

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

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday, September 18, 2025  
**Time:** 8:32 AM  
**Location:** Morris & Garritano  
1122 Laurel Lane, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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**Present:** William Hills, Veronica Orozco, Julie Sinton Pruniski, Verena Latona-Tahlman, Cheryl London, Danielle McIntire, Angela Rayfield, Angela Toomey, Patrick Woolpert  
**Absent:** Isiah Gomer, David Baldwin, Josh Cross, Mark Simonin, Ryan Stanley, Justin McIntire  
**Guests:** Christina Kuhn, Aaron Moon, Addison Gregory  
**Staff:** Dawn Boulanger, Diana Marin, Eddie Hernandez

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

**Vice Chair William Hills** called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM **Quorum reached**

**2. Public Comment:**

**Vice Chair Williams:** No public comment

**3. Consent Items:**

**3.1 Approve the May 8, 2025, Minutes**

**3.2 Review and Approve WDB Member nomination**

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

Motion: Angela Rayfield

Second: Patrick Woolpert

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**Public Comment: N/A**

#### **4. Action Items:**

##### **4.1 Review and Approve FY 2025-26 WIOA Budget Plan**

Dawn Boulanger (staff) presented this item to the WDB, which attachment is available and part of the agenda packet.

Motion: Veronica Orozco

Second: Verena Latona-Tahlman

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**Public Comment: N/A**

#### **5. Discussion Items:**

##### **5.1 Receive FY 24-25 Q4 Eckerd WIOA Adult Services/Career Center Contract Performance Report**

Diana Marin (staff) presented this item to the WDB, which attachment is available and part of the agenda packet.

##### **5.2 Receive FY 24-25 Q4 Eckerd WIOA Youth Services Contract Performance Report**

Diana Marin (staff) presented this item to the WDB, which attachment is available and part of the agenda.

#### **6. Administrative Entity Update:**

##### **6.1 Receive Director Update**

Dawn Boulanger (staff) provided an update on federal workforce developments, noting that the proposed "Make America Skilled Again" (MASA) block grant model introduced through an Executive Order has not gained traction and is unlikely to advance. Ms. Boulanger also reported that Congress is currently negotiating two contrasting budget bills from the House and Senate; while neither is expected to pass as written, a final compromise could impact future federal workforce funding levels. WIOA remains forward funded and that the current year's County programming is being supported by funds approved under last year's federal budget. However, the outcome of current budget negotiations will affect funding for Program Year 2026–27, with an update expected at the November WDB meeting. WIOA reauthorization

discussions are also anticipated to resume this fiscal year, likely restarting from the previous “A Stronger Workforce for America (ASWA)” Act framework, which emphasizes increased training investments, apprenticeships, and AI skill development. The High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) grant remains on schedule to conclude in March 2026, while the Prison to Employment (P2E) and Regional Equity & Recovery Partnership (RERP) grants have been extended through December 2026 due to under-expenditures and enrollment challenges. Ms. Boulanger concluded that fewer state discretionary grants are expected to move forward, so identifying alternative funding sources will be key to sustaining and diversifying SLO County’s workforce programs.

## **6.2 Receive and Review Fiscal Update**

Dawn Boulanger (staff) reported on the Fiscal Budget, in which an addendum to the agenda is available.

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

Diana Marin (staff) reported on Rapid Response, which is available as part of the agenda.

## **7. Reports:**

### **a.) Executive Committee and Chairperson Report**

Vice Chairperson William Hills shared that the Executive Committee meeting set for January 8, 2025 was cancelled. Mr. Hills also shared that on the April 09, 2025, the March 12, 2025, minutes were approved along with the following: Reviewed and Approved WIOA Local Plan PY 25-28; Reviewed and Approved WIOA Regional Plan PY 25-28; Discussed WDB Executive Committee Memberships; Received and Reviewed Fiscal Update and Rapid Response. Next scheduled Executive Committee meeting is set for October 8, 2025, at 8:30 AM at the Department of Social Services- 3433 S Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA

### **b.) Board Member Workforce Development Updates**

Angela Rayfield shared with the Board her experience and key takeaways from attending the Meeting of the Minds 2025 conference held in Monterey, California. Ms. Rayfield expressed that the conference was both insightful and informative, providing a valuable reminder to employers regarding the importance of utilizing

Employment Training Panel (ETP) funds to support staff upskilling and workforce development strategies. Ms. Rayfield concluded by recommending that all Board members consider attending future conferences. Angela Toomey also reported on her attendance at the Meeting of the Minds 2025 conference. Ms. Toomey stated that the event provided an excellent opportunity to reinforce her knowledge of workforce development and enhance her understanding of how various entities collaborate to achieve shared goals. Ms. Toomey noted that she thoroughly enjoyed the breakout sessions and identified several key takeaways from her participation. She encouraged all Board members to attend future conferences to broaden their knowledge and engagement in workforce development.

#### **8. Next Meeting:**

November 06, 2025

8:30 – 10:30 AM

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

#### **9. Adjournment:**

**Vice Chair William Hills:** adjourned the meeting at 10:32 AM

I, Eddie Hernandez, 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, September 18, 2025, by the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Eddie Hernandez, WDB Program Review Specialist

Dated: 10/7/2025