



# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Skills Development Council Meeting  
February 7, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.

Workforce Connection  
3170 W. Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93711  
Conference Rooms 105/106

**REMINDER: PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONE OR PUT IT ON VIBRATE**

ROLL CALL

AGENDA CHANGES: REMOVAL OF ITEMS OR EMERGENCY ADDITIONS

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

COUNCIL CHAIR/STAFF COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Item	Description	Presented By	Enclosure	Action	Page #
1.	November 1, 2023, Skills Development Council Meeting Minutes	Konczal	Yes	Approve	3
2.	Participant Training and Expenditure Report	Giles	Yes	Information	7
3.	Special Grants Training Overview	Matthews	Yes	Information	8
4.	Discretionary Grants Report	Xiong	Yes	Information	11
5.	Overview of Staff Trainings	J. Espinoza	Yes	Information	13
6.	Information Sharing	All	No	Discussion	--
7.	May 1, 2024, Agenda Items	Konczal	No	Discussion	--
8.	Meeting Feedback	Konczal	No	Discussion	--

#### ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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**Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board  
Skills Development Council  
2024 Attendance Roster**

	11/1/2023	2/7/2024	5/1/2024	8/7/2024	11/6/2024
Avila Grundfos Pumps	P				
Dart Dart Realty	--				
Hensley Hensley Associates	--				
Miller Gazebo Gardens	P				
Morgan Kaiser Permanente	--				
Olivares TransAmerica	P				
Vicente US Bank	--				
Zabrycki* CAPTRUST	P				
Zeitz Fresno County Economic Development Corporation	--				

\* = Chairperson  
P = Present  
A = Absent  
-- = Not a Ratified Member at Time of Meeting  
XX = Meeting Cancelled

# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM:	1
MEETING DATE:	February 7, 2024
ACTION:	APPROVE

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**TO:** Skills Development Council  
**FROM:** Blake Konczal, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** November 1, 2023, Skills Development Council Meeting Minutes

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023, Skills Development Council Meeting.

**ATTACHMENT:**

November 1, 2023, Skills Development Council Meeting Minutes



# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Skills Development Council  
November 1, 2023

## SUMMARY MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT – Stephen Avila, Scott Miller, Joe Olivares, and Lydia Zabrycki

ABSENT – None

AGENDA CHANGES: None

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/  
DISCLOSURES OF  
POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF  
INTEREST: None

COMMITTEE  
CHAIR/STAFF  
COMMENTS: Blake Konczal, Executive Director, Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB), explained that the Skills Development Council (Council) took the place of the Business and Industry Committee to focus on funds used for skills development and training.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Item	Description/Action Taken
1.	<p><b><u>Ratification of Skills Development Council Members</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Konczal stated that per FRWDB Bylaws, Committees and Councils approved their own members. Therefore, he presented for the Council's recommendation to the FRWDB, the ratification of Director Douglas Dart, Chair Emeritus Hensley, Director Alisha Morgan, Director Sandra Vicente, and Director Chris Zeitz, as members to the Skills Development Council.</p> <p><b>OLIVARES/MILLER – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB RATIFY NEW SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. (UNANIMOUS)</b></p>
2	<p><b><u>Individual Training Account Overview</u></b></p> <p>Tim Giles, Director of Information and General Services, FRWDB, presented a PowerPoint presentation with handouts that gave the Council an overview of the FRWDB's Individual Training Account (ITA) training. Mr. Giles went over total allocations by formula grant between July 2021, and June 2023, the sectors in which participants were trained, the most used training providers, and the most used training programs. He also spoke about workshops and areas of focus for future trainings.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about the ITAs, but there were no concerns from the Council.</p> <p>This was an information item.</p>

3. **Special Grants Training Overview**

Ashley Matthews, Special Projects Manager, FRWDB, gave an overview on the special grants training for the Council's review. Ms. Matthews spoke about the ValleyBuild Apprenticeship Readiness Program, the Greater Sierra Forestry Corps, and the multiple grants that fund these projects, as well as the demographics that the grants target. She also gave details about some upcoming events.

Director Zabrycki noted that it would be appreciated if the Council attended the ValleyBuild graduation on November 17, 2023.

This was an information item.

4. **Overview of Staff Trainings**

Jose Espinoza, Training Manager, FRWDB, presented an overview of staff trainings for the Council's review. Mr. Espinoza went over the staff trainings that had already occurred, the staff trainings that were scheduled for the future, and the type of staff trainings he was looking to include in the following quarter.

Mr. Konczal announced that Mr. Espinoza took over the role of Equal Employment Opportunity Officer once Steve DeWitt retired.

Director Zabrycki stated she thought these trainings were a great investment in FRWDB staff.

This was an information item.

