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## **Employment Connection Council (ECC) Minutes August 18, 2022**

### **In Attendance**

**Designees:** Robert Kleyn (Chair), Carla Calhoun, Jennie Bautista, Larriann Torrez, Tami Olson Darlene Tyndal, John Werner, Victoria Guzman, Lori Morton, Erika de la Cruz, Aleyda Montenegro **WIB Staff:** Adam Peck, David McMunn, Edith Hernandez (facilitator), Elizabeth Dodd (scribe), John Gonzalez, Lisa Martinez, Anabel Rodriguez, Mary Rodarte **Partner Staff & Other:** Lourdes Luviano, Johnathon Thompson, John Young, Maria Guerrero, Natalia Carroll,

- 1) **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Mr. Kleyn called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Introduced the new Employment Connection Committee Members: Melissa Abbey – Job Corps, Aleyda Montenegro – HHSA, and Erica de la Cruz - Farmersville Adult School followed with a roundtable introduction.
- 2) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- 3) **CONSENT ITEMS –**
  - a) Approve the Employment Connection Partner Handbook  
Larriann Torrez motioned to approve the consent items. Larriann's motion was second by Carla Calhoun. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. There were no abstentions or no votes.
- 4) **REGULAR ITEMS**
  - a) Approve the Employment Connection Partner Handbook  
Tami Olson motioned to approve. Tami's motion was second by Larriann Torrez. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. There were no abstentions or no votes.
  - b) Approve the Employment Connection Annual Partner Satisfaction Survey  
Carla Calhoun motioned to approve. Carla's motion was second by Tami Olson. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. There were no abstentions or no votes.
- 5) **ON ONE-STOP OPERATOR (OSO) ITEMS**
  - a) Employment Connection Partner Referrals Quarterly Summary.  
Edith Hernandez - We incorporated the Partner Referral Process and the importance of it into our Onboarding Orientation. We received one hundred twenty-one referrals last quarter. We have nineteen partners in total. Sixteen participated in the referral process, and thirteen are currently working with active referrals. An overall summary of partner and participant involved in the use of the referral process.
  - b) Program Year 2022-23 Infrastructure Funding Agreement Budget  
MS. Edith Hernandez - We have started the annual update to our Infrastructure Funding Agreement. This process is for our co-located partners In Porterville and Visalia. We will take the agreements to the WIB Full Board Meeting in September for approval.
- 6) **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**
  - a) WIB Executive Director ReportAdam Peck

Mr. Adam Peck spoke on projects that the WIB worked on with other agencies and counties. The Good Jobs Challenge and RERP are two grants awarded for our region and final structure is in process. In September we should hear news about the CERF Grant Application. We continue to address the labor shortage. The update of our Local Plan is coming this fall we are contracting with David Schinder. The economy shows May as the lowest month non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate.

b) Professional Development Workgroup

Ms. Carla Calhoun - The purpose of this group is to continue to develop and update training for staff to ensure the delivery of Employment Connection Service to the benefit of our shared customers. The group met twice and includes the following staff: Edith, Jenny, John, Aleyda, and Carla.

c) Business Services Updates

Ryan Leasure

- Tulare County Job Fair

The Job fair is on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12 pm. Flyers made available to push out to those looking for work or looking for workers.

- Rapid Response

Mr John Gonzalez – Gave stats on the different business closures with the most being the SaveMart Pharmacy closures; five in all in Tulare County.

- Tulare County Microbusiness COVID Relief Fund

Mr. John Gonzalez – A handout was provided the detailed the microbusiness COVID Fund was distributed. Mentioning that over two Hundred businesses were served.

d) Bridges to Employment & Careers

MS. Lisa Martinez – Provided an overview the VEC project that was funded by the WAF Grant. WIB was Awarded One Hundred Thousand Dollars and is a one-to-One match. This project will take place in Porterville and addresses the Homeless Population.

e) Employment Connectionr Center and OSO Reports

Handouts

The reports are in the ECC Meeting Packets emailed to ECC Designees for the meeting.

7) **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Robert Kleyn

**Carla Calhoun – CSET** — Every year CSET offers Income Tax Assistance Program. This is done through volunteers of the community. The first step is the call to seek volunteers for next Tax Season and that is coming up this Fall. Last year we assisted over Three Thousand low to moderate Income-level families/individuals.

**Larriann Torres – Porterville Adult School (PAS)** – Classes started for both day and night courses. Sign-ups for the August 23rd & 25th Orientation to the second cohort of our Nurse Assistant Program that runs from October 6<sup>th</sup> Through November 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Tammy Olson – Visalia Adult School (VAS)** — Small Business Ownership, Custodial Technician Program, and Para-Professional Training courses will start in October. We are targeting our second language students, but all are welcome. We are looking at starting a Robotics Technician Program in January 2023. AB-2044 before the governor that will eliminate A-G credit for CTE. Please read the legislation and reach out to you legislator.

**John Werner – Sequoia Adult Education Consortium (SAEC)** — The Program that VAS is modeling is an accredited program and hopes the VAS does well with it. Federally speaking there is legislation that could place ore wiggle room with Adult Education funding process. We do have a larger funding source from the state; however, this will provide a bit more for our local areas. Title II has a notable pilot that would allow agencies to use flexible metrics in evaluating their performance.

**Christina Guzman – Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District (COJUSD)** — Safe Security, Baton Training, and CPR will start in November Information will be left with Edith for any interested person.

**Lori Morton – Tulare Adult School (TAS)** — Robert Owen is the new Assistant Director, and a new Part-time Special Education Teacher that will run a lab two-days a week and assist students with special needs study skills. For CTE Programs we are bringing back Culinary Basics. We have a Home Healthcare Class that we offer Mondays and computer basics on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We have spots open in our QuickBooks Class, which are in the afternoons Mon- Wed – Fri. Orientations for C.N.A. and M.A. are coming in October.

**Erica Gonzalez – Farmersvile Adult School (FAS)** Orientations and Assessments start next week, and classes start on September 1<sup>st</sup>. In January we start our next cohort for the building and Construction Trades Core. I am looking for a part-time Navigator and a working on getting a part-time counselor.

**Aleyda Montenegro – Tulare County HHSA (TAS)** — The agency is getting a new statewide system currently we use CalWin and are migrating to CalSaws. This is done throughout the state in waves and Tulare County is scheduled for February 2023. Staff starts web-based training modules in November with in-person beginning In January. Nothing will change in services during this time, referrals will still be processed.

**8) ECC Meeting Dates – 2022 which are in the afternoons Mon Wed**

November 17

**9) ADJOURN 11:25 AM**