

ITEM I.B. – ACTION
ALAMEDA COUNTY
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hart, Lane – Chair
Baker, Ken
Brewer, Bob
Burton, Winston
Croswell, Ken
DeVenuta, Tony
Devlin, Doug
Fogelquist, Jim
Giggleman, Martha
Hewitt, Chet
Johnson, David
Johnson, Craig
Johnson, June

Jordan, Sheila
Keating, Jerry
Kern, Bruce
Lee, Steve
Leng, Henry
Moffatt, Paul
Mongerson, Duane
Raty, Scott
Vance, Octobere
Verzantvoort, Andrea
Wright, Jim
Woytak, Felicia

MEMBERS ABSENT:

White, Mike – Vice-Chair
Bauman, Ann
Chipley, Bob

DePuy, George
McMullan, Sandra
Meyer, Helen

The meeting of the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) was called to order at 9:08 AM on Thursday, September 11, 2003 by Lane Hart, WIB Chair. A quorum was present.

Chairperson Hart presented a plaque to Jim Smith who has resigned from the WIB. J. Smith thanked the Board and Staff.

ITEM I.B. – MINUTES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY WIB FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2003. A motion to approve the minutes of June 12, 2003 was made by **Croswell/Mongerson/****carried.**

ITEM I.C. – CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT. Chairperson Hart stated the Executive Committee met last week and spent a considerable amount of time discussing the local economic trend. Half a dozen consent items were approved that are on consent calendar today. Three new WIB members were introduced and background presented – Steve Lee, Regional Manager for Allied Security; Craig Johnson, Director of Advertising for East Bay Business Times; and Scott Raty, President/CEO for Hayward Chamber of Commerce.

Brenda Johnson, Youth Policy Council (YPC) Chair, stated the YPC last met on August 27, 2003 and a new YPC Vice-Chair, David Korth, was selected. A couple of YPC items – Youth Systems Capacity Building and Recapture and Redistribution Policy are on consent calendar. The YPC will hold a retreat on October 15, 2003 in Hayward.

Bruce Kern, Economic Development & Employer Services (EDES) Committee Chair, stated a sub-committee dealing with performance measures is looking at how we could measure the response to our customers/employers. Several concepts will be discussed at a meeting in October and will come back to the WIB in December. The sub-committee's second responsibility is marketing, and they really didn't have time to deal with it in detail. Luke Sims, Community & Economic Director for City of San Leandro was introduced and will be replacing Ann Bauman on the WIB. Martha Giggelman has taken the lead on health care initiatives. Jim Wright stated that Washington Hospital has joined Ohlone College and provided \$1.5 million over the next five years for a nursing program that will allow the hiring of several staff members to bring 22 new nursing students every year. In addition, they are building an additional field lab at Washington Hospital to train the students. This is an excellent example of employer-education partnership meeting critical employment needs. He wanted to publicly thank Martha Giggelman and Washington Hospital.

Jerry Keating, Workforce Systems Committee Vice-Chair, stated the Committee discussed the State requirement for performance objectives that they were designed to meet. The objectives outlined by staff were straight forward with one exception – the State suggestion that placements increase their earnings by \$3,600 per year. Committee members pointed out that this was a very tough target in the economic environment we are in Alameda County. They took the economic reports and concern by EDAB and looked at what the possibilities were in the next year. Staff took the Committee through the development and statistical data that was used to report on the Committee activities. It was very well done with a great deal of discussion. He would recommend that staff, at some time, present this information to the entire WIB, because the numbers can be somewhat deceiving. He thanked staff in taking the Committee members through all the statistical information.

ITEM I.E. – DIRECTOR'S REPORT. Dorothy Chen, WIB Director, reported on the status of the reauthorization bill. In brief, the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) which legislates the WIB is going to sunset in 2004 and needs to be reauthorized. There have been no decisions made. The House has met and made their decision, but the Senate is still having some real issues on some key points in terms of governance, where does the power lie (state, federal or local level). Once it is finalized, she will bring the entire analysis to the WIB. This is expected to be heard on September 24, 2003, and the President is very anxious to get this bill passed so that WIA could be reauthorized. If there is no reauthorization, there would be one year extension. In terms of lobbyists, we do have the California Workforce Association (CWA) that represents us. There also is a National Association of Workforce Investment Boards in Washington that will lobby on our behalf. Because there are 50 WIBs in California, the Association has requested that they really want to funnel through one voice rather than 50 different lobbyists going to the State.

