

Employment Connection Council (ECC) Minutes May 19, 2021

In Attendance

Designees: Sofia Morales (Chair), Carla Calhoun, Roxanna Cruz, Larriann Torrez, Robert Gonzales, Michelle Engel-Silva, John Werner, Darlene Tyndal, Tammy Olson, Jonna Schengel, Robert Kleyn, Nick Brown. **WIB Staff:** Adam Peck, Edith Hernandez (facilitator), Elizabeth Dodd (scribe), John Gonzalez, Laurel Hernandez, Mary Rodarte, Patricia Pullen, Nicola Wissler, Jennie Bautista, Desire Landeros, Lisa Martinez, Christina Hopper **Other:** David Schinder (Special Speaker), Maria Figueroa, Scott Bowler, Taylor Cook, Craig Plath, Martha Guerra, LeaAnn Price, Daisy Gusman, Edward Flores, Amanda Miller, Ken Kurts, Amanda Olguin, Juan Salinas, Pamela Long, Maria Figueroa, ola Balandran, Maria Guerrero.

CALL TO ORDER: 10:01 a.m.

1) PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

2) CONSENT ITEMS

Approve February 14, 2021, Employment Connection Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Larriann Torrez, second by Carla Calhoun to approve the Consent Items; carried by unanimous vote.

3) DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County PY 2021-2024 WIOA Local Plan David Shinder
Mr. Shinder, provided a detailed and comprehensive account in the production of the Local Plan.

- **The Purpose — Why a Local Plan**
 - It is the law. WIOA Section 108. Each Local WDB must, in partnership with the appropriate elected officials, develop and submit a comprehensive 4-year plan to the governor. The plan must describe policies, procedures, and local activities for the local area. The plan must be consistent with the State Plan.
- **The Process — Building the Plan**
 - Review the requirements published by EDD and the California Workforce Development Board
 - Gather information related to all topics addressed in the Local Plan
 - Engage the WIB along with System Stakeholders and the community in discussions about the system
 - Organize the information obtained
 - Write the narrative, crafting content that is both compliance-orientated and strategic.
- **The Product — The Plan document**

Compliance

 - ***WIOA Core and Required Partner Coordination***
 - ✓ Coordination with AJCC Partners and WIOA Memoranda of Understanding
 - ✓ Partners' efforts to collaborate on co-enrollment and case management
 - ✓ One-stop System's use of technology and other remote strategies
 - ✓ Coordination of workforce activities and support services
 - ✓ Physical and programmatic Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities
 - ***State Strategic Partner Coordination***
 - ✓ Coordination with County Human Services Agency and other local partners who service individuals that access Cal-Fresh Employment and Training Services
 - ✓ Coordination with Local Child Support Agency and other local partners that serve individuals that are Non-Custodial Parents

- ✓ Coordination with Local Partnership Agreement Partners Established in Alignment with the Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint and other local partners that serve individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
- ✓ Coordination with Community-Based Organizations and other Local Partners that serve individuals who are English language learners, foreign-born, and or Refugees

WIOA Title I Coordination

- ✓ Staff training and professional development to increase Digital Technology Skills
- ✓ Frontline Staff training and professional development to increase cultural competency and effectiveness in working with individuals and groups that have been exposed to trauma
- ✓ Coordination of Rapid Response and Lay-off Aversion activities
- ✓ Services and Activities Available under WIOA Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs
- ✓ Services and activities available under WIOA Title I Youth Program
- ✓ Entity responsible for disbursement of Grant Funds and the competitive process used to award contracts for WIOA Title I activities
- ✓ How the local board fulfills the duties of the AJCC Operator and or the Career Services Provider or selection of AHCC Operators and Career Services Providers

Strategic

Workforce Systems Priorities

- ✓ Continue to identify the skills businesses need most
- ✓ Rapidly adapt training and services that are responsive to the identified needs
- ✓ Focus on Foundational Skills
- ✓ Expand the systems reach, make services available to all Jobseekers
- ✓ Address the digital divide connect with other initiatives, and provide technology to low-income individuals and communities
- ✓ Ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion are intentional plans

Other Workforce Strategies and issues

- ✓ Develop strategies for a hybrid service delivery model
- ✓ Develop a COVID recovery plan for the workforce system
- ✓ Develop new partnerships and expand existing ones to connect with underserved groups
- ✓ Assess brand recognition, and consider options for improvement
- ✓ Identify system challenges to improve with the application of Human-Centered design approach

What is Next

- ⊕ State level review and approval
- ⊕ Plan in effect July 1, 2021
- ⊕ WIB and Employment Connection System implement and or enhance programs, services, approaches, partnerships, and strategies specified in the plan
- ⊕ Biennial modification in 2022
- ⊕ Late 2024 and early 2025, develop a new 4-year plan.

b) Rebranding of the Employment Connection System and Youth@Work Services

Nicola Wissler

The Employment Connection System and Youth@Work Services are going through a rebranding process. The goal is to develop a clear understanding of the mission and objectives of the workforce system. To provide strategies and guidance on communicating the value of our workforce system to participants, partners, and the public. Through competitive process, the company, Topograph, Inc. won the bid. This new brand creation will recognize our logo, our mission, and our values. The process has brought into focus a new full-brand package. In a few weeks, Topograph designers will meet with other partners to collaborate on focus areas.

c) Employment Connection Center Reports (Handouts)

Sofia Morales (Chair)

Ms. Morales reminded all that the Center Reports were provided as part of the ECC meeting packet

4) **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Mr. Werner, Sequoia Adult Education Consortium — SAEC will be releasing a social media package aimed at advertising the success we have all help participants achieve. I need to get some contact information from all our partners. Can you connect me to, or send me the contact details of your media/public relations person?
sequoiasadulthooddirector@gmail.com

Ms. Torrez, Tulare Adult School — I will be transitioning from Tulare Joint Union High School District to Porterville Unified as the Adult Ed Director starting on July 1, 2021; Tulare Adult School will be having in-person graduations: VN Capping Ceremony this Friday and the HSD/HSE Graduation on Wednesday, June 2nd; we will be offering Summer School and sign-ups are happening online now; our TAS 2021 Virtual Career Fair will take place on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, via Zoom
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yOPLKb2CYKRyqUMMo6z8kLHAnP6GvaU1/view?usp=sharing> if you have employers that would like to participate please let me know; and registration for fall 2021 classes will take place starting July 1st online for classes starting in August.

Ms. Olsen, Visalia Adult School — Visalia Adult School is open for Summer School. July is the month scheduled for our Medical & C.N.A. Lottery draws. She gave a shout-out to Amanda Miller and her team that has gone to the lottery drawings and assisted students with applications right there. Visalia Adult Graduation is on June 1, 2021.

Mr. Gonzalez, Cutler-Orosi Adult School — The Cutler-Orosi Adult School will continue to work through the summer. Student enrollment continues. We have live instruction with teachers providing as many instructional hours as possible for our students. Our Alternative Students graduate on June 1, 2021. This E.C.C. meeting is the last for Mr. Gonzalez. He took a position with Lindsay Unified School District.

5) **ECC NEXT MEETING**

Sofia Morales

Ms. Morales reminded the next meeting date is August 18, 2021

6) **ADJORN** — Meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.