



4025 W. Noble, Visalia, California 93277, (559) 713-5000

## Employment Connection Council (ECC) Minutes August 21, 2019

### In Attendance

**Member:** Sofia Morales (Chair), Thad Russell, Carla Calhoun, Staci Phipps, Roxanna Cruz, Robert Gonzales, Larriann Torrez, **WIB Staff:** Adam Peck, Edith Hernandez, Elizabeth Dodd (scribe), Mary Rodarte, John Gonzalez, Craig Wierenga, Jeremy Petty **Other:** Joe Garza (TCOE), Robert Gonzalez, Craig Plath(CSET), Barbara Marshall (SAED), David Baquerizo (ProPath), Jonathon Thompson (PEC), Jennifer Vargas (DAS), Adriana Salmoran (DAS) Maria Guerrero (PEC), Belinda Boylan (DOR), Taylor Cook (TCDCSS), Luis Espinoza (Proteus, Inc.) Martha Guerra (Proteus, Inc.)

#### 1) Call to order: 10:04 a.m.

#### 2) PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

#### 3) CONSENT ITEMS

##### Approve May 21, 2019, Employment Connection Committee Meeting Minutes

- a. Action not taken; no quorum.

#### 4) PRESENTATION: Jennifer Vargas, California Department of Industrial Relations

Ms. Vargas began her detail of Apprenticeship with explaining what Apprenticeship is in California. She used the aid of a PowerPoint. She stated that Apprenticeship is an employment-training model that has to follow workforce guidelines. It extends beyond construction and is not only Union biased. She went over the difference between apprenticeship Work Experience, and On-the-Job Training. How it benefits businesses and stated that it is not more government oversight. This program is open to most employers. She identified three (3) types of apprenticeship models, and how each works to serve different employers. Ms. Vargas will provide Ms. Hernandez with a Copy of her PowerPoint and her information for any that would be interested

#### 5) ONE-STOP OPERATOR ITEMS –

**David Baquerizo** Complemented our Workforce Board stating that out of the fourteen boards he works with our board has the most interest and response with partner collaboration. He then went over the basics, requirements, and updated needs to complete our Partner Satisfaction Survey (HM3-G1), Training Needs Survey ( HM7-G1 & HM8-G2), and Evaluation of One-Stop Workshops.

#### 6) DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### a. Hallmarks of Excellence Comprehensive & b. Hallmarks of Excellence – Affiliate

Edith Hernandez spoke about the charts that were included in the agenda packets. She explained how to read the charts and how the charts show how, as a collaboration, we are performing. She then went over some highlights, areas of improvement and upcoming goals. Ms. Hernandez welcomed some guidance as to who would be responsible for handling our continuous improvement, a new systems workgroup, or a subcommittee. **Ms. Torrez** responded, in her experience Systems Workgroups have worked well in the past. They are very goal-driven a problem or topic is presented they work through a solution and then implement change. **Ms. Hernandez**, should this be an existing workgroup or new? **Ms. Torrez** stated an existing would be best. **Ms. Hernandez** then stated that she would be sending out Training Needs surveys to the members and requested feedback.

#### 7. INFORMATION ITEMS

##### ▪ **WIB Executive Director Report - Adam Peck**

Mr. Peck introduced the WIB's new staff members, Craig Wierenga and Jeremy Petty. Last board meeting the ECO Project is entering the third (3<sup>rd</sup> year) with the City of Visalia, However, Able

Industries, Inc. will not be retaking the contract and CSET has agreed to take on this project beginning in October. We have approved a couple of agreements with Barbara Halsey a consultant that will work with our industry advisory groups for Healthcare and South Valley Industrial Collaborative. He went over our Workforce Data Newsletter which charts our local labor force, unemployment rates, household survey, and industry data.

- **Employment Connection Center Reports - Edith Hernandez**  
Handouts were provided for this portion of the agenda.
- **ECC Meeting Dates – November 20, 2019**

## 8. Roundtable Discussion

**Staci Phipps** – Porterville Adult School has found the need to delve into a new area of education. They will be training Certified Surgery Techs and have implemented a year-long program. The estimated cost found per student was \$37,000.00 and it is being offered to students at Porterville Adult School for \$3000.00.

Roxanna Cruz – HHSA – Is handling a new program called CalWorks Home visiting Program. In Tulare County, the program has been renamed to, the Play Program.

**Larriann Torrez** – Tulare Adult School – School Started August 8<sup>th</sup>, we are busy getting ready for our next LVN Cohort which will begin in the Fall of 2020. There are a couple of dates coming up for Orientations to Phlebotomy October 1<sup>st</sup> for classes starting in February of 2020, Clinical and Administrative Medical Assisting is on October 8<sup>th</sup> for classes starting in January of 2020, and another for Clinical and Administrative Medical Assisting on December 10<sup>th</sup> for classes starting in April 2020. We have a few more dates for our Nursing Assistant class that will start in January 2020. To assist the student with their pre-requisites and qualifications, a few more classes have been added to the schedule with the first being additional medical math on Wednesday evenings.

**Robert Gonzales** – This Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11 am Wawona will hold a job fair at the Cutler-Orosi Family Education Center. They are looking for Graders, Packers, Quality Control, and Sanitation.

**Carla Calhoun**– CSET’s Title V Program has gotten smaller, it does continue, and between Kings and Tulare County, we have six slots. Legal Immigrants are allowed to have job-seeking and employment & Training, LIHEAP, Headstart, non-cash T.A.N.F. benefits, and other services that will not affect their ability to continue their path to permanent citizenship or reentry to the United States. Carla encourages all to review the list on the Immigration Public Charge Rule. Job Fair Flyers are on the registration table.

**Thad Russell** – College of Sequoias is very full in every course and class. There was a hire of eighteen instructors to meet the challenge of the new enrollment numbers. Carl Perkins grant will go from Perkins IV to Perkin’s V which will begin in 2020. They are promising significant changes to the program and have a significant impact on both our Academic Programs and the Eligibility to those programs. Details have yet to be received. Thad will keep the ECC posted.

**Adjournment:** – The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**Next Meeting** – November 20, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.