

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

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: County Office of Education, 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo

Present: Isiah Gomer, William Hills, David Baldwin, Dr. James Brescia, Josh Cross, Veronica Orozco, Tricia Lubin, Dr. Jill Sterns, Angela Toomey, Ryan Stanley, Verena Latona-Tahlman, Ronald Reilly, Mark Simonin, Angela Rayfield

Absent: Melissa James, Justin McIntire, Michael Sloan, Patrick Woolpert

Guests: Daniel Tatick, Christina Kuhn, Traci Bradbury, Jennifer Campos, Michael Specchierla, Jonathan Ziegler

Staff: Dawn Boulanger, Diana Marin, Eddie Hernandez, Tony Girolo

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

Chairperson Isiah Gomer called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. **Quorum reached.**

2. Public Comment:

Chair Gomer: No public comment.

3. Consent Items:

3.1 Approved the November 3, 2022, Minutes:

The Board approves consent item 3.1 in a single motion

Motion: William Hills

Second: Dr. Jill Sterns

Motion Passed Unanimously

4. Action Items:

4.1 Review and Approve Updates to Local Workforce Development Board Bylaws to Reflect Changes to Sub-Committee Structure

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

Motion: William Hills

Second: Dr. James Brescia

Motion Passed Unanimously

4.2 Review and Approve an Increase to the Family Self-Sufficiency Threshold for WIOA Training Services

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

Motion: Dr. James Brescia

Second: William Hills

Motion Passed Unanimously

4.3 Review and Approve the 2023 WDB Meeting Schedule

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

Motion: Veronica Orozco

Second: Dr. Jill Stearns

Motion Passed Unanimously

5. Discussion Items:

5.1 Receive Quarter 2 Eckerd AJCC WIOA Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (WDB Staff) discussed and updated the WDB on the positive increase in foot traffic at the America's Job Center of California (AJCC) and an increase in the number of enrollments in quarter 1. Ms. Marin also mentioned the AJCC is slightly under the projected goal for this time of the year.

Dawn Boulanger (WDB Staff) explained how the AJCC meets the participant training expenditure requirement for the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. Ms. Boulanger also explained how Leveraged funds assist with offsetting expenses.

Diana Marin stated that there have been six Individual Training Agreements (ITA's) and one On-the-Job Training (OJT) contract. She also mentioned that outreach had been a major focus in Q1 to ensure that they connected with as many agencies as possible to inform job seekers about the services available to the community. Ms. Marin also discussed how the AJCC Workforce Development Specialist consistently participates in Chamber events throughout SLO County, Job Developer meetings, the Employer Advisory Council, and the Human Resource Association of the Central Coast meetings to learn how the AJCC can best support local businesses.

Christina Kuhn, Operations Director for Eckerd (guest), relayed several success stories of participants who were assisted at the Job Center in SLO. Christina also expressed optimism about enrollments heading into the next quarter. Chair Isiah Gomer asked about the rationale behind the target number of enrollments for a specific quarter. Dawn Boulanger explained the complex set of things that go into coming up with a specific target number for enrollments to conclude the topic.

5.2 Receive Quarter 2 SLOCOE WIOA Youth Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (WDB Staff) discussed how San Luis Obispo County Office of Education (SLOCOE) WIOA Youth staff is actively engaged with potential youth participants at Juvenile Hall, Grizzly Youth Academy, and Community Schools. SLOCOE Staff anticipates several of the potential youth participants that they have engaged with will qualify for WIOA Youth program services and will continue to engage with them. Ms. Marin informed the WDB that the SLOCOE WIOA Youth program has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCA, and other community partners in hopes to increase referrals and enrollments for potential WEX placements in the next quarter.

5.3 Discuss WDB Member Participation in Ad-Hoc Committees

Dawn Boulanger explained the rationale for the creation of the Ad-Hoc Committees to address goals as outlined in the Board's Strategic Plan. The Ad-Hoc Committees allow members to meet and discuss topics in small groups which supports the Strategic Plan's goal of increasing engagement and dynamism for Board Members in their roles while still adhering to Brown Act guidelines. Dawn stated that they would be passing around sign-up sheets and that if members did not voluntarily sign-up they would be assigned to specific groups as determined by need.

6. Reports:

a.) Executive Committee and Chairperson Report

Chairperson Gomer reported that the Executive Committee met on January 11, 2023, and approved the 2023 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule. The committee received updates on the Digital Outreach Ad-Hoc Committee as well as the WDB Strategic Plan. Chairperson Gomer stated that the next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2023, at 8:00 AM

b.) Services Addressing Barriers to Employment

Dawn Boulanger (staff) provided an update on WIOA Services Addressing Barriers to Employment. Ms. Boulanger reported on several special population grants including the High Road Construction Careers (HRCC): SB-1 MC3 Pre-Apprenticeship Training Grant, HRCC; the CA Climate Investments (CCI) Grant; a Regional Plan Implementation (RPI) 4.0 Grant; the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) – Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity and Innovation Grant for PY 2021-25; and the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships Grant. Ms. Boulanger also reported that the Prison to Employment Grant funding, currently received as a regional grant with SLO and Santa Barbara Counties, to serve justice-involved individuals will continue. Ms. Boulanger informed the members that Eckerd has been awarded the Breaking Barriers Grant which will provide career services to underemployed individuals in SLO County.

c.) Board Member Workforce Development Updates

Mark Simonin from Local IBEW 639 stated that the ongoing storms have impacted their progress on jobs. Tricia Robertson from Lucia Mar Adult Education stated that they are still hiring and doing outreach to educate the local community. Angela Rayfield from Rantec Power Systems updated the board that they have twenty to thirty vacancies. David Baldwin from Local 403 announced a new wave of apprenticeships with roughly 10 open slots. Dr. Brescia spoke to the SLOCOE putting in a large sum of funds to upskill current employees and mentioned that they are prioritizing early childhood education. Angela Toomey from Morris and Garritano Insurance stated they are still hiring entry-level employees. Josh Cross from the Atascadero Chamber of Commerce described the Chamber's recent partnership with Eckerd Connects resulting in the hiring of two new employees. Mr. Cross also mentioned the upcoming Junior CEO program that is launching on February 22nd. Verena Latona-Tahlman from the Cannon Corporation announced that they have about thirty new positions, mostly engineering jobs. Ronald Reilly, from Garing, Taylor, and Associates, Inc also indicated that they are hiring. Lastly, Chair Isiah Gomer from Paso Robles Waste & Recycle reported that they have increased the pay recently for most of their drivers but are also still recruiting qualified applicants.

7. Administrative Entity Update:

7.1 Receive and Review Fiscal Budget Update

Dawn Boulanger (staff) presented the item, which is available as an addendum to the agenda.

7.2 Receive and Review Rapid Response Update

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

10. Next Meeting:

May 4, 2023

8:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: County Office of Education, 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo

11. Adjournment:

Chair Gomer: adjourned the meeting at 09:33 A.M.

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, February 2, 2022, by the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Tony Girolo, WDB Program Review Specialist

Dated: March 3, 2023