Corchado, Evelyn Eagleton, Troy Fox, Laura Gongora, Cecilia Jimenez, Noah P. Lor, Nellie McGarry (Chair), Michael Parker, Yer Xiong

PITD Staff Present: Dave Davis, Gary Derr, Dee Knight, Ed McLaughlin

Others Present: Robin Davis, Tom Skinner

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m., and roll call was taken. The Chair asked the guests to introduce themselves—Robin Davis, Merced County Office of Education Younger Youth Program; and Thomas Skinner, Merced County Mental Health Alcohol and Drug.

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

3. Approve Minutes: Since everyone did not have a chance to review the August 9, 2002 minutes, they were tabled until the next meeting.

4. Public Opportunity to Speak: None.

5. Announcements:

- a. The Employment Development Department (EDD) is recruiting for its Out-of-School Program, ages 17-21. If you know someone who qualifies, send them to EDD.
- b. Private Industry Training Department's name has been officially changed to Department of Workforce Investment, and the new telephone number is 724-2000.

6. Action Agenda:

a. ERISS Capability to High School Career Centers: Staff noted that ERISS is a website for labor market information and research specifically designed to be used by the One-Stop operation. It is available to anyone who would like to use this information. The data is compiled from a survey given to approximately 537 employers in Merced County. The Department of Workforce Investment has a contract with ERISS that provides training on usage of the data on this website. There will be

training sessions on September 26 and 27, 2002 (2 sessions each day). Three sessions will be held at the Worknet One-Stop, 1200 W. 16th Street. The 3rd session (Friday morning) will be specifically for High School Career Center Coordinators, and the 4th session (Friday afternoon) will be held at the Los Banos Worknet One-Stop, 848-6th Street.

It was *M/S/C Dean/Archuletta* that ERISS provide training to the High School Career Center Coordinators under the Department of Workforce Investment contract, and at no cost to the high schools.

b. Decision Not to be Lead Agency—Youth Expo 2003: The following questions were asked:

- 1) Were there measurable results gathered to justify the amount of effort spent on the project?
- 2) Did any of the activities parallel what is already available through the schools, MCOE, Career Techs, etc?
- 3) Has a survey been given the high school principals to assess the needs of the students?

After discussing the above items and the time commitment involved in being the lead agency for Youth Expo 2003, it was *M/S/C Dean/Hall* that the Youth Council not be the lead agency, that those who volunteered for the ad hoc committee commit to helping the lead agency (HSA), and that the Council provide whatever monetary support it can to the lead agency.

7. Information Agenda:

a. Merced County Office of Education Youth Opportunity Program: Ms. Robin Davis gave an overview of the summer youth program and provided everyone a copy of the yearbook produced by the graphic arts class. She also showed a video produced by the kids depicting the many activities they are involved in and some of the employers they work with.

b. Workforce Investment Board Year-End Report: Staff noted this publication will be provided every year for information. It provides Youth Council information and also Worknet One-Stop participant data, which is also applicable to the Youth Council.

c. State of the Workforce: This study was prepared for the Community Forum held on September 29, 2002. It looks at some historical perspectives regarding unemployment and also the current situation, and provides future projections for Merced County for the next 5-10 years. This information reflects issues the Youth Council should be aware of when making funding decisions for the Younger Youth Program.

It was recommended the Youth Council needed UC Merced and Merced College representation on the Council to provide some guidance in the areas regarding vocational training for youth. Mr. Chuck Dean noted he would contact Mr. Larry Salinas, UC Merced, to see if he is interested in being a member of the Youth Council.

d. Seven County High School Dropout Study: The WIB requested this expanded study after seeing the reported MCOE Dropout Rate (74.38) in the State Youth Labor Market Summary.

Attachment 1 of this study explains the problems and how the California Department of Education arrived at the aforementioned dropout rate.

e. Youth Labor Market and School Statistics Information: Staff noted this information is statistical data regarding school enrollment broken down by ethnic group. It also shows Merced County Schools Dropout and Attrition Rates, and the data on the back has the Unemployment Rate for persons 16-24 years. All this data is provided by the State Employment Development Department on a yearly basis only.

8. Committee Chair Reports:

a. Operations: The Operations Committee met on August 28, 2002. Mr. Richard Chavez provided an update on the out-of-school program, which is progressing very well—the committee was impressed. The other item covered was to approve the changes made in the Request for Funds package.

b. Planning & Quality Assurance: The committee met on August 30, 2002. They are going to present the gap analysis and needs survey to the Superintendent of Schools. They also met with County Information Systems regarding setting up the website, and an ad hoc committee will be meeting directly after this meeting to discuss the type of information needed for the website.

c. Business, Education and Community Partners: The committee met on September 6, 2002. They discussed ERISS and the Youth Accountability Board. Ms. Suzanne Nunez, Gary Derr, along with three youth attended the State Youth Conference on August 14, 2002, in Oakland, CA, to present the youth message that was formed out of the conference, and give details on our planning of the conference. All information was very well received by the State, and one of their goals is to have a Statewide Youth Conference. They are going to mirror their efforts after our conference plan.

d. Leadership/Marketing Committee: They did not have a quorum.

9. Chair Comments: None.

10. Other Comments: It was recommended an agenda item for the next meeting be the time change.

11. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting – Next Youth Council meeting is October 11, 2002, in the UC Cooperative Extension Classroom (2145 W. Wardrobe Avenue, Merced), from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

12. Adjourn: It was *M/S/C Dean/Hall* to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Devilla D. Knight