

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
of San Luis Obispo County

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 02, 2024
Time: 8:30 AM
Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Estero Bay Room, 1605 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Present: Isiah Gomer, Josh Cross, Tricia Robertson, Mark Simonin, Angela Rayfield, William Hills, Ryan Stanley, Patrick Woolpert, Angela Toomey, Ronald Reilly, Matthew Green, Justin McIntire, Michael Sloan, Danielle McIntire, Veronica Orozco
Absent: David Baldwin, Verena Latona-Tahlman, Dawn Boulanger
Guests: Chelsea Kuhns, Christina Kuhn (Zoom), Jennifer Campos, Joey Valero, Eryk Nappi, Kim Wybenga, Stacy Church, Amy Perez, Sara Rodrigues, Amanda Sanchez
Staff: Diana Marin, Eddie Hernandez, Tony Girolo

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

Chairperson Isiah Gomer called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM **Quorum reached**

2. Public Comment:

Chair Gomer: No public comment

3. Consent Items:

3.1 Approved the February 01, 2024, Meeting Minutes:

3.2 Approve the February 27th, 2024, Meeting Minutes

3.3 Approve the Member Appointment of Julie Sinton Pruniski to an Economic Development Seat on the WDB

The Board approved consent items 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 in a single motion

Motion: William Hills

Second: Justin McIntire

Motion Passed Unanimously

4. Action Items:

4.1 Review and Approve Draft Scope of Work and Budget for the FY 24-25 WIOA Youth Contract with Eckerd

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item, and the board approved the item

Motion: Josh Cross

Second: Matthew Green

Motion Passed Unanimously

4.2 Review and Approve Draft Scope of Work and Budget for the FY 24-25 SLO Cal Careers WIOA Adult/Dislocated Worker Contract with Eckerd

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item, and the board approved the item

Motion: William Hills

Second: Veronica Orozco

Motion Passed Unanimously

4.3 Review and Approve Draft Scope of Work and Budget for the FY 24-25 WIOA Layoff Aversion Services Contract with the Atascadero Chamber

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item, and the board approved the item

Motion: Justin McIntire

Second: Ronald Reilly

Abstention: Josh Cross

Motion Passed

4.4 Review and Approve Revisions to the WDB Bylaws

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item, and the board approved the revisions to the WDB bylaws

Motion: Angela Rayfield

Second: Patrick Woolpert

Motion Passed Unanimously

5. Discussion Items:

5.1 Receive FY 23-24 Quarter 3 Eckerd WIOA SLO Cal Careers Adult/Dislocated Worker Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (staff) introduced Joey Valero (guest) to lead the discussion item, Joey is the Program Manager for the Adult/Dislocated Worker Program at the SLO Cal Careers Job Center. Joey reported that enrollment numbers were strong during the 3rd Quarter for the WIOA Adult Program, which he partly attributes to the efforts at outreach by the SLO WDB staff and Eckerd partners including EDD and DSS. In January alone there were fourteen WIOA Adult Program enrollments. February also saw enrollments exceed the benchmark number. Joey also pointed out that training expenditures in Quarter 3 were \$67,815, which far exceeded the \$38,000 goal. Among the training programs highlighted were the Coding Bootcamp at Fullstack Academy, The Truck Driver Institute, and an OJT contract with Omni Design for a Land Surveyor I role. A success story was also shared regarding a WIOA enrolled individual landing a Management Trainee role at Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Joey closed by stating he is excited about Eckerd hiring Stacy Church as their Business Services Manager heading into fiscal year 2024-25.

5.2 Receive FY 23-24 Quarter 3 Eckerd WIOA Youth Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (staff) introduced Jennifer Campos (guest) from Eckerd Connects to present this item. Jennifer is the Program Manager for the WIOA Youth Program. Jennifer stated that Eckerd met their enrollment expectations for Quarter 3 and were on track to meet their enrollment expectations for Quarter 4 as well. Eckerd staff has continued to prioritize program outreach to the public and Jennifer summarized the barriers to employment that many youths face during their path to securing employment. Jennifer then shared a WIOA Youth program success story. The success story highlighted a local youth named Eden who landed a paid internship at Just Baked in Paso Robles, Ca. Ronald Reilly (member) asked for clarification regarding the process with which a youth might be set up for an internship through SLO Cal Careers. Diana Marin and Jennifer then clarified the difference between the

work experience (WEX) and on-the-job training (OJT) definitions. Will Hills (Co-Chair) complimented Jennifer and the rest of the Eckerd staff present on their hard work and exceeding the enrollment number goals for the WIOA Youth Program.

5.3 Receive Fiscal Year 23-24 Quarter 3 Atascadero Chamber WIOA Layoff Aversion/Business Retention Services Contract Performance Report

Diana Marin (staff) introduced Josh Cross (member), President of the Atascadero Chamber, to present the performance report of our \$100,000.00 contract with the Chamber that seeks to be the proactive piece of our WIOA Rapid Response services. Josh emphasized the limited number of staff who make up our local Workforce Development Board and the need for a contract like this to assist the collective effort of layoff aversion. Josh then introduced Eryk Nappi (guest) and Kim Wybenga (guest), the two chamber employees hired to fulfill the duties of this WIOA partnership contract. Josh summarized some of the findings from these efforts to the board including the hardships that the retail and the restaurant industry have been facing. Josh reported that both Eryk and Kim have visited a total of 126 businesses in the program year. Ron Reilly (member) stated that he really enjoyed Kim and Eryk's presentation at the recent South County Chamber of Commerce luncheon where they outlined all the available services from SLO Cal Careers in a humorous fashion. Angela Rayfield (member) asked what percentage of all SLO County businesses that Atascadero Chamber staff are trying to reach with their efforts. Josh responded that they are prioritizing small businesses, and he is happy with the amount of contact his two staff members have made so far. Angela Toomey (member) then expressed interest in having a breakdown of the HR Hotline numbers available in the Agenda Packet for upcoming WDB Meetings so board members can evaluate the impact it is having in the County.

