**Youth Council**

**May 18, 2023**

###### SUMMARY MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT – Katherine Martindale, Terry Metters, Jr. (arrived at 4:23 p.m.), Vasili Sotiropulos, Michelle Tutunjian and Rick Watson

ABSENT – Ricardo Vasquez

AGENDA CHANGES: None

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/ Council Member Tutunjian, Items #5 and #10

DISCLOSURES OF

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF

INTEREST: None

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| COMMITTEE CHAIR/STAFF COMMENTS: | None |

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

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| Item | Description/Action Taken |
| 1. | February 16, 2023, Youth Council Meeting MinutesBlake Konczal, Executive Director, Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB), presented the February 16, 2023, meeting minutes for the Youth Council’s (Council’s) approval, or correction and approval. **MARTINDALE/TUTUNJAIN – APPROVED THE FEBRUARY 16, 2023, YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 2. | **Ratification of New Youth Council Members**  Mr. Konczal presented for recommendation to the FRWDB, the ratification of Director Alysia Bonner and Ms. Natalie Dodson to the Council.  **TUTUNJIAN/MARTINDALE – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB RATIFY THE APPOINTMENTS OF ALYSIA BONNER AND NATALIE DODSON TO THE YOUTH COUNCIL. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 3. | **One Fresno Youth Job Corps Partnership**  Martha Espinosa, Marketing and Grants Manager, FRWDB, presented two (2) videos. The first video highlighted the Government Sector Job Fair, Govaganza, which took place on May 3, 2023. Ms. Espinosa stated that 42 employers participated and 312 people attended the event. Fifty-four percent (54%) of those were adults and 46% were youth. Ms. Espinosa also stated that of those adults and youth present, 18% were dislocated workers and 77%, or 240 people, were new to the system and interested in training. |
|  | FRWDB Chair Montalbano asked if Ms. Espinosa had noticed growth with the event from previous years, and if so, to what did she attribute this. Ms. Espinosa stated that she did see the event get bigger in its now, third, year and that she attributed it to the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno assisting with getting the word out about the event, social media posting, radio ads and sharing information about the event with other community-based organizations.  The second video highlighted FRWDB’s partnership with the City of Fresno and the One Fresno Youth Job Corps program. The video featured the story of Gabriela Sosa, a youth participant, as an example of how the City of Fresno and the FRWDB partnered together to provide youth with more opportunities for employment.  This was an information item.  Director Metters arrived at 4:23 pm |
| 4. | **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Funding Recommendations for Program Year 2023-2024** |
|  | Mr. Konczal presented for the Council’s recommendation for FRWDB approval, the Program Year (PY) 2023-2024 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Funding recommendations.  FRWDB staff prepared estimated finding recommendations based on funding received the previous PY. Just prior to the Youth Council meeting, FRWDB staff received final allocations from the State of California Employment Development Department (EDD). The actual funding allocation received from EDD was $5,912,242, which was $450,213 less than FRWDB estimates.  After a lengthy discussion regarding the possible ways the youth budget could be changed as a result of the reduced funding, Mr. Konczal withdrew the item, stating that FRWDB staff would revise the recommendations and they would be presented to the FRWDB for its review and approval. |
| 5. | **Youth Program Services Contract Awards for Program Year 2023-2024** |
|  | Phyllis Stogbauer, Senior Deputy Director, FRWDB presented the Youth Program Services Contract Awards for Program Year 2023-2024 for the Council’s recommendation to the FRWDB.  Ms. Stogbauer stated that with a proposal submission deadline of February 22, 2023, 11 proposals were received. Based upon the evaluation and scoring of each proposal, the following contract awards were recommended: Equus Workforce Solutions for urban west, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (FEOC) for urban east, Proteus, Inc. for rural east, and America Works for rural west. |
|  | Council Member Martindale had a question about why vendors were selected even though they may not have the highest score. Ms. Stogbauer replied that awards were not always made to the bidder with the highest score, and that other factors were also taken into consideration.  **MARTINDALE/WATSON – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB ACCEPT THE YOUTH PROGRAM SERVICES CONTRACT AWARDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2023-2024. (UNANIMOUS, WITH RECUSAL NOTED ABOVE)** |
