

**Workforce Investment Board**  
**Dept of Workforce Investment Large Conference Rm**  
**1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA**  
**January 14, 2010, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**



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

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**Members Present:**

Lee Andersen	Andrea Baker	Darren Hughes
Karyn Dower	Rennise Ferrario	Peter Fluetsch
Agustin Beltran	Carol Greenberg	Richard Liszewski
Albert Montejano	Steve Newvine	Alfonse Peterson
Cordell "Corky" Price	David Long	Brenda Callahan-Johnson
Al Romero	Loretta Schlosser	Vann (Mike) Smith
Mike Sullivan	Nancy Ugarte	Hubert "Hub" Walsh

**Members Absent:**

Mario Delgado	Debra Glass
Edward Dietz	Joseph Lombardi
Ernie Flores	Amalee Jayasinghe
Henry Idefonzo	Rick Osorio
Terry Nichols	
James Wood Jr	

**Others Present:**

Bill Cahill	Brian Cutler	Wesley Golangco
Patricia Hinson	Alfredo Mendoza	Javier Miramontes
Joanne Presnell	Becky Lincoln	
Eve Snelling	Jackie Walther-Parnell	

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call – The Chair, Mr. Albert Montejano, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Roll call was taken.
  2. Approval of Agenda – It was *M/S/C Beltran/Dower* to approve the agenda as published.
  3. Approval of Minutes – It was *M/S/C Walsh/Beltran* to approve the November 12, 2009 minutes.
  4. Public Opportunity to Speak – Ms. Andrea Baker introduced Mr. Javier Miramontes who participated in the Empower Program as an excellent example of a success story.

Mr. Miramontes, noted after graduating from Golden Valley High School in 2006, he planned to continue his education but had financial problems. He spoke to a family member and decided to enroll in the Empower Program sponsored by the Merced County Office of Education (MCOE) and funded by the Workforce Investment Act. Mr. Miramontes was assigned a career coach who provided support through the program. After he completed the program, his career coach encouraged him to apply for UC Merced where he now attends and is studying for Political Science. He also works at the Student Government Office. Mr. Miramontes plans to travel to Hungary for the spring semester of 2010. Mr. Miramontes is very thankful to MCOE and the Department of Workforce Investment.

Ms. Loretta Schlosser invited members to attend the second phase of the Merced Ahead meeting discussion on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center in Merced. Ms. Schlosser encouraged members to spread the word.

Ms. Karyn Dower invited WIB attendees to attend the Open House for Merced College Business Resource Center in downtown Merced, and also to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Merced College Customer Service Academy. This event is scheduled for today at 5:00 p.m.

**5. Consent Agenda:** It was *M/S/C Beltran/Liszewski* to approve items 5a. through f. of the Consent Agenda.

- a. Request for Proposal for Basic Education Services for Worknet Labs.
- b. Changes to Incumbent Worker Policy.
- c. Workforce Investment Board and Executive Committee Meeting Schedule.
- d. National Association of Workforce Boards Strategic Assessment
- e. Elevate America
- f. Green Jobs Study

**6. Action Agenda:**

a. Youth Council Membership – Julieanne Brantley: It was *M/S/C Ugarte/Beltran* to approve the Youth Council membership nomination, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

b. Strategic Plan Modification #10: It was *M/S/C Liszewski/Andersen* to approve the timeline of events below to expedite the modification of the Merced Workforce Investment Area Plan and its submission to the State. Following is the timeline.

- ❖ 1/22/2010- Document completed and reviewed internally
- ❖ 2/01/2010- Document to WIB Executive Committee
- ❖ 2/01/2010- 30-Day Public Comments period begins
- ❖ 2/26/2010- Send final draft document to State
- ❖ 3/01/2010- Document to WIB Executive Committee for final approval
- ❖ 3/11/2010- Document to WIB for approval
- ❖ 3/16/2010- Merced County Board of Supervisors for approval
- ❖ 3/26/2010- Signed document to the State

**7. Presentations:**

a. High Speed Rail: Mr. Bill Cahill, Merced City Redevelopment, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed project for the High Speed Rail:

- Planning since early 1990s to link northern and southern California with high-speed trains.
- Service linking Southern Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Grade-separated from vehicles, pedestrians and other rail traffic
- Steel wheel-on-steel rail with 100% clean electric power.
- With a 45-minute commute time to San Jose from Merced, just over an hour to San Francisco, and 2 hours to LA.
- Two maintenance facility options: Castle Commerce Center Site (160 acres) and Merced Mission site (220 acres)

**8. Reports:**

a. Youth Council: Staff noted the Youth Council has created two Ad-hoc committees. The first committee will look at the membership council to ensure that the Council is in compliance with the law. The second committee will focus on the recommendations that they will bring to the WIB for Youth Funding.

b. Elevate America: Ms. Michelle Allison gave a presentation on Elevate America which is a national program where the Microsoft Corporation will provide 1 million training vouchers to the states for no-cost access to Microsoft E-Learning courses and selected Microsoft Certification exams. A total of 2,250 vouchers will be made available to the Department of Workforce Investment for Merced County. All vouchers must be allocated to customers and activated by the customer within 90 days of program initiation. There is no age limit and everyone qualifies.

c. Quality Employment and Development Committee (QUED): Mr. Steve Newvine noted the QUED and Economic Development committees had a joint meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the roles of each committee. It was decided that the role of the QUED would be more of an internal group that will focus on policies and opportunities for the WIB, and will make recommendations to the WIB on training and services. The Economic Development Committee will be a resource for the economic development professionals in our community and will share information and strategies.

d. Economic Development Committee: (See above comments).

**9. Information:**

a. Fiscal Report.

b. Labor Market Information.

c. Older Youth 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (Empower)

d. Younger Youth 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (YOP)

e. Regional Allied Health Sector Training Collaborative

f. Demographic Report

g. New Start

**10. Director Comments: None.**

**11. Chair Comments:** The Chair noted there are some handouts about Mr. Javier Miramontes' story and the Nursing Program graduation for those who would like to have more information. There was an email sent to all WIB members asking for volunteers to join a new Ad-hoc Outreach Committee to focus on strategies to communicate what the WIB does and our success stories to the public. So far, there are 3 members who have volunteered. The recommendation is 2 members from the Executive Committee and 1 member from the WIB. The Outreach Committee will be active for only 6 months. If you would like to participate in this committee, please let staff or Mr. Montejano know. The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and noted he is looking forward in working with the WIB in 2010. He is also looking forward in attending the Merced Ahead meeting.

**12. Next Meeting – March 11, 2010, Dept of Workforce Investment, 1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced.**

**13. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned 4:40 p.m.**