

ITEM I.B. – ACTION

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Baker, Ken
Bryant, Guy
Burton, Winston
Croswell, Ken
Dillard, Nanette
Fujii, Irene
Johnson, David
Keating, Jerry
Kennerk, Daniel
Kern, Bruce
Kraus, Peggy
Kurtz, Elaine
Orput, Thomas
Padilla, Jose
Paxson, James
Sims, Luke
Stagnaro, Leta
Vance, Octobere
Walters, Dan
Woo, Theresa

MEMBERS ABSENT

Baldovinos, Yolanda
Brewer, Bob
Gardner, Matt
Giggleman, Martha
Harris, Joyce
Johnson, Tamara
Lee, Steve
Meyer, Helen
Raty, Scott
Robertson, Laurie

STAFF PRESENT

Chen, Dorothy
Castro, Patti
Fox, Flo
Flores, Rosario
Myers, Jane
Slater, Linda

Ken Baker, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board to order at 9:05 AM on Thursday, December 11, 2008. A quorum was present.

ITEM I.B. – MINUTES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY WIB FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2008. A motion to approve the minutes of September 11, 2008 was made by **Croswell/Vance/carried.**

ITEM I.C. – WIB CHAIR REPORT. Ken Baker, Chair, stated we have three new WIB members – Thomas Orput, Peggy Kraus and Nanette Dillard – who introduced themselves.

An award recognition was presented to David Korth, who has resigned from the Youth Policy Council (YPC). Brenda Johnson, YPC Chairperson, recognized Mr. Korth's years of service on the YPC.

An award recognition of the past Rapid Response Coordinator was presented to Linda Barbaro. Dorothy Chen, WIB Director, gave some brief background on L. Barbaro's tremendous work. P. Castro also added her comments.

Dave Johnson, WIB member, announced he has a new position as the CEO with the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce.

ITEM I.D. – COMMITTEE CHAIRS’ REPORTS.

Brenda Johnson, YPC Chair, stated the YPC met on December 8, 2008 where a Vice-Chair was elected - Theresa Woo - who is also a member of the WIB. There are two Action Items on today’s agenda -- Action Item V.A. – Revisions to Locally Defined Youth Barriers and Action Item V.B. – WIA Youth Refunding Criteria for Employment Plus Programs. There were a couple of great presentations by their operators – Hayward Adult School, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, and the Associated Community Action Program. Hopefully, these providers would also be able to make a presentation at a future WIB meeting.

Bruce Kern, Chair of the Economic Development & Employer Services (EDES) Committee, stated the Committee met on November 5, 2008 where they focused on three areas -- 1) the number of closures and worker layoffs and challenges in serving them; 2) one-stop goals; and 3) the excellent continuing dialogue with our one-stops. D. Johnson emphasized the role the Committee plays in hearing from the one-stop career center managers, getting their feedback right away, so that we adjust our policy and approach to what needs to happen out in the field on a regular basis

Octobere Vance, on behalf of Helen Meyer, Chair of the Workforce Systems Committee, stated the Committee met on November 19, 2008. There is one Action Item V.C – One-Stop Career Center Refunding Criteria on today’s agenda. Information Item VII.A. – Customer Satisfaction Survey Results of WIA Enrolled Clients was also discussed at their meeting where the Committee reviewed the results of the Customer Satisfaction Survey. The survey shows we are doing a good job overall, and each of the one-stops submitted a corrective action plan, but there is always room for improvement. They wrote up different strategies they will use in the coming year to get even better results. The next item discussed was Information Item VII.B. – Integration Service Delivery Initiative which is a new initiative that has been introduced by Employment Development Department and the California Workforce Association (CWA) to change the way that services are delivered in the one-stop career centers. Jane Myers did a presentation and O. Vance gave some information from the EDD perspective on that item, and there was good discussion.

Chairperson Baker stated there was no Executive Committee meeting held due to lack of action items.

ITEM I.D. – DIRECTOR’S REPORT. Dorothy Chen, Director, briefly discussed the **stimulus package**. There is approximately \$500 million set aside for Workforce Investment Act (WIA). We expect money to be flowing, and how much, we do not know, because this amount is nationwide. Unemployment is out of sphere. Economic advisors have mentioned that the unemployment rate could go up to 10%. Right now it is hovering at 8.1% in California.

Re-authorization - Dorothy provided an update on re-authorization. With the change in administration, we expect a new authorization to be in the works. Bruce Kern raised concerns about workforce needs when the infrastructure funds from stimulus funds come to California. Leta Stagnaro stated it is important to lobby for funds and for community college budgets, because they are in a situation where they are looking at 2 to 5 million dollar cuts based off of the current budget.

D. Chen reported on **the downsizing and rapid response activity in Alameda County**, and the massive lay offs in the County. B. Kern mentioned, at the EDES Committee meeting, they discussed at length about the layoffs and the impact to our County. Patti Castro gave an update on how we are addressing the layoffs.

D. Chen stated we **received \$925,450** from the State and the San Francisco Chronicle article is on Page 190 of the Board packet. It mentions that we received the grant from the Governor's Office in November 2008. This was a very competitive grant. D. Chen commended her staff – Roy Bertuccelli and P. Castro for spending long hours to get this grant together (only a 24 hour turnaround notice). We were one of the 15 WIBs that received the funding, and we are very grateful for this money. The bulk of the funds will be used for Mervyns and E-Loan layoffs to assist those workers.

