

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

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday, August 5, 2021  
**Time:** 8:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Department of Social Services Room 101, 3433 South Higuera Street, SLO and virtually via Zoom

---

**Present:** Carl Dudley, David Baldwin, Dr. James J. Brescia, Verena Latona-Tahlman, Justin McIntire, Dr. Jill Stearns, Courtney Taylor, Ron Reilly, Patrick Woolpert, Ryan Stanley  
**Absent:** Isiah Gomer, William Hills, Mark Simonin  
**Guests:** Allison Schiavo, Tammy Aguilera, Angella Toomey, Cesar Valladares, Veronica Orozco, Jenna Morton, Susan Mathers, Kristen Handley, Racheal Hendricks, Olga Duran  
**Staff:** Dawn Boulanger, Sarah Hayter, Leann Ross, Diana Marin

---

**1. Call to Order and Introductions:**

**Chairperson Carl Dudley** called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. **Quorum reached.**

**2. Public Comment:**

**Chair Dudley:** No public comment.

**3. Consent Items:**

**3.1** Approve the May 6, 2021 Minutes

Motion: Justin McIntire  
Second: Courtney Taylor  
Abstentions: None

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**4. Action Items:**

**4.1** Review and Approve Program Year 2021-2022 Local Area Budget for Workforce Services  
Dawn Boulanger (staff) presented item which is available as part of the agenda.

Motion: Justin McIntire  
Second: Patrick Woolpert  
Abstentions: None

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**5. Presentations:**

**5.1 Employment Development Department (EDD) Services in SLO**

Cesar Valladares, Deputy Division Chief of L.A. Coastal Workforce Services Division shared they are still having conversations on consolidating several State departments under the newly designated Department of Better Jobs and Higher Wages. This would include the California Workforce Development Board, the Employment Training Panel, the Department of Industrial Relations/Division of Apprenticeships Standards and EDD Workforce Services will ultimately merge according to the edict and support of the Governor and Labor Secretary. Cesar also shares the States Vaccine Verification System, EDD employees are required to provide proof of vaccination or test regularly. As of July 11,

seek work requirement will be reinstated for most receiving unemployment insurance. The presumption of eligibility payments started being issued July 23 to clear out any pending payments outstanding in the system. In person services through the Workforce Services branch of EDD has different stages and is in process of working out guidelines to have a security guard presence. EDD is still offering virtual services at this time, such as virtual inbox answering questions at [wbsanluisobispo@edd.ca.gov](mailto:wbsanluisobispo@edd.ca.gov), direct phone line 805-858-3508, virtual workshops and Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) via phone and Zoom platform. Cesar also shared they are working on a UI Navigator position for SLO, this person would connect individuals with Unemployment Insurance branch. There is additionally the Veteran program working currently with ten veterans locally and the Migrant Seasonal Farm Worker (MSFW) program helping farm workers through mobile line and IPAD to meet via facetime to assist with Unemployment Insurance as well.

**Amended from Micro Seasonal Farmworker to Migrant Seasonal Farmworker**

**Chairperson Dudley: Speaks.**

**Veronica Orozco – guest: Speaks.**

## **6. Information/Discussion Items:**

### **6.1 Receive PY 20-21 Eckerd AJCC Contract Performance Report**

Sarah Hayter (Staff) presented the item, which is available as part of the agenda.

**Chairperson Dudley: Speaks.**

**Tammy Aguilera-guest: Speaks.**

### **6.2 Receive PY 20-21 Eckerd AJCC Contract Performance Report**

Sarah Hayter (Staff) presented the item, which is available as part of the agenda.

**Chairperson Dudley: Speaks.**

**Tammy Aguilera-guest: Speaks.**

**Justin McIntire-Board Member: Speaks.**

## **7. Reports:**

### **7.1**

**a) Executive Committee Report:** Chairperson Dudley reported that since the last Board meeting the Executive Committee approved the Draft Scope of Work and Budgets for both the AJCC and WIOA Youth service contracts for PY 2021-2022 with Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Inc. As well as contract with Ventura County for California Climate Investments Program in the Amount of \$148,011. The Executive committee additionally approved 5 Workforce Development Board member appointments and 1 Business Council member appointment between their June and July meetings. Chairperson Dudley shared that other meetings he attends were starting to go back to in person meetings but with the new Delta variant masks are back and most organizations are still on Zoom especially with virtual meetings being more convenient and people don't have to travel.

