

**ITEM I.B. – ACTION**

**ALAMEDA COUNTY  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Baker, Ken – Chair  
Baldovinos, Yolanda  
Brewer, Bob  
Burton, Winston  
Dillard, Nanette  
Fujii, Irene  
Harris, Joyce  
Johnson, Tamara  
Keating, Jerry  
Kennerk, Daniel  
Kern, Bruce  
Kraus, Peggy  
Kurtz, Elaine  
Lee, Steve  
Meyer, Helen  
Orput, Thomas  
Padilla, Jose  
Paxson, James  
Stagnaro, Leta  
Vance, Octobere  
Walters, Dan  
Woo, Theresa

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bryant, Guy  
Croswell, Ken  
Gardner, Matt  
Giggleman, Martha  
Johnson, David  
Raty, Scott  
Sims, Luke

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

Ken Baker, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board to order at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 12, 2009. A quorum was present.

**ITEM I.B. – MINUTES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY WIB FOR DECEMBER 11, 2008.** A motion to approve the minutes of December 11, 2008 was made by **Brewer/Lee/carried.**

**ITEM I.C. – WIB CHAIR REPORT.** Ken Baker, Chair, stated we did not have an Executive Committee meeting.

**ITEM I.D. – COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS.**

**Brenda Johnson, Youth Policy Council (YPC) Chair,** stated the YPC met on February 23, 1009 at which time a recommendation was approved unanimously (Action Item IV.B. – PY 2009/2010 WIA Youth Formula Funds Allocations). The YPC was informed by staff that we will be receiving stimulus monies and starting a Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Because of this an emergency

YPC meeting was held on March 6, 2009 to outline recommendations that are going to be presented to the WIB today. .

**Helen Meyer, Chair of the Workforce Systems Committee**, stated the Committee met on February 18, 2009 and recommended to approve Action Item IV.A. – PY 2009/2010 WIA Adults and Dislocated Worker Formula Funds Allocations. There also were interesting presentations by all the one-stop career centers to claim how they are partnering with various other agencies in the community.

**Bruce Kern, Chair of the Economic Development & Employer Services (EDES) Committee**, stated the Committee met on February 4, 2009 and focused around three items -- 1) George Avalos, Business Writer with the Bay Area News Group, and Al Pacciorini, Business Editor with the East Bay Business Times, gave a presentation where they provided their observations about the economy. The Committee had a discussion around this involving the one-stop career centers; 2) Reports were also given by the Employer Service Representatives of the one-stop career centers (Item V.E. – Business Employer Service Reports); and 3) How we strengthen our relationship with the media.

**ITEM I.D. – DIRECTOR’S REPORT**. Dorothy Chen, Director, stated it has been a very, very busy couple of months.

**Re-authorization** – Dorothy provided an update. Re-authorization will be on a fast track with the new Administration.

The **Stimulus Bill** is presented on Page 72-73 of the Board packet. Dorothy provided a brief overview and stated the money has to be spent very, very quickly per Obama administration mandate.

The stimulus funds will require a summer youth program this year. The other focus of the Administration is on the **green jobs industry and health care**.

For point of clarification, D. Chen stated the \$2 million is one-time only for the Summer Youth Employment Program, as far as we know, but it is on top of our regular formula funds. At the May WIB meeting, staff will be coming to the Board with any year-round programs that we need to continue, and we will be talking about that today, but we also need to deal with the stimulus money. Conceivably, our allocation could double this one year.

Bruce Kern stated they have been asked by the Business Transportation Agency Secretary on behalf of all the State agencies, to prepare an **economic recovery plan for the Bay Area and the East Bay**. Some of the stimulus monies are by formula based on certain matrix or issue, but the rest is competitive bid. They have a process just beginning, and WIB members will know about that process. They are not making a call of all public agencies at this time. We are going to focus on strategic, innovative, that is really around the workforce, innovation and business systems. There is a very compressed schedule and have asked for a preliminary plan by April 1, 2009 with the final plan by June 1, 2009.

Yolanda Baldovinos stated that in reference to the **County Calworks Program run in California**, they expect other pots of money to come through, and there is one general item on the Stimulus Package that centers on transitional jobs.

