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### Workforce Development Board

**March 4, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.**

###### SUMMARY MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT – Lacy Barnes (arrived at 4:09 p.m.), Paul Bauer, Edgar Blunt (arrived at 4:19 p.m.), Raine Bumatay, Brian Chambers, Jeff Hensley, Mike Karbassi, Richard Keyes (arrived at 4:13 p.m.), Jenna Lukens, Scott Miller, Dennis Montalbano, Delfino Neira, Tommie Nellon, Joe Olivares, Sal Quintero (arrived at 4:05 p.m.), Chuck Riojas, Michael Silveira, Vasili Sotiropulos, Stuart VanHorn, and Legal Counsel Ken Price.

ABSENT – Fely Guzman, Ron Hicks, David Mercer, Elizabeth Rivinius, Shelly Tarver, and Lydia Zabrycki.

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| COMMENTS BY FRWDB CHAIR AND/OR EXECUTIVE STAFF: | Chair Bauer informed the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) that Blake Konczal, Executive Director, FRWDB, would be joining the meeting telephonically.  Director Quintero arrived (4:05 p.m.)  Chair Bauer welcomed and introduced four (4) Directors who were either new to the FRWDB or was their first FRWDB meeting to attend: Edgar Blunt, Chief Executive Officer of IMAGO; Mike Karbassi, Council Member for District 2, Fresno City Council; Jenna Lukens, Contracts Manager with Fresno Economic Development Corporation (EDC); and Sal Quintero, District 3 Supervisor with the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. |
| AGENDA CHANGES:  REMOVAL OF ITEMS OR  EMERGENCY ADDITIONS: | None. |
| ABSTENTIONS/ DISCLOSURES OF  POTENTIAL CONFLICTS  OF INTEREST/RECUSALS: | Director Karbassi – Item 8. |
| PUBLIC COMMENTS: | None. |

