****

### Workforce Development Board

**March 1, 2023 @ 4:00 p.m.**

###### SUMMARY MINUTES

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

ROLL CALL: PRESENT – Stephen Avila, Lacey Barnes, Paul Bauer, Edgar Blunt, Alysia Bonner, Jeff Hensley, Mike Karbassi, Wyatt Meadows, Scott Miller (arrived at 4:02 p.m.), Alisha Morgan, Joe Olivares, Sal Quintero, Chuck Riojas, Vasili Sotiropulos, Sandra Vicente, Lydia Zabrycki, and Legal Counsel Ken Price.

ABSENT – Terry Metters, Jr., Dennis Montalbano, and Shelly Tarver.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| COMMENTS BY FRWDB CHAIR AND/OR EXECUTIVE STAFF: | None |
| AGENDA CHANGES  REMOVAL OF ITEMS OR  EMERGENCY ADDITIONS: | None |
| ABSTENTIONS/ DISCLOSURES OF  POTENTIAL CONFLICTS  OF INTEREST/RECUSALS: | None |
| PUBLIC COMMENTS: | None |

Director Miller arrived (4:02 p.m.)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item | Description/Action Taken |
| 6. | Board Member Survey |
|  | Director Edgar Blunt, through Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) staff, sent a survey to FRWDB Directors prior to the meeting. He asked Directors to complete the survey, which would help provide a better understanding of the Board’s demographics and interest of engagement. Director Blunt indicated that the survey results would also be used when looking at recruitment for the FRWDB, and would help identify opportunities for the Board to be stronger, more diverse, equitable and connected. This was an information item. |
| 7. | Committee Reports |
|  | Executive Committee: Director Blunt shared that the Executive Committee (Committee) met on January 18th, when they reviewed and accepted the November 2022 Financial Report and the November 2022 Agency Budget and Expenditures Report, and there were no concerns. Blake Konczal, Executive Director, FRWDB reviewed the onboarding process for new Directors. Consultant, David Shinder, joined the meeting and reviewed with the Committee, the FRWDB’s two (2)-year Local Plan modification. The Committee approved the allocation of three (3) grants awarded to the FRWDB: the Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, Training (QUEST) grant; the CalFIRE grant; and the Equity and Special Populations grant. |
|  | Youth Council: Director Sotiropulos reported that the Youth Council (Council) met on February 16th, when they recommended the ratification of Director Terry Metters, Jr. to the Council. They were shown videos highlighting two (2) Young Adult participant success stories, and he stated the Council enjoyed seeing those videos. FRWDB staff shared the need for volunteers to serve on the Youth Services Request for Proposals (RFP) rating team in mid-March. Mr. Konczal added that in his 20 years, serving on an RFP rating team was one (1) of the things Board members had indicated was the most illustrative for them to understand what the FRWDB does.  Director Sotiropulos indicated that there was a lengthy discussion regarding the Work Experience Expenditures report, and that due to questions and confusion about the report, the item was withdrawn and was not voted upon. He stated that FRWDB staff would be modifying the report, making it easier to understand, and would bring it back to the Council at its next meeting for review and acceptance.  Director Sotiropulos reported that the Council accepted the Local Performance Results Reports, but had questions and some concerns with the west side’s results. Staff from Proteus, Inc., the west side Provider of Services, answered the Council’s questions and shared their strategy to increase results in the future. The Council recommended that the FRWDB accept the following reports: Young Adult Satisfaction Report, Provider of Services Monitoring Report, Local Area Youth Performance Results Report, and Providers of Services Customer Complaint Report. He noted that FRWDB staff had no concerns with any of the reports. This was an information item. |
| 8. | Board Member Spot Light |
|  | Director Wyatt Meadows, District Representative, Operating Engineers Local 3, shared about his career with Operating Engineers Local 3, and what they do. He explained that the union was formed in 1939 and were part of the International Union of Operating Engineers for the Northern US and Canada. He stated that Local 3 currently had over 38,000 members and served a four-(4) state area. They are the largest construction Local in the United States. He shared that, as District Representative, he served 2,300 members. Director Meadows stated that he was a fourth (4th) generation union member, third (3rd) generation with Local 3, and had been on staff with Local 3 since 2015.Director Blunt asked what were the top jobs in the trades. Director Meadows stated that Tower Crane Operators was probably the highest paying job, making close to $250,000 a year on average.Mr. Konczal shared that the FRWDB’s partnership with the Building Trades Council and its affiliates, such as the Operating Engineers, was directly related to the FRWDB’s ability to have been awarded the grants they had received. Director Meadows added that the Operations Engineers in Northern California had the only accredited apprenticeship program. This was an information item. |
| 9. | Committee/Council Composition |
|  | Mr. Konczal provided an update on the FRWDB’s Council membership. He thanked the Directors for responding to Chair Montalbano’s letter that requested each Director select a Council on which to serve. Mr. Konczal indicated that every Director responded to the Chair’s request. Mr. Konczal noted that, in addition to the Executive Committee, the FRWDB had three (3) Councils: Adult, Youth and Skills Development. He stated that there were a number of individuals who were serving on the Youth Council who were not FRWDB Directors, and noted that FRWDB staff and Council Chairpersons would be looking for other non-FRWDB Directors to serve on the other Councils.This was an information item. |