D. Chen stated **Yolanda Baldovinos**, who has joined this Board as the Interim Agency Director for SSA has been appointed as the **permanent Director for SSA** by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

D. Chen introduced **two new one-stop career center site managers** – Graham Thomas, North Cities One-Stop Career Center; and Kirill Elistratov, Eden Area One-Stop Career Center (Rubicon Program).

D. Chen thanked all WIB members for their support throughout the year for herself and staff and wished everyone **Happy Holidays**.

ITEM II – PRESENTATION. D. Chen introduced Jim Caldwell, Executive Director of Workforce Incubator. Workforce Incubator builds industry education called Coalition that prepares students in grades 9 through 16 for 21st century careers. Their focus is on high demand, high impact and high skilled career fields to ensure students will be prepared for the global economy. J. Caldwell gave the presentation.

Discussion among WIB members ensued after the presentation.

ITEM III – PUBLIC FORUM. No public input.

ITEM IV.A. – ALAMEDA COUNTY 2009 WIB MEETING CALENDAR. D. Chen presented the item.

A motion to approve the 2009 WIB meeting dates was made by **Paxson/Padilla/carried.**

ITEM V.A. – REVISIONS TO LOCALLY DEFINED YOUTH BARRIERS. Linda Slater presented the item with an updated revised handout. This would be effective the date it is approved by the WIB today. In response to D. Johnson's question about the targeted \$31 million for local anti-gang members, what does that mean in terms of this organization's role in regards to establishing this particular group of young people as part of our responsibility, L. Slater stated ACAP did receive a grant through this CalGRIP initiative of \$400,000 to serve the Ashland, San Leandro, unincorporated areas of Alameda County. The YPC has taken an oversight position for the CalGRIP, though the WIB is not a recipient of the grant, we are just providing some oversight direction to the program.

Staff responded to questions from the WIB members.

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

A motion approve the YPC recommendation to include in eligibility determination and documentation, under the Employment Plus Program (EPP), the revisions 1-3 to the locally defined youth barriers was made by **Burton/Padilla/carried.**

ITEM V.B. – WIA YOUTH REFUNDING CRITERIA FOR EMPLOYMENT PLUS PROGRAMS. R. Flores presented the item. Background was given.

Rosario responded to several WIB members' questions on the item.

Linda Slater explained the reason behind seven performance measures were dropped from seven to three by Department of Labor. Department of Labor was the first to jump on the common measure bandwagon. Common measures are system-wide. Congress looked at all programs that run employment programs for youth (Job Corps, WIA Youth Program) and wanted to know what are the three measures we would like to consistently track for all programs funded to provide employment for youth. WIA was very specific about the seven criteria that were listed in the Act, but it hasn't been authorized for several years. DOL said that these are not compatible with the new definitions of the common measures. Last year, the State of California requested a waiver to say that the State is trying to align all of their funded programs under a common measures model. They were granted a waiver to say these three measures will be the ones that they will hold us accountable to for refunding. We wanted to include those additional two, not include them in refunding, but continue to track them.

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

A motion to approve Items 1-3 in order to finalize the refunding criteria guidelines for Employment Plus Program (EPP) operators was made by **Burton/Woo/carried (Dillard/Fujii recused).**

ITEM V.C. – ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER REFUNDING CRITERIA. Jane Myers presented the item. Background was given. The WIB will be voting on refunding recommendations at their May 2009 meeting. The criteria are being voted on at this meeting so that the one-stop career centers understand the expectations. The Workforce Systems Committee met and reviewed this item and passed them unanimously.

Staff responded to WIB members' questions.

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

A motion to approve the one-stop career center refunding criteria 1-5 and approve the process defined in this item was made by **Keating/Padilla/carried (Vance/Stagnaro recused).**

ITEM V.D. – LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PY 08-09. D. Chen presented the item and background information was given. As soon as the reauthorization passes, we will be required to provide a new revised Five-Year Plan. Public and partner agency input will be sought and incorporated into the new Plan.

Two comments (City of Berkeley and Alameda Labor Council) were outlined and discussed. City of Berkeley had three issues that staff responded to in Attachment V.D.3. (Page 92 of the Board packet). Alameda Labor Council had four issues that staff responded to in Attachment V.D.5. (Page 95 of the Board packet).

D. Chen and L. Slater responded to various questions from WIB members.

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

A motion to approve the Local WIA Ninth-Year Plan / PY 08-09 Modifications (Attachment V.D.1.) for submission to the State and authorize the ACWIB Chairperson to sign the document, with the cutoff period on Page 28 of the Board packet being updated (currently says 2008Q2), was made by **Burton/Kennerk/carried.**

ITEM VIII – ANNOUNCEMENTS.

W. Burton announced that Supervisor Keith Carson and Susan Muranishi are leading an effort in holding a series of meetings with the CBO's, faith based organizations beforehand to get people engaged in volunteering all leading up to this January 20, 2009 inauguration and inviting the community at large in a kickoff. W. Burton wanted businesses to be invited also, so he is sharing the information with the WIB today.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

The next scheduled WIB meeting is on March 12, 2009.