Through the Stimulus Bill, the **Trade Act Authorization** also went through. Patti Castro, Assistant WIB Director, has put together an item for the WIB today on Page 74-75. The Trade Act is basically

for people that lost jobs because of trade issues that have been going on. Unlike the adult and other dislocated workers, there are more funds in this particular project, and is a much more generous program for people that have been dislocated as a result of the trade.

In reference to **news articles**, there is a very nice article on our WIB Chairperson, Ken Baker (Page 93 of the Board Packet) and is a very motivational and encouraging speech about him and what he went through to get into the science field.

Dorothy introduced new Site Managers at Alameda (Graham Thomas) and North cities (Owen Hershey). Tony Castillo will be the new Business Services Coordinator for the WIB.

A reminder that **Form 700** is required by the State, and all WIB members are required to fill it out. WIB members can contact her with any questions. .

**ITEM II – PRESENTATION**, Joyce Harris (ATLAS Project) introduced Lorraine Giordano, Program Director of Alameda Transportation & Logistics Support (ATLAS) presented some very pertinent information about who they are, what they do, and who are the partners. The presentation was in two parts – 1) overview and some of the details about the project, partners and activities; and 2) employer engagement and outreach activities and what that's meant in terms of placements.

Discussion among WIB members ensued after the presentation.

**ITEM III – PUBLIC FORUM**. No public input.

**ITEM IV.A. – PY 2009/2010 FORMULA FUNDS – ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS**. Jane Myers presented the item. Background was given. We do not actually have the dollar amount but are hoping to get that in April 2009. We are asking the WIB to consider the percentages we have included in the charts, and once the actual allocations have been received, we will put that into the charts and translate that into actual dollar amounts. The Workforce Systems Committee met on February 18, 2009 and reviewed this, and unanimously approved the item with one recusal.

Staff responded to questions from the WIB members.

Yolanda Baldovinos had comments. Her concern is when she first joined the WIB, we changed our policy on addressing the needs of foster youth. The basis for that decision was do we have the youth funding available, and she could understand that. However, now that the tide is turning and as we receive additional dollars in different categories, she would like to request that any of the funding decisions that staff is directed, to reconsider that policy and how it would apply. It may not apply to Item IV.A., but it may apply to Item IV.B. Jane Myers answered that traditionally we haven't set aside a target in the adult and dislocated worker activities. Y. Baldovinos added that it may not be applicable to Item IV.A. or Item IV.B., but she would like staff to look at all categories that come in, and see where applicable, focus on this population (foster youth). We do have a form of foster youth that are 18-25 that could easily fall in some of the adult categories. There could be use of 16-18 that fall into some of the other categories, but where applicable, she is not quite sure. We do need to re-focus on that youth population, because we are going to lose them. Chairperson Baker asked that this be noted as a request to the YPC. D. Chen stated that the YPC Chair, Brenda Johnson, is here at today's meeting and we will address this issue, because this has come up at the YPC meeting recently,

where the foster care representatives spoke about the need. It will then come back to the WIB with the YPC recommendation.

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

A motion to approve Recommendations 1-3 was made by **Keating/Woo/carried (Stagnaro/Vance recused)**.

**ITEM IV.B. – PY 2009/2010 WIA YOUTH FORMULA ALLOCATIONS.** Rosario Flores presented the item. Background was given. Percentages are being approved today as was the case with Item IV.A. With an estimated 10% increase, it is estimated to serve 340 youth to include serving foster youth (15% of the total enrollments). WIB staff did discuss with YPC members at their meeting in February 2009 that if there is a significant amount beyond the 10% (beyond the \$1.7 million), YPC could consider system enhancements. She will take note in regards to Y. Baldovinos' suggestion regarding foster youth, and see how we can discuss that with the YPC members with foster youth being served at the one-stops as well.

The State will be notifying us in late April 2009 of the formula allocation and the exact amount for PY 2009/10. We can then make solid recommendations to the YPC at their April 2009 meeting.

For point of clarification, D. Chen stated that in terms of formula funds coming into the area, it is based upon a three-part formula (demographics, unemployment rate and any excess unemployment (excess youth in that area). The formula cannot be changed, because that is by law.

Staff responded to questions from the WIB members.