Staff went after a very ambitious grant and only four will be awarded funding nationwide (Department of Housing Urban & Development and Department of Labor (DOL) employment program for homeless people with disabilities which is a specialized group). The City of Berkeley has decided to work with several Community Based Organizations (CBOs) – Center for Independent Living and Jobs Consortium. Alameda County WIB is the lead fiscal and is a \$3 million grant. We are not too sure how competitive we are, but it was a last minute grant that was put together. Staff has presented an excellent proposal that is really solid that really shows partnership between the city, CBOs and the Workforce Investment Board.

From the last WIB meeting on June 12, 2003, a handout (Information Item VII.M.) was presented that gives a summary of the decision on the youth item. The Executive Committee did take the action and are going forward with the youth program.

In reference to personnel changes, Carl Pascual will be the staff person to the YPC and continue to work with D. Chen on staffing the Executive Committee. Sandra Oubre was the prior YPC staff person but has decided she would like to concentrate on managing the contracts.

The Social Services Agency (SSA) has gone through some organizational change and effective August 1, 2003, D. Chen will be reporting directly to the SSA Director, Chet Hewitt, and will be part of the SSA Executive Management Team.

ITEM II – PUBLIC FORUM. Jennifer Mitchell, the Assistant Director of the California Education Master Plan had contacted D. Chen after the agenda went out and asked to speak to the WIB today. This is very vital to how education is going to affect workforce issues for the future (next 20 years). There was a video presentation, and a handout was also provided. Brief comments were made by WIB members in reference to the effect that the budget has on community colleges, including the ROPs and adult schools (unlike before) and moving forward even though the money isn't there, but still being prepared.

ITEM IV – PRESENTATION. Tyrone Moore, CEO for VBS Healthcare, did a presentation on Affordable Healthcare Programs for Employers. Chet Hewitt explained how this program is to better access to health care and is in a partnership with employers. He described how this program is working with Alameda County. T. Moore explained that this program would allow low income families who do not have access to health care have access for affordable health care. Their mission is to try to provide health care for every working family in the workplace regardless of position, job status and income whatsoever. He provided a powerpoint presentation. B. Kern added that the GAP insurance pays for the co-pay, and is probably the most unique feature of this program.

ITEM V – CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS. A motion to approve consent calendar items was made by **Kern/Croswell/carried.**

ITEM VI.A. – LOCAL AREA PERFORMANCE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PY 2003/04 – PUBLIC HEARING. Linda Slater presented the item. Chairperson Hart opened the public hearing, and with no input, closed the public hearing.

Jerry Keating stated he and other Workforce Systems Committee members pointed out that these goals were not going to be obtained and D. Chen was asked what the result would be if those goals were not obtained. D. Chen responded that the State gives us one opportunity if these goals are not met. In our current situation, high income earners cannot make the kind of salary they are used to in this economy in Alameda County. The Committee is very concerned about the high unrealistic benchmark the State is imposing on us; therefore, they are going to request for a face-to-face meeting with the State to negotiate the number. Because we have an almost 7% unemployment, there is no way we can put people back to earn at 96% of their last salary. The State is very forgiving the first year and will provide technical assistance, etc. to meet these benchmarks. If we do not meet the performance goals for the second year, the new legislation states that the area can be disbanded and reconfigured to some other area that is performing better. The economy has changed so drastically this past year that we really have to have realistic performance goals, otherwise, we cannot meet our requirements. Chet Hewitt added we are at the cutting edge to renegotiate, and as a policy setting body, to promote reasonable targets of performance in conversations with the State.

D. Chen is looking for volunteers from the WIB (especially private sector) to go with her to the State, because the State tends to respond better to private sector.

Chairperson Hart opened the public hearing, and with no input, closed the public hearing.

A motion to accept the two recommendations was made by **Kern/Jordan/carried.**

ITEM VI.B. – BYLAWS AMENDMENTS – PUBLIC HEARING. D. Chen presented the item and stated the parliamentarian informed her that the item needs to be done in three different motions.

Chairperson Hart opened the public hearing, and with no input, closed the public hearing.

1. A motion to reduce the quorum of the appointed voting members from the current 51% to 40% at the WIB meeting was made by **Keating/Mongerson/carried.**
2. A motion to change the meeting month of the WIB meeting (from June to May and the rest of the months remain the same (March, September and December) was made by **J. Johnson/Burton/carried.**
3. A motion to delete all references to the Performance Accountability and Operations Committees and replace with the re-named Workforce Systems Committee was made by **Verzantvoort/Woytak/carried.**

Sheila Jordan described the Teen 411 program that was funded.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.