

**ATTACHMENT**

**Business and Industry Committee**

**February 3, 2021**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

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

ROLL CALL: PRESENT - Fely Guzman, Scott Miller, Sherry Neil, Joe Olivares, Michael Silveira, and Lydia Zabrycki

ABSENT - Tommy Nellon

AGENDA CHANGES: None

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/

DISCLOSURES OF

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF

INTEREST: None

STAFF/CHAIR COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Description/Action Taken** |
|  |  |
| **1.** | **November 4, 2020, Business and Industry Committee Meeting Minutes** |
|  | Chair Zabrycki presented the Novemer 4, 2020, meeting minutes for correction and/or approval. |
|  | **OLIVARES/ SILVEIRA – APPROVED THE NOVEMBER 4, 2020, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (UNANIMOUS).** |
| **2.** | **Rapid Response – Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act Notice** |
|  | Martha Espinosa, Business Services Coordinator, Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB), reported on Rapid Response services provided in the Second Quarter of Program Year (PY) 2020-2021. During the Second Quarter and with the COVID shutdown and the holiday shutdown, the Rapid Response team contacted companies that were either downsizing or closing, and provided an Orientation to 38 dislocated workers and business owners. There were 228 employees that were affected during this quarter.  The FRWDB Rapid Response team, in partnership with the City of Fresno, had a Virtual Job Fair in November. There were 13 employers and 66 attendees. Plans are being made for a Spring 2021 Virtual Job Fair, in March. This job fair is part of an effort to assist the IRS, where 925 full time employees and 850 temporary workers will be impacted by the layoffs.  This was an information item. |
| **3.** | **Manufacturing Recruitment** |
|  | Shawna Glazener, Business Services Coordinator, FRWDB, provided the Business and Industry Committee, insights to the manufacturing industry in Fresno County. She touched on the trends of the last quarter with new machinery and new processes. She indicated that there has been a need for training in the manufacturing sector and that incumbent worker trainings were completed with three (3) companies, upskilling 84 employees.  Ms. Glazener discussed the candidate pool and the work to fill open positions and connect manufacturers to valuable resources. Although there have been increased difficulties in locating candidates due to the extended unemployment benefits, the need for parents to care for children attending school at home, and elevated fear of contracting COVID-19, there have been positive outcomes. More than 150 applicants were screened and referred by Workforce Connection, through tv and radio marketing spots, as well as the Jobs Fresno website to fill over 20 skilled manufacturing positions.  This was an information item. |
| **4.** | **Rural Business Outreach** |
|  | Mr. Cherkaski, Business Service Center Manager, FRWDB, explained that with COVID and its restrictions, new ways of communicating and marketing have been created. Centro La Familia and United Farm Workers Foundation have been strategic partners assisting those efforts on the West side of Fresno County.  On the East side of Fresno County, focus has been on the Creek Fire recovery efforts. The FRWDB was awarded the National Dislocated Worker Grant to assist those recovery efforts.  This was an information item. |
| **5.** | **Quarterly Awards Business Recognition** |
|  | Mr. Cherkaski presented a video that revealed the Outstanding Business Achievement Award winners for the Third Quarter of 2020: Stratas Foods for adult employment and CenCal CNC based in Kingsburg for youth employment.  This was an information item. |
| **6.** | **Agenda Items for May 5, 2021, Meeting** |
|  | Chair Zabrycki reminded the Committee that if they have any items to be added to the agenda for the May 5, 2021, meeting, to send those items to FRWDB staff at least two (2) weeks before the meeting. |
| **7.** | **Meeting Feedback** |
|  | Blake Konczal, Executive Director, FRWDB, asked the Committee if they had any suggestions on how these meetings might be improved. The Committee provided no feedback. |

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.