6. Reports:

a.) Executive Committee and Chairperson Report

Chairperson Gomer stated that the WDB Executive Committee met on Wednesday March 13, 2024, where they received public comment from staff from the Nourish the Brain institute who recently were added to the ETPL list and seek to partner with local employers and organizations. The Committee approved the October 11, 2023, meeting minutes and approved budget modifications to the Eckerd PY 23-24 WIOA Adult/Dislocated Worker Services Contract to add funds for training. The Executive Committee also received an update followed by a discussion on Non-

WIOA Special Grants. The April Executive Committee Meeting was cancelled, and the next scheduled Executive Committee meeting is on June 12, 2024.

b.) SLO Cal Careers Services Addressing Barriers to Employment

Diana Marin (staff) gave a brief overview of the non-WIOA special grants we currently have and some of their attributes. Patrick Woolpert (member) then asked a question about the meaning of “enhanced alignment” in the description of the RERP grant with local community colleges. Matthew Green (member) answered Patrick’s question by explaining how Cuesta College is trying to have their job developers and staff identify in-demand jobs and apprenticeships that align with the definition of high road jobs. Matthew also spoke to certain challenges with this process, and re-defining Cuesta as an institution that along with preparing students to transfer to Cal Poly also propels students directly into quality jobs with career pathways.

c.) Board Member Workforce Development Updates

Tricia Robertson (member) from the Lucia Mar School District gave an Adult Education update and mentioned that Culinary is the next CTE pathway the district is in the process of establishing. Matthew Green (member) gave a quick recap of two recent job fairs that Cuesta held, one focused on the Human Services sector and the other on the Agricultural sector. He said they were very successful, and he hopes to build on the momentum they generated. Mark Simonin (member) stated that construction slowed down as an industry but recently has picked back up. He attributed the uptick in part to large federal projects including the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act. Mark closed stating that there are a lot more large construction projects on the horizon so employment in the trades should remain steady. Danielle McIntire (member) gave an update on a career fair that the Cliff’s Resort and Spa will be hosting later this month in partnership with Sycamore Mineral Springs and Sea Venture Beach Hotel. The Cliff’s will also be hiring a role for their corporate office and a host of other positions with the company. Justin McIntire (member) gave an update regarding the partnership between EDD and Eckerd that allows a lessening of a service gap for participants. Veronica Orozco (member) reminded the group to send EDD their job postings so they can help market and potentially find candidates. Isiah (chair) stated that Paso Robles Recycle & Waste have been hiring new staff, but people have been leaving their roles, so it has been a steady fluctuation. Isiah also reported that tasting rooms and wineries in North

County are still in a slow season and having to be creative to try and keep up with their profits but are eagerly awaiting the usually busy summer season coming up.

7. Administrative Entity Update:

7.1 Receive and Review Fiscal Expenditure Update

Diana Marin (staff) reminded the board members that the fiscal report can be found on page eighty-seven of the WDB agenda packet. Diana reported that most of the current expenditures are on-track, except for the WIOA Adult and Youth contracts. Quarter 4 expenditures are expected to be high though for both the Adult and Youth contracts. The non-WIOA special grants are also included in the update, and Diana clarified that because the start dates of the special grants differ from the start dates of the WIOA grants that the information will not always reflect accurately what the current numbers are.

7.2 Receive and Review Rapid Response Update

Tony Girolo (staff) reported that there has been a thirty percent increase in rapid responses conducted from this time in May last year in 2023. Retail Trade and Accommodation and Food Services are the two most impacted industries with San Luis Obispo city proper having the most closures and layoffs. In March, Tony completed a Business Walk with Atascadero Chamber staff members Eryk Nappi and Kim Wybenga to get a sense of current challenges local small businesses are facing. Parking and homelessness were the most mentioned issues during this survey. In April, Tony along with EDD and job center staff completed a rapid response orientation at the 99 Cents Only store in San Luis Obispo. Here they administered resources for the staff affected by the closure. Tony gave an update about the upcoming Spanish webinar as part of the HR Hotline contract with CEA. He also mentioned that the board can pick a topic for one final webinar training to host before the June 30th end of contract date for the 2024 hotline package. The Rapid Response update closed with a discussion on how the WDB can follow up on findings such as the parking issue uncovered during the SLO Business walk in a way that fits within the legal mandates of public meetings. Chair Isiah Gomer stated that an item, such as the parking topic, could be added to the next Executive Committee Meeting to discuss further. He also suggested the use of an ad-hoc group as another alternative to further explore a topic raised during a more formal board meeting.

8. Next Meeting:

August 1, 2024

8:30 – 10:30 AM

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

9. Adjournment:

Chair Gomer: adjourned the meeting at 10:04 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, May 02, 2024, by the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Tony Girolo, WDB Program Review Specialist

Dated: May 6, 2024