

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
of San Luis Obispo County**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, November 02, 2023
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Estero Bay Room, 1605 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Present: Isiah Gomer, David Baldwin, Veronica Orozco, Tricia Robertson, Mark Simonin, Angela Rayfield, William Hills, Ryan Stanley, Verena Latona-Tahlman
Absent: Josh Cross, Patrick Woolpert, Angela Toomey, Ronald Reilly, Michael Sloan, Melissa James, Justin McIntire, Matthew Green
Guests: Daniel Tatick, Jennifer Campos, Joey Valero, Jacob Erdman, Christina Kuhn, Kim Wybenga, Kim Gusman, Robert Collier
Staff: Dawn Boulanger, Diana Marin, Eddie Hernandez, Tony Girolo

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

Chairperson Isiah Gomer called the meeting to order at 8:08 AM **Quorum reached**

2. Public Comment:

Chair Gomer: No public comment

3. Presentations:

- 3.1 Robert Collier presented on the High Road Training Partnership Grant-High Road to Offshore Wind Energy Research Study. The PowerPoint presentation is available as an addendum to the meeting agenda**
- 3.2 Kim Gusman from the CA Employer's Association presented on the SLO Cal Careers HR Hotline. Her PowerPoint presentation is available as an addendum to the meeting agenda**

4. Consent Items:

4.1 Approved the August 17, 2023, Minutes:

The Board approves consent item 4.1 in a single motion

Motion: William Hills

Second: Verena Latona-Tahlman

Motion Passed Unanimously

5. Action Items:**5.1 Review and Approve the 2024 WDB Quarterly Meeting Schedule**

Isiah Gomer (Chair) presented the item and the board approved the proposed full board meeting schedule for 2024

Motion: Verena Latona-Tahlman

Second: William Hills

Motion Passed Unanimously

5.2 Review and Approve Fiscal Year 2023-24 WIOA Budget

Dawn Boulanger (staff) presented the item which is available as part of the agenda

Motion: Veronica Orozco

Second: Tricia Robertson

Motion Passed Unanimously

6. Discussion Items:**6.1 Receive FY 2023-24 Quarter 1 Eckerd Adult Services/Career Center Contract Performance Report**

Diana Marin (Staff) presented that the SLO Cal Careers Job Center saw steady growth in foot traffic during the first quarter with 229 individuals in July, 365 in August, and 271 in September. Enrollments saw 7 in July, 2 in August, and 5 in September. Eckerd Connects had \$7604.00 in leveraged resources during the first quarter, which primarily consisted of Employer Paid Wages or On-the-job-training (OJT) funds. During the same quarter, 3 individuals were placed in trainings. The Eckerd Team continued to engage in varied forms of public outreach during the 1st quarter. The team reached out to the justice-involved community by participating in the Post Release Offenders Meeting (PROM) and the Parole and Community Team Path Meeting. Eckerd Connects had a booth at the Mid-State Fair and visited libraries throughout the community trying to recruit participants. Eckerd staff also frequented Chamber events, the EAC and HRCC meetings and continue to tout the advantages of OJT's to employers. Dawn Boulanger (Staff) then added that despite the appearance of low enrollment numbers, the 865 people who were assisted during quarter 1 had access to basic career services at the job center. She then added that the WIOA eligibility system was created to serve those individuals in our community who have been deemed, "hardest to serve". These individuals often display a multitude of barriers to finding and maintaining stable employment. Dawn then spoke to percentage of the bi-annual budget that needs to be spent on training and the fact that we are falling short of that mark in our County. Board member William Hills then asked if it was possible to be sent a list of the most common trainings for WIOA participants. Dawn offered to send him a link to the lengthy list

in Caljobs and then clarified the WIOA training requirements regarding ETPL training providers and the lack of a diverse group of providers in our County. She stressed the need for the community colleges to get involved more and emphasized the importance of outreach for meeting the mark of these training spending requirements for the future.

6.2 Receive FY 2023-24 Quarter 1 Eckerd Youth Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (Staff) reported that there have been four enrollments this quarter in the Youth Program. Outreach by Eckerd staff has been consistent, trying to get the word out to the local community and partners regarding the program and who it can serve. There are no universal in-house services for youth, so eligibility is a must for access to these services. Many of the youth who participate in the WIOA program often have multiple barriers to employment and self-sufficiency. Eckerd staff have been cultivating relationships with local employers, and articulating how paid internships can be mutually beneficial to both the business and the youth they employ. There were no Work Experience (WEX) placements this quarter.

7. Reports:

a.) Executive Committee and Chairperson Report

Chairperson Gomer stated that the Executive Committee did not meet in September but did meet on October 11, 2023. In that meeting, the minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting were approved, the 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Calendar was approved along with the start time change of the meetings to 8:30 AM. Also discussed was the upcoming Jobs of the Future grant along with CWA that the Board will be participating in. This eighteen-month project will assess how community centered the current WDB is and suggest room for improvement. The speaking engagements for the final drafts of the State of the Workforce and the Local Hire Report from BW research will be communicated to members once the dates/times are established. Finally, the next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled to occur on December 13, 2023.

b.) WIOA Business Retention/Layoff Aversion Services with Atascadero Chamber – Q1 Update

Dawn Boulanger (staff) gave an update on the Business Retention/Layoff Aversion contract between the board and Atascadero Chamber of Commerce. She highlighted employee Gloria Balderas efforts in North County to assess business needs by providing grant and hiring resources and connecting employers to our Small Business Development Center located in San Luis Obispo. Dawn emphasized the proactive nature of this work in reaching businesses in need in contrast to the reactive nature of the Rapid Response component to WIOA Business Services.

c.) Board Member Workforce Development Updates

Board member David Baldwin from Local 403 reminded the board that the week of November 13-17 is National Apprenticeship Week, and scheduled on Friday, November 17th is the Construction Trades Apprenticeship Forum located at 3710 Broad Street in San Luis Obispo. Dawn Boulanger (Staff) then gave a summary of the forum and David asked if people in attendance knew families with young people interested in potentially joining the trades to invite them to attend the event.

8. Administrative Entity Update:

8.1 Receive and Review Fiscal Expenditure Update

Dawn Boulanger (staff) directed the board to review the Q1 Fiscal Expenditure Update in the agenda packet and stated that the board was on track with current expenditures.

8.2 Receive and Review Rapid Response Update

Tony Girolo (Staff) reported that a total of 11 Rapid Responses have been conducted so far during this fiscal year with the majority being in the city of San Luis Obispo and falling under the industry category of Accommodation and Food Services. Two WARN notices have been received, with one only affecting two employees so not technically a typical WARN notice. There has been a trend of well-established restaurants in downtown San Luis Obispo closing, so the board staff may inquire if certain economic factors are contributing to this. Board member Verena Latona-Tahlman from Cannon Corp. asked if this data was consistent with last year's report from this period. Chairperson Isiah Gomer and staff member Dawn Boulanger responded stating that it was fairly similar to last year's data.

9. Next Meeting:

February 1, 2024

8:30 – 10:30 AM

Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Estero Bay Room, 1605 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

10. Adjournment:

Chair Gomer: adjourned the meeting at 10:10 AM

I, Tony Girolo, Clerk of the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on Thursday, November 02, 2023, by the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Tony Girolo, WDB Program Review Specialist

Dated: November 13, 2023