

### Business and Industry Committee

### August 7, 2019

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT - Lee Ann Eager, Richard Keyes (arrived at 4:05 p.m.), Scott Miller, Tommy Nellon (arrived at 4:07 p.m.), Joe Olivares, Corinna Pereira and Michael Silveira

ABSENT - Fely Guzman, Ron Hicks and Lydia Zabrycki

AGENDA CHANGES: None

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/

DISCLOSURES OF

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF

INTEREST: None

STAFF/CHAIR COMMENTS: Blake Konczal, Executive Director, Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB), explained that FRWDB staff added a last minute item to the agenda (Agenda Item 7, IMAGO Youth Leadership Certificate Program).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Due to the lack of a quorum, Business and Industry Committee (B&I) Director Joe Olivares, directed the Committee members to Agenda Item 2, the DRIVE Initiative / Economic Summit as this was an information only item.

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| 2. | **DRIVE Initiative / Economic Summit** |
|  | Mr. Konczal explained that the Developing The **Region’s** Inclusive And **Vibrant** Economy (DRIVE) Initiative was formed with a goal to create opportunities for all residents to move from poverty to prosperity by creating an inclusive economy that is vibrant and sustainable.  Director Keyes arrived (4:05 p.m.)  The DRIVE Initiative will assess Fresno’s current standings in three (3) areas vital to community health: economic development, human capital, and neighborhood quality.  Director Lee Ann Eager added that there are 20 different committees working together towards the same goal on equitable economic development.  Director Nellon arrived (4:07 p.m.) |

**QUORUM ESTABLISHED**

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| **Item** | **Description/Action Taken** |
| **1.** | **May 1, 2019, Business and Industry Committee Meeting Minutes** |
|  | Mr. Konczal presented the May 1, 2019, meeting minutes for correction and/or approval. |
|  | **EAGER/KEYES – APPROVED THE MAY 1, 2019, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (UNANIMOUS).** |
| **3.** | **San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance Update** |
|  | Erik Cherkaski, Business Services Manager, FRWDB, introduced Genelle Taylor Kumpe, Executive Director, San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance (SJVMA). Ms. Taylor Kumpe presented a handout with information explaining that the SJVMA is an organization of the Valley’s manufacturing leaders advancing their industry and creating a world-class workforce at the local level. The SJVMA was launched by the Fresno Business Council and aims to strengthen regional manufacturing. The SJVMA designs training programs, provides jobs to interns for hands-on experience, educates the public on the benefits of manufacturing careers, addresses legislative issues, and brings local businesses and industry innovators together for the [Valley Made Summit](http://www.valleymadesummit.com/), an annual manufacturing conference. |
| **4.** | **Business Services Center Usage for Program Year 2018-2019 and Distribution Center Update** |
|  | Mr. Cherkaski provided an overview of activities and services being provided through the FRWDB’s Business Services Center (BSC) and an approximate value of those services. Mr. Cherkaski referred the Committee to the spreadsheet provided in the agenda packet, which reported an approximate value for services provided in PY 2018-2019. Mr. Cherkaski also went over the other services that the BSC provides including the Fresno4Biz online partner referral system and the no-cost Human Resources (HR) Hotline.  Shawna Glazener, Business Services Coordinator, FRWDB, gave updates on special projects she assisted such as Ulta, GAP, and Amazon distribution centers, Selma Maintenance Facility, Clovis Community College Mechatronics Program, and the T-Mobile Call Center.  Ms. Glazener introduced Nayely Carlos, HR Generalist, Gap Inc. Fresno Distribution Campus who explained how Workforce Connection was instrumental in preparing youth for employment at their facility. The Gap Inc. Fresno Distribution has been able to expand employment for the ages of 18-23 and focuses on offering wage competitive jobs with benefits, as well as generous paid vacation.  Ms. Carlos thanked Ms. Glazener for being responsive to the needs of their company, as well as working on solving the transportation issues faced by some of their employees who commute to work. |
| **5.** | **Rapid Response – Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act Notice** |
|  | Martha Espinosa,Business Services/Rapid Response Coordinator, FRWDB, reported that during the fourth quarter of PY 2018-2019, the Rapid Response team contacted ten (10) companies that were either downsizing or closing, and provided information to 14 dislocated workers out of the 339 employees that were affected. |
|  | Ms. Espinosa reported that in the fourth quarter the Digibus continued to be an asset for rapid response orientations.  Director Olivares asked for an explanation on what the Digibus encompasses. Mr. Cherkaski explained that the Fresno County Library Digibus has been instrumental for holding onsite orientations to companies that are closing. The Digibus is a computer lab on wheels that provides Internet access, job preparedness classes, Wi-Fi access, and other resources for Fresno County residents. |
| 6. | **Business / Job Seeker Recognition Quarterly Awards Adult/Youth** |
|  | Mr. Cherkaski presented a video that revealed the Outstanding Business Achievement Award for the First Quarter of PY 2018-2019 as Cargill Meat Solutions for the Adult Employer.  Ms. Espinosa nominated Cargill Meat Solutions because of their rapid response efforts when employees were impacted during the closure of Zacky Farms. Edgar Sorto with Cargill Meat Solutions stated that Workforce Connection provided experienced candidates that were motivated to work.  Due to time constraints, the Youth Employer video will be shown at the next B&I Meeting. |
| 7. | **IMAGO Youth Leadership Certificate Program** |
|  | Mr. Konczal stated that the funds being received by the Fresno Unified School District to implement leadership certificate training requires review by the FRWDB. Based on existing FRWDB job readiness training facilitated by IMAGO, the leadership certificate program will be offered to students in Fresno County and incorporates work readiness, leadership development, and career readiness topics.  Edgar Blunt, Chief Executive Officer, IMAGO, provided a handout containing their current curriculum and presented a short video. Mr. Blunt explained that IMAGO increases emotional intelligence through digital curricula and professional training. IMAGO is a homegrown company with about 300 sites nationwide. IMAGO has also trained over 2,500 people in how to deliver their curricula and has affected over 100,000 individuals.  Director Silveira commented he has attended a past IMAGO training program and said it was a really great experience. |
|  | **MILLER/KEYES – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB APPROVE THE IMAGO YOUTH LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 8. | **November 6, 2019, Agenda Items** |
|  | Mr. Konczal reminded the B & I that if they have any items to be added to the agenda for the November 6, 2019, meeting, to send their items to FRWDB staff at least two (2) weeks before the meeting.  Council Member Corinna Pereira stated she would like to present on the Westside Works Initiative. |
| 9. | Meeting Feedback |
|  | None. |

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.