

# Workforce Investment Board

Board Meeting Minutes

Sutter Room

1410 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA

Friday, October 24, 2014

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## **Board Members in Attendance:**

Karen Dwyer, Sue Larsen, Robert Manning, Cindy Burton, Daniel Nielson, Teresa Gallavan, Angela Hacker, Timothy Harrington, Judy Hawkins, Julie Holmes, Chuck Huddleston, Christopher Montigny, Gabriel Morales, Ken Oplinger, Grace Schoch-Manzano

## **Board Members not in Attendance:**

Tony Bauer, Ruth Ann Bowe, Randy Copperman, Anthony Mitchell, Melissa Moreno, Gene Morones, Scott Mumbert, Diane Owens, Joe Pierre, Rick Rantz, Kathy Simas

## **Guests:**

Terri Maus-Nisich (SBC Assistant CEO), Ivan Lazaro (WIA Accountant, SBC Fiscal), Luciano Santini (EDD), Jason Ramirez (DBS WIA, EDD), Frank Campo (Veteran's Employment Services, EDD), Jean Nicolas (Disabled Veterans Outreach, EDD), Andrea McGrath (Workforce Resource Center Operations, EDD)

## **County Staff in Attendance:**

Ray McDonald, Luis Servin, Stephanie Fodor, Jessica McLernon, Lilla Megyei

## **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Meeting called to order by Karen Dwyer, WIB Chair at 9:43 a.m. A quorum was established.

## **Public Comment:**

No public comment was heard.

## **Reorganization of the Agenda:**

The agenda was not reorganized.

### **A. Old Business**

#### **1. Approval of June 20, 2014 Minutes:**

*Angela Hacker motions to approve, Tim Harrington seconds, all in favor, none opposed.*

*Chuck Huddleston, Cindy Burton, Daniel Nielson, and Ken Oplinger abstain. Motion carries.*

**2. Approval of August 22, 2014 Minutes:**

Tim Harrington motions, Julie Holmes seconds, all in favor, none opposed. Ken Oplinger, Teresa Gallavan, Karen Dwyer, Chuck Huddleston, Cindy Burton, and Daniel Nielson abstain. Motion carries.

**B. New Business**

**1. PY 2014/15 Budget Approval – Ray McDonald**

Ivan Lazaro, the WIA Accountant for SBC DSS Fiscal, presented the 2014-2015 program year budget for approval. The total is \$4.2 million, with \$3.3 million from the State and \$896,148 from last year. Expenditures in 3 categories with \$3 million for operation costs. This year we funding was reduced by \$210,318 as well as expenditures.

Ken Oplinger motions to approve the budget, Angela Hacker seconds, all in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

**2. Youth Council Recommendations – Luis Servin**

Diane Owens is away, so Luis Servin presented on the Youth Council recommendations for Board approval. We have set a goal of serving 75% OSY with the focus on targeting 4 subgroups: gang-affiliated, Basic Skills Deficient, disabled, and foster youth. The goal is 125 new youth for the program year. We are making supportive services more flexible, but creating a more structured program that ensures the mandated elements in the form of a “step-ladder.” In addition to the ten established elements we are also adding enrichment activities: college tours, job shadowing. We are increasing PWEX to 300 hours to allow for more training time on the job. We are also reorganizing some of the youth program staff – proposing a Youth Program Coordinator, two Lead Case Managers, and three Case Managers for the county. It becomes challenging to find OSY, so we are talking to Allan Hancock, Probation, and Child Welfare Services. This is going to be an issue for a lot of Boards and will be addressed at the Youth Conference in January.

Tim Harrington motions to approve the Youth Council recommendations, Bob Manning seconds, all in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