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

A motion to approve the percentage share of each category for PY 2009/10 WIA Youth Formula Funds as proposed in Attachment IV.B.1. was made by **Baldovinos/Brewer/carried.**

**ITEMS IV.C. - AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT PY 2009/2010 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS.** Rosario Flores presented the item. Background was given. It's been eight years since we have done a summer job program. The age of the youth eligibility for this summer goes up to 24 years of age. The allocation to California is \$183 million. For the purpose of this item, staff has estimated that \$2 million as a planning estimate for the summer job program. The expected number of youth to be served in our area is approx 500-600 for this summer. The funding is targeted and is temporary funds that need to be spent by this summer (5-1-09 thru 9-30-09). An emergency YPC meeting was held on March 6, 2009. The percentages for North Cities Area is 30%, Eden Area 21%, Unincorporated Areas 12%, Valley Area 14%, and Tri-Cities 23%.

Staff responded to questions from the WIB members. Start date for youth to work is June 22, 2009 until August 30, 2009. Program operators would come on board on May 1, 2009 with a five-month contract until September 30, 2009.

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

A motion to approve the percentage share of each category for PY 2009/10 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) WIA Summer Youth Formula Funds as proposed in Attachment IV.C.1. was made by **Meyer/Vance/carried (Baldovinos, Burton, Dillard, Fujii, Padilla/Stagnaro).**

**ITEM IV.D. – AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT – PY 2009/2010**

**SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM DESIGN.** Rosario Flores presented the item. Background was given. The focus of the summer program is soft skills, workplace success and achievement, basic and vocational skills and offers short-term work experience. Staff is recommending the use of stipends to pay participants based on the minimum wage of \$8.00 an hour and the Recovery Act is requiring us to have the performance measure for this summer program be completion of the work readiness. This is such a fast track program, and we need to wrap up quickly in order to implement the summer program. Based on that, staff needs YPC and WIB approval necessary actions related to the allocation of funds. The WIB will take action on the program design and recommendations for today's WIB meeting. The Executive Committee will approve the funding recommendations at their April 28, 2009 meeting, to the Board of Supervisors (BOS), and then to the WIB at their May 14, 2009 meeting for ratification.

Bruce Kern stated he cannot support this unless it has a private sector focus, which is what the President has been talking about – creating jobs, not in public sector, but in private sector. The public sector's job outlook in the next two or three years is going to be worse than the private sector.

D. Chen stated that the Department of Labor (DOL) was asked what are our walking orders on the subject? The response was it has been discussed and will be taken into consideration, and will also look at the Directives coming from the State as well.

Much discussion ensued on this matter among the members.

For point of clarification, Chairperson Baker stated that the WIB approval will be based on expanding or opening the definition to say, until we get guidance, we would include private sector, so we would have to have the Board make a motion to amend.

Chairperson Baker opened the public hearing.

Kevin Williams, Berkeley Youth Alternatives and Ellen Turner, Tri-Valley Community Foundation, spoke to the item.

Chairperson Baker closed the public hearing.

A motion to approve Recommendations 1-3 and modify the program to incorporate private sector employers until we are told we cannot, and to have that be part of the strategy, and for us representing employer groups that can help with the outreach, getting the outreach moved up as early on in the process as possible, utilizing those type of resources to help move the program along, should be part of the strategy as well was made by **Keating/Woo/carried (Baldovinos/Burton/Dillard/Fujii/Padilla/Stagnaro recused).**

**ITEM IV.E. – AMERICAN RECOVERY ACT AND REINVESTMENT ACT – PY 2009/2010**

**SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) GUIDELINES.** Rosario Flores presented the item. Background was given. The procurement planning timeline calendar was outlined.

Dan Kennerk stated we haven't taken a look at is an exit strategy. R. Flores answered it was definitely discussed and added in the RFP and there is a whole section on transitioning the youth after the summer employment program. There will also be a request of the program operators at the conclusion of the program, especially for disconnected youth, youth out of high school with diplomas, and they should be referred to the one stop operators, introduced to the one stop centers and get their SMART cards, referred to our year-round employment plus providers for continued service and training, and we also talked about job referrals and placements for those youth who are not returning to school and have the opportunity to continue and find work throughout the year as well. Definitely, it is a transitional plan section that she had in the RFP.

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

A motion to approve Recommendations 1-2 was made by **Woo/Brewer/carried (Baldovinos/Burton/Dillard/Fujii/Padilla/Stagnaro recused)**.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

**The next scheduled meeting is on May 14, 2009.**