| 10. | In the Community - Marketing Update |
|  | Martha Espinosa, Marketing and Grants Manager, FRWDB, provided highlights of the marketing activities and events that occurred in the third quarter of the Program Year. She indicated that all marketing efforts were focused on promoting FRWDB brand recognition. She presented two (2) videos, one highlighting a FRWDB Business Achievement Award winner, and the second, an Adult Participant Achievement Award winner. CalFIRE Check Presentation: On December 7th, CalFIRE presented the FRWDB with a $1.9 million check for the Forestry Program. Channels 26 and 30 were present to cover the event.  Business Journal: A story was published in The Business Journal about the FRWDB’s second all-women construction cohort.  High Speed Rail: The High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) celebrated its 10,000th job. The HSRA highlighted the FRWDB’s Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) program as being a pipeline into those High Speed Rail jobs.  Radio Spots: Information regarding the Accelerate Your Career and Valley Build programs were shared on B95 (English) and La Preciosa (Spanish), as well as these stations’ Facebook pages. Ms. Espinosa stated that the FRWDB had contracts with these two (2) stations, and that information about the Fatherhood program, Young Adult Services and Workforce Connection, in general, were being broadcast on a regular basis.  Fatherhood: The FRWDB’s Fatherhood program staff held a Facebook Live event on the FRWDB’s Facebook page.  Holiday Mixer: The FRWDB held a holiday mixer on December 7th for FRWDB Directors, partners and staff.  Forestry Graduation: A Forestry Program graduation was held on February 10th, with 23 graduates from three (3) different cohorts. There was a great turnout, with Assembly Member Patterson, Assembly Member Arambula, Deputy Mayor Matthew Grundy, and a representative from Assembly Member Mathis’ office in attendance.  Green Conference: On February 16th, the FRWDB co-hosted a Green Conference with California State University, Bakersfield. The conference was held in-person and virtually.  Ms. Espinosa provided the Directors with a list of the FRWDB’s ten (10) different social media accounts and encouraged Directors to follow those accounts. Director Blunt encouraged Directors to not only follow, but to also like, and share events that the FRWDB posts, as this would help get the word out about the FRWDB’s programs. Ms. Espinosa also provided a list of the FRWDB’s upcoming events, which included: ValleyBuild Graduation on March 3rd; Launch Event for 2nd Valley Build NOW all-women construction cohort on March 8th; Annual Achievement Awards event on April 19th; Govaganza on May 3rd; and Grizzly Game night on May 12th.  Ms. Espinosa shared that she and her team were working on developing some new logos for a couple of the FRWDB’s programs, and that FRWDB staff was also working on the FRWDB Annual Report.  Director Blunt acknowledged Ms. Espinosa for her great work as Marketing Manager.  This was an information item. |
| **11.** | **Approval of the December 7, 2022, Meeting Minutes** |
|  | **KARBASSI/OLIVARES – APPROVED THE DECEMBER 7, 2022, MEETING MINUTES. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| **12.** | **January 2023 Financial Report** |
|  | Mr. Konczal presented the January 2023, Financial Report for the FRWDB’s acceptance. He brought attention to two (2) grants: High Road Construction Careers: California Climate Investment and High Road Construction Careers: Reimagine Workforce Preparation. He reported that these grants were off to a slow start because of COVID; however, the State granted the FRWDB extensions of time, which FRWDB staff believed would help get the grants on track. There were no questions from the FRWDB or the public regarding the Financial Report.    **RIOJAS/QUINTERO – ACCEPTED THE JANUARY 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| **13.** | **Consent Items (A1 – A6)** |
|  | **KARBASSI/BONNER – APPROVED THE CONSENT ITEMS A1 – A6. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| **14.** | **Recognition of Board Anniversaries** |
|  | Director Blunt recognized Directors for their years of service on the FRWDB with a presentation of certificates. He recognized Directors whose service anniversaries occurred in the months of January through March: Wyatt Meadows – One (1) year; Terry Metters, Jr. – One (1) year; Stephen Avila – Two (2) years; Alysia Bonner– Three (3) years; Mike Karbassi – Three (3) years; Sal Quintero – Four (4) years; Vasili Sotiropulos – Five (5) years; Paul Bauer – 14 years; and Chuck Riojas – 16 years.  This was an information item. |
| 15. | Information Sharing |
|  | Director Quintero shared about an event the Fresno County Board of Supervisors was planning for April 22nd, Earth Day, from 10am – 2pm. The event would be held at the Fresno Fair Grounds, with “Beautifying Fresno County” as its theme. There were to be several non-profit organizations in attendance, including Centro La Familia, Marjaree Mason Center, and the Fresno Center. Director Quintero asked if the FRWDB would like to have an information table at the event to share about FRWDB services and programs. This was an information item. |
| 16. | Agenda Items for June 7, 2023, Meeting |
|  | There were no items recommended for the June 7, 2023, FRWDB meeting agenda. |
| 17. | Meeting Feedback |
|  | There was no meeting feedback provided. |

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.