5. **Overview of New Online Training Curriculum Through Knowledge City**

Mr. Espinoza presented an overview of the new online training curriculum through Knowledge City for the Council's review. He stated that the curriculum was similar to LinkedIn Learning or Metrics Learning, only Knowledge City's videos were short and simple. Mr. Espinoza informed the Council that FRWDB had 70 licenses and 7,000 trainings ready to be offered for staff.

This was an information item.

6. **Conversational Spanish Language Training for Staff**

Mr. Espinoza presented an overview of the conversational Spanish language training for staff for the Council's review. He spoke about the company providing the training, Lungua Franca, and the benefit the training would provide to both staff and participants.

Director Olivares requested that Mr. Espinoza provide the conversational Spanish language training schedule to the Council.

This was an information item.

7. **Information Sharing**

Director Zabrycki welcomed Director Dart to the Council. She also reminded the Council about the ValleyBuild graduation on November 17, 2023.

Director Miller offered tickets to the Made Expo for Friday, October 27, 2023.

8. **February 7, 2024, Agenda Items**

Director Zabrycki stated that she would like more information at the February 7, 2024, meeting about the 20 Spanish language sessions that start on February 1, 2024.

9. **Meeting Feedback**

There was no feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM:	2
MEETING DATE:	February 7, 2024
ACTION:	INFORMATION

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**TO:** Skills Development Council

**FROM:** Tim Giles, Deputy Director Information and General Services

**SUBJECT:** Participant Training and Expenditure Report

**INFORMATION:**

The below table provides cumulative participant training activities and expenditures through the Second Quarter of Program Year 2023-2024.

### Training Activities

Industry	Enrolled	Completed	Active	Total ITA Expenditures
Accommodation and Food Services	7	2	5	\$40,362.77
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll	31	11	20	\$140,927.00
Administrative and Support Services	18	15	3	\$74,226.09
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	13	13	0	\$0.00
Automotive Services	1	0	1	\$0.00
Construction	60	42	18	\$237,807.83
Energy	6	6	0	\$16,492.00
Health Care and Social Assistance	193	83	110	\$1,083,817.95
Information Service	34	10	24	\$100,291.81
Manufacturing	19	8	11	\$153,496.00
Transportation and Warehousing	62	42	20	\$171,746.50
	444	232	212	\$2,019,167.95

**Enrolled:** Training activities that were open at some point during the period, regardless of the begin date of the activity.

**Completed:** Training activities that ended during the period.

**Active:** Training activities that were open as of December 31, 2023.

**Expenditures:** The amount that has been paid for the shown activities, through December 31, 2023.

# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM:	3
MEETING DATE:	February 7, 2024
ACTION:	INFORMATION

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**TO:** Skills Development Council  
**FROM:** Ashley Matthews, Special Projects Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Special Grants Training Overview

## **INFORMATION:**

Competitive grant funding opportunities enable the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) to bring special workforce development projects to Fresno and surrounding counties. Through various funding sources, these projects aim to establish pathways to employment in forestry and construction and support the development of a resilient workforce.

### **ValleyBuild:**

Provides skilled training to unemployed, underemployed and barriered individuals in the in-demand construction sector in partnership with 14 counties.

The ValleyBuild Apprenticeship Readiness Program consists of an intensive six (6)-week, full time, Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) certified training in partnership with local Building Trades Councils providing hands-on skills training. Participants receive industry recognized certificates such as OSHA 10, CPR/First Aid, Forklift, and Hazardous Waste Awareness. Wrap-around job services such as physical training, resume development, mock interviewing and supportive services are provided to ensure a high rate of employment for students upon graduation. Enhanced services include a three (3) to four (4)-week preparatory "Bootcamp" and an eight (8)-week paid work experience post MC3.

ValleyBuild currently operates under four (4) active grants:

#### **High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund (Regional) \$8,825,127.00**

**Purpose:** This grant aims to advance careers in the building and construction trades as a reliable pathway to the middle class for disadvantaged Californians via multi-craft pre-apprenticeship training and promotes adoption of local hiring provisions in public construction contracts.

**Target Population:** Women, English Language Learners, Justice Involved, Youth, and under-resourced individuals.

**Period of Performance:** 06/01/2023 - 03/31/2026

#### **ValleyBuild NOW State Earmark (Regional) \$3,000,000.00**

**Purpose:** This grant will support the expansion of the ValleyBuild NOW (Non-Traditional Occupations for Women) program to more effectively serve low-income women and under-represented groups through specialized pre-apprenticeship training that will prepare them for careers in the building and construction trades by:



- Increasing opportunities for women and under-represented groups in the building and construction trades
- Adopting strategies that make participation in training possible for low-income women
- Supporting, encouraging, and coaching women throughout the apprenticeship phase of their new careers in construction

Target Population: Women and other under-represented populations in the construction sector.