**3. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Presentation – Ray McDonald**

The WIOA PowerPoint presentation is on the WIB website. The current law is the Workforce Investment Act, passed in 1998. We had hoped for major changes at the national level, but Congress was never able to accomplish it; WIOA was passed in three months. The President requested a top-to-bottom review of workforce programs to make them more efficient and effective. WIOA eliminates 15 programs and promotes educational stepping stones, and regional partnerships are very much a part of national and state initiatives. Here in California we have the Slingshot Initiative, which builds upon regional collaboration. WIOA codifies four key improvements: sector strategies, greater accountability of workforce programs

outside of the WIB-funded system, workforce boards as conveners, community leaders, and venture capitalists, and an opportunity to redesign public systems with the customer at the center. Some criticism out there is that the programs have gotten away from serving clients and employers for numbers— we need to keep customers in mind. Some key changes: reduction in the number of members on the workforce boards, with the idea being that smaller boards are more “nimble” and can accomplish more; emphasis on a regional approach and alignment with economic development goals; enhancement of performance accountability with common measures across core programs; requirement of system plans at the State and Local levels; diversification of training programs to close the skills gap. Under WIOA, the Workforce Development Board (WDB) will be authorized and encouraged to convene partners and funders, initiate local labor market analysis, create innovative strategies, solicit grants and donations, align with youth-serving organizations, and influence secondary education reform and establish sector partnerships. The intent is “systems change” – not doing what we’ve been doing under a different name. DOL will strongly discourage WDBs from operating programs and One-Stops. We do not run the One-Stop, but WIB staff does the Youth Program. DOL may allow a year of innovation as the states work through implementation. DOL will release proposed regulations in January 2015. WIOA takes effect July 1, 2015; that is also when the Workforce Development Board is seated. New delivery system rolls out July 1, 2016.

Terri Maus-Nisich expanded on the role of the County as it applies to WIOA. Workforce development is a county priority—economic sustainability has been on the legislative platform for some years. Are we generating the human capital to sustain our industries and do we have the capacity to retain the kind of businesses that we want to see in the community? Last week the Board of Supervisors engaged in a contract with the Economic Vitality Taskforce. Ken Oplinger brought the idea with the Chamber. The local workforce has not been updated despite significant changes in county demographics. Continuous improvement has been the core philosophy of current county leadership, as well as WIOA. During Phase 1 County CEO will lead, working in conjunction with the Board to submit application to the State as grant recipient and for local area designation. Development of the local plan is to be completed by June 30, 2015. Phase 2: WDB will lead with responsibility for fine-tuning the delivery system, competitively selecting One-Stop operators, and Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Program operators. This will take place over one year and the CEO will consult with various groups and develop a set of recommendations for the transition. This is an opportunity to update and improve the existing system by applying best practices from other areas, expanding partnerships and collaborations, and prioritizing research and data-driven decisions. Feedback may be submitted to the County Executive Office via an online survey. We will reconvene at the next WIB meeting in December for an update from the CEO.

After the presentation, a number of points were raised. Chris Montigny mentioned the challenge the Youth Program will face if WIB staff are discouraged from running it.

Mr. McDonald pointed out that with the last act, the DOL took the same stance, but then conceded and they may do so again. The Youth Program has excelled since we brought it in-house. The new legislation does not mandate a Youth Council, but most regions will have a youth subcommittee. The development of social capital was also discussed. The training should be local, with a discussion at the county level on bringing businesses in. The Economic Vitality team is hiring an economic development specialist to address this. The team is the first of its kind in the private sector—they will talk about leads, issues, available land to see how we can grow and keep business in the county.

Chuck Huddleston brought the problem of local construction jobs—there have been many major projects in Santa Barbara, but the construction crews being used are from out of town. We need to address how we can keep locals working locally.

**4. One-Stop/Dislocated Worker Report – Mona Baker**

For the One-Stops WIOA performance measures are not going to change drastically. Entered employment, retention, and average earnings measure won't change much. There will be a credential measure and in-program skills such as educational types of activities leading to a credential. There will also be an employer measure, which we don't have now. July and August WRC data was distributed—40 employers registered in Interlink during that time.

**5. Youth Program Report – Luis Servin**

Luis Servin gave an update on the Youth Program. Preliminary performance measures: placement in employment and education requirement is 62%, we are at 80%. Degree attainment is 55%, we are at 89%. Literacy increase is mandated at 52.5% and we are at 53.5%. We are moving forward with the Lompoc case manager. MIS team is cleaning up Interlink and exiting old participants. We are looking at policy and clarifying 6 local policies. We have 7 approved service vendors with 4 more pending. The first cohort started in Santa Barbara. One young lady found employment before she even finished ResCare training. She had social anxiety but is now working, it's huge. Still working on expanding Lompoc services; there are some HR and union issues we're working through, but it's moving forward.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m. by Karen Dwyer.