

Employment Connection Council (ECC)

Minutes May 12, 2022

In Attendance

Designees: Robert Kleyn (Chair), Carla Calhoun, Jennie Bautista, Esteban Gonzalez, Larriann Torrez, Tami Olson, Misty Bond, Darlene Tyndal, John Werner, Michelle Engel Silva, Victoria Guzman, Lori Morton, **WIB Staff:** Adam Peck, David McMunn, Edith Hernandez (facilitator), Elizabeth Dodd (scribe), Nicola Wissler, Lisa Martinez, Ryan Leasure, **Partner Staff & Other:** Lourdes Luviano, Craig Plath, Lola Balandran, Johnathon Thompson, LeAnn Price,

1) **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Mr. Kleyn called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He also recognized Misty Bond, the new designee for Porterville Sheltered Workshop (PSW), as Mr. Brown has retired.

2) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

3) CONSENT ITEMS –

a) Approve November 17, 2021, Employment Connection Committee Meeting Minutes

Carla Calhoun motioned to approve the consent items. Carla's motion was second by Larriann Torrez. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. There were no abstentions or no votes.

4) REGULAR ITEMS

a) Approve the Employment Connection System Onboarding Process

Larriann Torrez motioned to approve. Larriann's motion was second by John Werner. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. There were no abstentions or no votes.

b) Approve the updated Employment Connection Welcome Services Survey

Larriann Torrez motioned to approve. Larriann'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's Partner MOU was approved by the WIB's Full Board on May 11, 2022. Everyone should have received a copy. The next step is partner signatures. All wet, scanned, or electronic signatures are due June 13, 2022, and all partner wet signatures (as required by the state) are due June 17, 2022.

b) On May 11, 2022, the WIB's Full Board approved SER's IFA. SER is collocated in the Visalia Office. They serve the Senior population.

6) DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

a) WIB Executive Director Report

Adam Peck

Mr. Peck spoke on last year's funding cuts, stating that the cuts were due to the dynamics of the formulation the state uses to dispense funding and the higher percentages of other counties having exceedingly high unemployment rates.

Looking at this year's proposed state budget, he projected the possibility of receiving normal or increased funding for PY 22-23. He spoke on additional grant monies awarded and mentioned that the Tulare County

Economic Development Corporation is in the middle of a leadership change. Our boards have had conversations to see if there is an integrated role that the WIB may have with the EDC.

b) Employment Connection System Mission & Vision and Branding Directive

Ms. Wissler, the updated Marketing/Co-Branding Directive is complete. Before placing it out for public comment, we ask for feedback from the committee. She provided a detailed comparison of the old and new directives. She asked the committee for comments on any area that may need clarification or missing information or process from the guide. Ms. Calhoun stated her excitement that the directive went from 47 to 12 pages.

c) Business Services Updates

Ryan Leasure

- The May 8th Main Street Fire caused the closure of several businesses. We were able to speak to Alejandra's and Jimmy John's Restaurants to start Rapid Response for the employees and business owners. We have attempted to contact those other affected businesses and employees. We received a WARN from a local logistic company changing their contract, and no employees are scheduled for lay-off. The Rapid Response team will follow up with them to verify and update them at the next meeting.
- Tulare County Microbusiness COVID Relief Fund launched on April 1. The WIB partnered with Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Valley Community Small Business Development Center to provide grants of up to \$2,500.00 to 200 eligible businesses. As of May 10 we have 120 eligible applicants - 33 need review, and 20 need processing. Should any want more information on this grant opportunity, they can visit tularecountyrelief.com
- The Recruitment Assistance, Eagle Mountain Casino, will have their Job Fair on May 19 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Porterville Employment Connection is hosting a Faraday Job Fair on June 2 from 1-4 pm. Visalia Employment Connection is in connection with Tulare District High School's Job Fair designed to help navigate students interested in going to work after graduation. A similar Job fair is scheduled for Cutler-Orosi on May 31. We are looking for employers interested in working with youth ages 18-21.

d) New Initiative through Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF)

Sam Williford

MR, Williford, Funding for C.E.R.F. is now through California's general fund and dispersed to 13 regional divisions. Tulare County is part of the Central San Joaquin Valley that includes Madera, Fresno, and Kings Counties. The target regions and populations are disinvested communities. \$5 Million to each region for phase 1 - planning grants. Phase 2 – Implementation Grants \$500 Million, amounts determined later. Currently, the timeline for May includes incorporating comments from R2's comment period, release planning phase solicitation, hosting a Bidders Conference, and Announce Tribal set-aside/Host Tribal Listening Session. Winter of 2023 is the release of the Implementation Phase.

e) Employment Connection 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 — May is community action month, and CSET is taking the opportunity to share success stories of our customer's resilience on social media throughout the month. We are having a community action celebration scheduled for May 25 to honor our employees & Partners of the year. Please keep an eye on our website.

Larriann Torres – Porterville Adult School (PAS) Via Ms. Olsen - Porterville Adult School offers Bus Driver Training at PAS. The training is a twenty-hour course for first-time bus drivers and bus drivers needing hours to renew licensure. The class is scheduled for June 20 thru June 24, enrollment is open and online. Graduation for High-school Diploma/High-school equivalency is scheduled on May 31 at 6:00 pm at the Buck Schaffer Auditorium. Career technical education programs will graduate on June 1. These graduates are from Medical Assistant, Nurse Assistant, and Surgical Technician programs. The last day of classes is May 26 for night classes and June 3 for day classes. We plan for our fall semester and will use Adult Education's National Level theme, "Elevate to a higher level," for PY 22-23.

Tammy Olson – Visalia Adult School (VAS) — Thank you to all who attended the April 28 Adult Education Celebration and those who participated in our Job fair. There was a great success having over forty different agencies providing information and assistance to Visalia Adult Students, many of whom told me they were unaware that certain services existed. Graduation is at the Visalia First Assembly of God Church Auditorium on May 31 at 5:00 pm. Summer school starts June 6, and Fall enrollment follows right after. New classes are coming this Fall, and will send the information to everyone once they are finalized.

Darlene Tyndal – Tulare County Office of Education/ Services Employment & Education (TCOE/SEE) — Ms. Tyndal electronically shared a Save-the-date flyer for a Community Resources Fair at Ducor Elementary in June 4 at 11:00 am. She opened up an invitation to all agencies that would be interested in attending.

Lori Morton – Tulare Adult School (TAS) — Graduation for CNA and LVN programs is tomorrow, and our other class graduations are in their planning phase. Registrations are open for the Summer and Fall semesters. Computer Basics and Home Healthcare Provider are a few classes returning to Tulare Adult's Campus.

8) ECC Meeting Dates – 2022

August 18, November 17

9) ADJOURN 11:18 AM