**b) Business Council Report:** Verena Latona-Tahlman shared the Business Council met in June discussing AJCC business services outreach in hopes to better inform businesses and job seekers alike about the services and resources available through the AJCC. The council also received an update about survey sent to the first round of Covid Small Business Grant recipients, findings that came from this were that there were many challenges endured by these businesses because of the pandemic, and most continue to struggle with staffing. However, they do anticipate making full recovery. There was also reported to be a lack of awareness about the Workforce Development Board and AJCC

services. Verena also shared that the Business Council is looking for business community representation and membership.

**c) Staff Report:** Sarah Hayter (Staff) shared that the Workforce Development Board brought in an additional \$240,000 in grants, operating over \$400,000 in special grants in addition to formula funds. These grants help support special populations such as justice involved individuals, Covid impacted individuals, dislocated workers and partnerships in pre-apprenticeship programs. Sarah additionally shared Business Council accomplishments over the year such as focusing on commercial drivers license prep course, Covid Small Business Grant administration and strategies of Rapid Response outreach and coordination in reporting business closures. Sarah also shares the AJCC moved locations to the Acacia Creek Business Park at 3450 Broad Street, Suite 103 in San Luis Obispo. This fiscal year the Workforce Development Board additionally updated the MOU with AJCC partner agencies. Workforce Development Board staff conducted AJCC and WIOA Youth program monitoring as well as participated in State run virtual WIOA Fiscal and Procurement monitoring. Dawn Boulanger (staff) shares SB1 Grant updates, first cohort of 7 individuals is graduating on August 18 with their Multi Craft Core Certificate for successfully completing the pre-apprenticeship program with one possibly two of them already picked up by the Plumbers and Pipefitters apprenticeship program. Dawn additionally shared conferences are coming back, Meeting of the Minds is taking place next month, with encouraged attendance by board members. Additionally, there is a webinar being hosted by Morris and Garritano in partnership with the WDB for Innovative Strategies for Recruitment and Retention.

## **8. Administrative Entity Update:**

### **8.1 Receive and Review Rapid Response Update**

Diana Marin (Staff) presented the item, which is available as part of the agenda.

## **9. Board Member Workforce Development Updates:**

Courtney Taylor shares the merge of the Women's Shelter/Stand Strong and RISE with new name of Lumina Alliance. Courtney also shares new website redefineslo.org, a resource and prevention department that works with parents to talk about body autonomy, gender identity, health masculinity and healthy pronouns, working towards domestic violence prevention.

Ron Reilly shares in the architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) community building materials are causing stir but biggest struggle is being able to recruit talent locally without having to outsource to large firms from the rest of California.

David Baldwin shares the pipe trades and local electrical workers held a couple events at the Mid State fair such as ice cream social for the kids in the livestock area, when kids came to get their ice cream they were able to talk about careers available through apprenticeship and the different trades. There was also a meet and greet held with school staff, CTE, REACH, elected officials, County Board of Supervisors, and Division of Apprenticeship Standard to talk about the importance of apprenticeship for our community and what it means to make pathways for these head of household jobs.

Patrick Woolpert shares that they can't find the licensed staff they require in the community causing them to have to advertise for these positions outside of the community, pay housing stipends and housing relocation to attract these positions to their facilities. Patrick additionally shares his goal is to continue to work with Cuesta and Hancock college to continue to offer development courses for the LVN and RN positions to grow local talent locally and fill local jobs.

Justin McIntire shares what services DOR offers to do presentation for new members.

Chair Dudley requests advocacy of members to send people to the AJCC.

**10. Next Meeting:**

November 4, 2021

8:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: Department of Social Services Room 101, 3433 South Higuera Street, SLO

**11. Adjournment:**

**Chair Dudley:** adjourned the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

I, Leann Ross, Clerk of the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo, do hereby certify that the forgoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting Thursday, August 5, 2021 by the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Leann Ross, WDB Program Specialist

Dated: August 5, 2021