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| Item | Description/Action Taken |
| 6. | Quarterly Outstanding Achievement Award Winner Video Presentation |
|  | Mr. Konczal introduced the Quarterly Outstanding Achievement Award Winner Video, which showcased Ms. Savannah Rodriguez, Youth Participant winner for the Second Quarter of Program Year (PY) 2019-2020.This was an information item. |
|  | Director Barnes arrived (4:09 p.m.) |
| 7. | Committee Reports |
|  | Business and Industry Committee: In Director Zabrycki’s absence, Director Miller provided the Business and Industry Committee (B&I) meeting update.  Director Miller reported that the B&I met on February 5th, at which time they were introduced to two (2) new FRWDB staff members who will be conducting outreach to businesses in rural Fresno County: Juan Carranza and Veronica McAlister. The B&I were presented with two videos, which highlighted the Third Quarter Outstanding Achievement Award adult business award winner, KMY Prosthetics and Orthotics and youth business award winner, Renewal Auto Body and Paint.  Director Keyes arrived (4:13 p.m.)  Director Pereira provided the B&I with a presentation about the West Side Works program at West Hills Community College. Erik Cherkaski, Business Services Manager, FRWDB, and Director Blunt provided a presentation on the FRWDB’s Training Forum that was held on October 29, 2019, in which 200 industry representatives attended. Nuvia Varela, Adult and Youth Program Manager, FRWDB, provided the B&I with an overview of the Job Readiness Workshops that she has been conducting.  The B&I also received a report on Rapid Response activities that occurred during the first two (2) quarters of PY 2019-2020, which included a total of 20 companies being contacted regarding Rapid Response services available for their employees.  Executive Committee: Chair Bauer reported that the Executive Committee (Committee) met on January 29th, at which time they received updates regarding two (2) grant applications the FRWDB had been preparing to submit: 1) CalFire Forestry Program – $1.65 million to train individuals to cut down dead and dying trees and 2) SB1 – Pre-apprentice Construction Training grant application, to be submitted to the California Workforce Development Board. Chair Bauer indicated that the application for the CalFire grant had been submitted and the FRWDB was waiting for notification about that award.    Mr. Konczal added to Chair Bauer’s report by informing the Directors that since the January 29th Executive Committee meeting, the FRWDB had received notification that it was awarded the $1.65 million Cal Fire grant. He added that the FRWDB had also since submitted the SB1 grant application and anticipates receiving notification about that award in April.  Director Blunt arrived (4:19 p.m.)  Director Hensley mentioned that regarding the Cal Fire grant, that there was a joint press conference held after the announcement of the award where Mr. Konczal, Director Quintero, and representatives from Cal Fire and State Center Community College District were present. Director Hensley stated that it was impressive to see how this group communicated as a unit and that this type of collaboration is great for workforce development.  The Committee approved an allocation of $1.2 million of the City of Fresno California Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities funding to train 200 individuals to drive low or zero emission trucks. The Committee recommended the award of a security services contract to Fresno County Private Security to perform security guard services at the Manchester Workforce Connection site. The November 2019 Financial Report and Agency Budget and Expenditures Reports were also presented to the Committee for their acceptance. |
|  | Youth Council: Director Montalbano reported that the Youth Council (Council) met on February 20th, at which time they were shown the same video the FRWDB was presented with at today’s meeting. He noted that it is important to see the faces of the individuals receiving FRWDB services and to hear about the impact those services have on these individuals’ lives.  The Council recommended the ratification of FRWDB Director Edgar Blunt to the Council and reviewed and recommended that the FRWDB accept the standing quarterly reports, which included demographics, complaints and local performance results. Director Montalbano shared with the FRWDB that the Council does a good job of going through all of the reports and that they do ask FRWDB staff about any questions or concerns they may have on a particular report.  Director Montalbano concluded his Council update by sharing about his recent visit to Duncan Polytechnical High School. He indicated that he was quite impressed with the school’s heavy duty truck program, noting that the shop and equipment were up-to-date and very well maintained, and that the teachers were enthusiastic about the program and were dedicated to career technical education (CTE). Director Montalbano stressed the importance of CTE in high schools and encouraged Directors to visit Duncan Polytechnical High School if they had never done so.  This was an information item. |
| 8. | Approval of December 4, 2019, Meeting Minutes |
|  | BARNES/OLIVARES – APPROVED THE DECEMBER 4, 2019, MEETING MINUTES (UNANIMOUS, WITH ABSTENTION NOTED ABOVE). |
| 9. | **January 2020 Financial Report** |
|  | Mr. Konczal presented the January 2020, Financial Report for the FRWDB’s acceptance. He noted that there were two (2) grants for which the FRWDB received no cost extensions. Cheryl Beierschmitt, Deputy Director of Fiscal Services, FRWDB, noted that the FRWDB was on track and was forecasting to meet all expenditures for the year. |
|  | **NEIRA/KEYES – ACCEPTED THE JANUARY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 10. | Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee |
|  | Chair Bauer informed the FRWDB that at the June 2020 FRWDB meeting, the FRWDB will have to elect a new Chair and Vice Chair, as the terms of the current Chair and Vice Chair are ending. To prepare for the election, Chair Bauer is organizing an Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee, comprised of FRWDB members. He directed FRWDB members to contact him if they were interested in serving on this Ad-Hoc Committee, and indicated that a list of candidates for these open offices would be sent out to Directors before the June 3, 2020, meeting. This was a discussion item. |
| 11. | Approval of Consent Items (A1 – B7) |
|  | Director Silveira noted that there was an error on item A1, in which a date was incorrectly noted.BUMATAY/OLIVARES – APPROVED CONSENT ITEMS A1 – B7, WITH ITEM A1 CORRECTED (UNANIMOUS). |
| 12. | Fourth Quarter Community Events |
|  | Mr. Konczal stated that as part of its membership with the EDC, the FRWDB has eight (8) tickets for the Real Estate Forecast event in April.This was an information item. |
| 13. | Information Sharing |
|  | Tim Giles, Deputy Director of Information Systems, FRWDB, distributed a sheet to the FRWDB that showed what services had been provided at the FRWDB’s America Jobs Centers of California since the last FRWDB meeting. It showed that 3,258 customers received services, 247 customers started training, 173 started Work Experience, 163 obtained unsubsidized employment, and 15 Scholarship Panels were held. Mr. Konczal requested FRWDB staff gather this information to distribute to Directors at each FRWDB meeting.  Director Bumatay shared that Fresno Adult School will be celebrating its 20th Annual Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. on March 26, 2020, at the Saroyan Theater, and there will be an opportunity to participate in a re-enactment of the UFW March of Chavez at 11:00. A lunch to celebrate and honor the teachers at Chavez Education Center will begin at 12:00 noon. Director Bumatay invited all FRWDB Directors to attend the day’s events and indicated she will email out an invitation with the details.  Mr. Konczal reminded the FRWDB that on March 11, 2020, the FRWDB will be holding its annual awards breakfast, where Director Bumatay will be receiving the Workforce Partner of the Year award. Mr. Konczal indicated that Directors had been emailed invitations to the event and asked them to respond to FRWDB staff if they wanted to attend.  Director Riojas reminded Directors about the pre-apprentice trainings that the FRWDB has sponsored and endorsed over the past several years and invited any Directors who are interested, to contact him to visit the pre-apprentice class in session this month. He reported that during the prior week, the Fresno Unified School District ratified a $44 million project labor agreement that will provide opportunities for work for the pre-apprentice graduates. He also stated that it is anticipated that on March 10th, $66 million will be ratified for the construction of a west Fresno campus for the State Center Community College District. Director Riojas stated that these projects, along with the airport project labor agreement secured last year, will bring $240 million in construction work to the area, and because of the efforts of the FRWDB Board, Mr. Konczal, FRWDB staff and the pre-apprenticeship program, this work will be available to the pre-apprentice participants.  Mr. Konczal indicated that next year, major federal funding will be released for the refurbishment of many, if not most, of the water canals that run through the valley. He explained that the FRWDB, with the help of Director Riojas and some organized labor agencies, are working to get the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation to mimic the language for targeted national hiring for the water canal projects that the Rail Authority adopted for the High Speed Rail project.  Director VanHorn shared that in January, the West Hills Community College District (WHCCD) office opened a brand new $10 million facility in downtown Coalinga. He further shared that WHCCD broke ground in February for the modernization project of its 41,000 square foot Educational Center in Firebaugh, which they hope to open in December 2021. He stated that this updated facility will help increase access to higher education for that part of the county.  Director Quintero shared that a developer approached the County regarding building an Amazon Distribution Center in Calwa, that would initially hire for 500 jobs and, seasonally, up to 1,000 jobs. He indicated that this facility opening will be a great boost to building up that area of Fresno County.  Director Silveira shared that Kaiser Permanente is working with the InterCity Capital Campaign group, who seeks to work with small businesses in offering intensive education opportunities and access to loans to help those businesses grow. He stated that if any FRWDB members are interested or know of small businesses that may want to get involved with this group, to let him know. |
| 14. | **Agenda Items for June 3, 2020, Meeting** |
|  | None. |
| 15. | **Meeting Feedback** |
|  | None. |

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.