| 6. | **West Side Outreach Activities**  Ms. Espinosa presented Power Point slides for an overview of the marketing plan for the west side. She discussed planned goals for marketing the west side, which included a review of target populations, branding tools and some of the recent efforts and upcoming scheduled events. In this review, Ms. Espinosa stated that the goals of the FRWDB included providing a consistent branding message to create awareness and become a trusted source in the community, increasing WIOA enrollment numbers, gaining familiarity with the west side, meeting key leaders, providing marketing materials in English and Spanish, hosting frequent events, and highlighting success stories in newspapers and on social media.  Councilmember Martindale provided information about other resource centers located in Coalinga, Huron and Kerman for FRWDB to reach out to. FRWDB Chair Montalbano expressed concern about how FRWDB would provide training and assistance to individuals that do not speak English. Ms. Stogbauer explained that providers do have bi-lingual staff at the Workforce Connection Centers, but that most of the training providers did not currently offer classes in Spanish. However, UEI did offer welding training in Spanish, and Valley ROP has taken some existing training modules in their construction and forestry training and have translated it into Spanish.  Chair Sotiropulos thanked Ms. Espinosa for such a comprehensive marketing plan.  This was an information item. |
| 7. | **Youth Work Experience Expenditure Report** |
|  | Ms. Stogbauer presented the Youth Work Experience Expenditure Report for the period of July 1, 2021, through March 31, 2023, for the Council’s recommendation to the FRWDB. Ms. Stogbauer reported that FRWDB staff did make changes to the report to help it be easier to understand.  Ms. Stogbauer stated that for PY 2021-2022, the total Work Experience funds allocated was $1,057,726.44. These funds were required to be fully expended by June 30, 2023. Actual Work Experience expenditures for July 1, 2021, through March 31, 2023, was $1,140,990.23, which was 108% of the total amount mandated.  **MARTINDALE/WATSON – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB ACCEPT THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE EXPENDITURE REPORT. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 8. | **Local Performance Results Report**  Ms. Stogbauer presented the Third Quarter of PY 2022-2023 Local Performance Results Report for the Council’s recommendation to the FRWDB.  Ms. Stogbauer explained each of the charts, which reflected local performance, by provider and service delivery area, in the following categories: youth served, expenditures, youth placement in employment or education, youth certificate of attainment, youth median wage, and youth measurable skills gain. For expenditures, Ms. Stogbauer noted that Proteus West was over expended in both in school and out of school, and that FRWDB staff was working on a budget modification to correct those over expenditures. |
|  | At the February 16, 2023, Council meeting, Council Member Tutunjian requested to see a break out of the rural east and west by community for youth served. Ms. Stogbauer provided that information, noting that the majority of individuals served were in the communities where there |
|  | was a Workforce Connection center. Ms. Tutunjian thanked Ms. Stogbauer for the information, adding that this data will help FRWDB adjust outreach efforts to reach the different communities. Mr. Konczal stated that FRWDB staff was currently looking for space in Coalinga to place a job center. |
|  | **MARTINDALE/TUTUNJIAN – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB ACCEPT THE LOCAL PERFORMACNE RESULTS REPORT. (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 9. | **Young Adult Satisfaction Reports**  Stephen DeWitt, Monitoring Department Manager, FRWDB, presented the Young Adult Satisfaction Reports for the Third Quarter PY 2022-2023 for the Council’s recommendation to the FRWDB.  Mr. DeWitt stated that approximately 86% of all respondents were either satisfied or extremely satisfied with services received and the survey response rate was 61% |
|  | **TUTUNJIAN/WATSON – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB ACCEPT THE YOUNG ADULT SATISFACTION REPORTS (UNANIMOUS)** |
| 10. | **Providers of Services’ Monitoring Reports**  Mr. DeWitt presented the PY 2022-2023 Third Quarter Providers of Services’ Monitoring Reports for the Council’s recommendation to the FRWDB.  Mr. DeWitt reported that two (2) program reviews were completed during this report period. The first review was with FEOC, where it was reported that costs were being questioned. Mr. DeWitt stated that funds were recovered and the FRWDB Monitoring staff was able to close out all of the findings from that review. In addition, previous findings for FEOC for the previous two (2) years were also able to be closed. The second review was with Equus Workforce Solutions, where the Fatherhood Grant was monitored and there were no findings.  Mr. DeWitt also reported that on the fiscal side, three (3) reviews were completed. Two (2) of which indicated no findings; however, there were some unbudgeted and unplanned maintenance expenses for FEOC. Those costs were disallowed and were promptly repaid. |
|  | **WATSON/METTERS – RECOMMENDED THAT THE FRWDB ACCEPT THE PROVIDERS OF SERVICES’ MONITORING REPORTS. (UNANIMOUS, WITH RECUSAL NOTED ABOVE)** |
| 11. | **Youth Demographics Reports** |
|  | Ms. Stogbauer reviewed the Third Quarter Youth Demographics Reports for PY 2022-2023 with the Council. Ms. Stogbauer stated that there was a total of 1,060 year-to-date youth enrollments for PY 2022-2023, compared to 997 youth enrollments for PY 2021-2022. She pointed out that the other demographics in the report showed very little change between the prior and current PYs.  This was an information item. |
| 12. | **Agenda Items for August 17, 2023, Meeting** |
|  | There were no items suggested for the August 17, 2023, Youth Council Meeting. |
| 13. | **Meeting Feedback** |
|  | Council Member Martindale expressed that she appreciated the feedback given by FRWDB staff and found it very helpful. |

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.