WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
of San Luis Obispo County

BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020
Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Location: Virtual Meeting- https://slohealth.zoom.us/j/98579656908?pwd=RDViTytDMmZ6ZG9DaHFBYVVFdjBUZz09

Present: Isiah Gomer, Jim Yancheson, Michael Specchierla, Chuck Jehle, Kirk Coviello
Absent: John Cascamo, Verena Latona-Tahlman, Judy Mahan
Staff: Dawn Boulanger, Sarah Hayter, Diana Marin
Guest:

1. Call to Order:
   Chair Isiah Gomer: called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. Quorum.

2. Public Comment:
   Chair Gomer: noted no public on public line.

3. Consent Items:
   3.1 Approve the August 20, 2020
      Motion: Kirk Coviello
      Second: Michael Specchierla
      Abstentions: None
      Motion Passed Unanimously

4. AJCC Report:
   4.1 Receive Report on AJCC Business Services
      Jim Yancheson (committee member) presented the item which provided an update on the San Luis Obispo America's Job Center of CA (AJCC). Jim Stated that the AJCC is now open by appointment only. All services are being delivered at this time. Traffic is slow. Several businesses are hiring. Business are having a hard time finding employees as there appear to be less job seekers than jobs.

5. Information/Discussion:
   5.1 Discuss Commercial Driver's License Prep Course
      Isiah Gomer (chair) and Michael Specchierla (committee member) presented the item which provided an update on the status of the Commercial License Preparation Course aimed to assist the community in preparing for the commercial driver's licensure exam to fill bus driver positions with the County Office of Education (CEO). The SLO CEO can accommodate the training of bus drivers through their current capacity. The committee discussed the potential of the training program to be used as a ladder to train and create a pipeline of experienced commercial drivers for other local companies who require a CDL and experience. Michael Specchierla (committee member) stated that the COE has the capacity to train 10 applicants a year, over 3 years. At the moment, bus driver occupations are not currently in high demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however the conversations about the commercial license bus driver training will continue as the circumstances around the pandemic unfold and social distancing requirements loosen. Sarah Hayter (staff) covered how WIOA individuals would potentially be able to be participate in the
training to assist with the cost, if it aligns with the individuals training plan. Michael Specchierla (committee member) and Isiah Gomer (chair) talked about funding for training, whether business donation, employer sponsorship or CARES Act funding.

5.2 Discuss COVID-19 Small Business Grant
Sarah Hayter (staff) presented the item which included a brief update on the upcoming release of funds for Small Business Layoff Aversion Grants. She stated that the grant was aimed at being released by October 1st, however it is currently being reviewed by County Counsel for final details on language of funding source. The Board staff anticipate it will be finalized and released within the next week or so. Upon release the Board may call upon council members to assist in the review of applications. She also stated that the council will be notified of the release once it is available.

5.3 Update on Advanced Telehealth Coordinator Certificate Training
Sarah Hayter (staff) presented the item which included a report out about research conducted on interest or need for a Telehealth Coordinator Certificate Training. She reported that Diana Marin (staff) had conducted research which included conversations with Healthcare Industry leaders at an EVC cluster meeting and County Public Health. The consensus was that although many providers had shifted to delivery of telehealth services whenever possible, they were not interested in requiring a certificate, if not mandated at this time. With so many occupations within the industry requiring licenses or certification currently, they felt that another certificated position would be more of a barrier, especially since staff was able to perform most of the duties now without the certificate. The outcome of the conversation was that moving to telehealth services was beneficial for providers, however the interest was more around the cybersecurity piece. Michael Specchierla (committee member) asked if the Healthcare Industry needed help locating training or providers for their noted cybersecurity needs. The council decided to table the Telehealth Coordinator Certificate and pursue further conversations about the cybersecurity needs.

6. Council Member Workforce Development Updates:
Chair Gomer: opened the floor to updates from the Committee membership Kirk Coviello, Chuck Jehle and Isiah Gomer shared updates.

7. Next Meeting:
Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:00am-10:30am
Virtual Zoom Meeting

8. Adjournment:
Chair Gomer: adjourned the meeting at 10:10 A.M.
Diana Marin, Clerk of the Business Council 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 Thursday, October 15, 2020 by the Business Council of the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Diana Marin, Business Council Clerk

Dated: December 8, 2020