Period of Performance: 04/01/2023 - 12/31/2025

Additional Deliverables:

- Hold two (2) annual conferences focusing on women in non-traditional work
- Create "Respectful Workplace" training for construction sector employer use

Good Jobs Challenge (Local) \$1,807,382.48

Purpose: The Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was awarded funding in partnership with the Fresno K-16 Collaborative, San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance, Generation USA, Madera Workforce Development Board, and FRWDB under the Economic Development Administration's American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge. \$23,015,216 was awarded to Fresno County EDC to fund the project in the Central Valley. Serving as the construction backbone of the project, the FRWDB was awarded \$1,807,382.48 in grant funds to expand career opportunities for Americans to reach their full potential and secure good-paying jobs. Specifically, this funding will support the expansion of the ValleyBuild program and will prepare jobseekers for careers in the building and construction trades.

Target Population: All

Period of Performance: 06/01/2023 - 09/30/2027

Equal Representation in Construction Apprenticeship (ERiCA) (Regional) \$2,000,000.00

Purpose: This grant seeks to improve access to training and employment opportunities for underserved populations in construction trades across all communities throughout the state, by providing supportive resources for childcare along with outreach to and community building among underserved populations.

Target Populations:

- Pre-apprenticeship: This funding will go to California Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) registered construction pre-apprenticeship programs that are providing direct support for parents/legal guardians who are pre-apprentices in construction careers. The amount awarded will be calculated as follows:
  - \$5,000 per eligible participant served within the grant period in a DAS registered pre-apprenticeship program
- Apprenticeship: This funding will go to DAS registered construction apprenticeship programs hiring apprentices that are parents/legal guardians. The amount would be calculated as follows:
  - \$10,000 per eligible participant served per year in a DAS registered construction apprenticeship program in which the apprentice was active within the grant period

Eligible participants are those apprentices or pre-apprentices that are parents/legal guardians to children under the age of 18.

Period of Performance: 08/29/2023 - 06/30/2025

## Greater Sierra Forestry Corps

Greater Sierra Forestry Corps (GSFC) is a partnership of private industry, workforce agencies, community colleges, organized labor, and environmental organizations committed to bringing additional resources to train new workers to deal with the ever-growing problem of dead and dying trees in the Greater Sierra. Partners include Mother Lode Job Training, Columbia College, Sierra Resource Management, Yosemite Adult School, CalFIRE Local 2881, National Federation of Federal Employees: Forest Service Council 2995, Associated California Loggers, Sierra Pacific Industries, TuCare, Tuolumne River Trust, Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions, Sierra Resource Conservation District.

The program consists of an intensive three (3)-phase (22 week), full time training in partnership with local Conservation Corps and Adult Education providers delivering hands-on skills training. Participants receive industry recognized certificates listed below. Wrap-around job services such as physical training, resume development, mock interviewing and supportive services are provided to ensure a high rate of employment for students upon graduation. Training time includes an eight (8) week paid work experience.

### Certifications:

NWCG-S-212, Wildland Fire Chainsaws  
HAZWOPER-40  
OSHA-10  
First Aid/CPR

### NWCG Certifications:

S-212  
L-180  
S-190  
S-130  
FEMA-ICS-100  
FEMA-ICS-200  
FEMA-ICS-700  
FEMA-ICS-800

The GSFC currently operates under two (2) active grants:

### Calfire Round 2 (Regional) \$1,973,614.60

Purpose: This funding will expand the GSFC model to provide valuable forestry training to 85 residents in Fresno County and the Mother Lode region, including but not limited to Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, and Tuolumne counties.

Target Population: Adult, Dislocated Workers, and Youth

Period of Performance: 03/22/2023 - 03/31/2026

### High Road Training Partnership - Resilient Workforce Fund (Regional) \$2,500,000.00

Purpose: This grant will support the development of skilled workforce necessary to mitigate or adapt to climate disruption and environmental threat. Specifically, this funding will support the expansion of the GSFC program, a best practice model developed to recruit, train, provide work experience, and link local residents to quality entry-level jobs in the forestry sector.

Target Population: Adult, Dislocated Workers, and Youth

Period of Performance: 06/01/2023 - 03/31/2026

# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM:	4
MEETING DATE:	February 7, 2024
ACTION:	INFORMATION

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**TO:** Skills Development Council

**FROM:** Ka Xiong, Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Discretionary Grants Report

**INFORMATION:**

Competitive grant funding opportunities enable the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) to bring additional workforce development resources to Fresno and surrounding counties. Through various funding sources, these projects aim to establish pathways to employment in a variety of sectors and support the development of a resilient workforce.

**Fresno Fatherhood Grant - \$749,999.00**

Purpose: Provides a broad array of services to promote or sustain healthy marriage and relationships, strengthen positive father-child engagement, and improve employment and economic stability opportunities for adult fathers in Fresno County.

Target Population: Community fathers who have children ages 24 and younger

Period of Performance: 09/30/2023 - 09/29/2024

Updates through 12/31/2023:

	Proposed – Cumulative	Actual	Percentage
Enrollment	125	30	24%
Completed 90% or More of Fatherhood Workshops	100	28	28%
Completed Economic Stability Workshops	100	28	28%

**Equity and Special Populations Grant (ESP) - \$750,000.00**

Purpose: Provides career services that accelerate training, break down workforce system barriers, and qualify participants for current and future quality jobs for underrepresented and underserved populations in Fresno and Madera Counties.

Target Population: English Language Learners, Veterans, and Justice Involved

Period of Performance: 02/01/2022 – 03/31/2024

Updates through 12/31/2023:

	Proposed – Cumulative	Actual	Percentage
Enrollment	120	109	91%

- Target Industries: Construction, Solar, and Forestry
- 34 English Language Learners, 29 Veterans, and 48 Justice Involved

**Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training (QUEST) Grant - \$750,000.00**

Purpose: Provides targeted outreach to long-term unemployed and dislocated workers in Fresno County. The initiative supports employment equity and individual, community, and industry resilience as the nation prioritizes economic and employment recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Target Population: Long-Term Unemployed and Dislocated Workers

Period of Performance: 10/01/2022 – 09/30/2024

Updates through 12/31/2023:

	Proposed – Cumulative	Actual	Percentage
Enrollment	166	106	64%

**Prison to Employment (P2E) – \$719,723**

Purpose: Provides services to support personal development, training, and the employment needs of justice-involved and formerly-incarcerated individuals in Fresno County.

Target Population: Justice-involved and formerly-incarcerated

Period of Performance: 07/11/2023-12/31/2025

**Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) – \$1,050,729**

Purpose: The RERP program seeks to enhance partnerships and collaboration between Workforce Development Boards and Community Colleges and improve job quality and access for Californians.

Target Population: Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth

Period of Performance: 12/01/2022-09/30/2025

Target Industries: Construction and Manufacturing

**English Language Learner Integrated Education and Training (ELL-IET) - \$3,330,000**

Purpose: Increase access to career pathways and bridge educational gaps to help ELLs with significant barriers to high quality employment enter and advance in the workforce.

Target Population: ELLs

Period of Performance: 10/06/2023-12/31/2026

Target Industries: Construction, Forestry, and Healthcare

**Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) - \$745,001.80**

Purpose: Foster strong partnerships with key stakeholders in the area who support students with disabilities (SWDs) by strengthening an existing open line of referrals and streamlining access to services. Individuals in this program will have access to a robust support stem that not only prepares them for the workforce, but also empowers them to advocate for their needs and career aspirations.

Target Population: SWDs

Period of Performance: TBD

# FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM:	5
MEETING DATE:	February 7, 2024
ACTION:	INFORMATION

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**TO:** Skills Development Council  
**FROM:** Jose Espinoza, Training Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Overview of Staff Trainings

## **INFORMATION:**

The list below shows trainings that are currently scheduled for the third quarter of Program Year 2023-2024. These trainings are made available for Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board, Provider and partner staff.

1. February 1<sup>st</sup> - San Joaquin Valley and Associated Counties (SJVAC) Regional Planning Unit (RPU): Conducting an Effective Virtual Training
2. February 6<sup>th</sup> - Communication and Self-Care Training with Dr. Dena Fiori
3. February 8<sup>th</sup> - SJVAC RPU: Developing Language of Cultural Intelligence (six (6) spots Available)
4. February 13<sup>th</sup> - SJVAC RPU: Understanding Implicit Bias Through the Lens of Cultural Intelligence (six (6) spots available)
5. \*\*February 15<sup>th</sup> - April 19<sup>th</sup> – Weekly Conversational Spanish Classes on Thursdays and Fridays
6. February 22<sup>nd</sup> - SJVAC RPU: How to Create Sustainable Change Through the Lens of Cultural Intelligence (six (6) spots available)
7. February 29<sup>th</sup> - SJVAC RPU: Managing Conflict Through the Lens of Equity (six (6) spots available)
8. March 12<sup>th</sup> - SJVAC RPU: Tell Your Story with Data (six (6) spots available)
9. March 28<sup>th</sup> - SJVAC RPU: Communicating with Data (six (6) spots available)

\*\*The Conversational Spanish Training information was requested at the last meeting and has been emailed to the Skills Development Council on January 25, 2024. All are welcome to attend.