



FRESNO AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Board of Directors
July 16, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL

AGENDA CHANGES: REMOVAL OF ITEMS OR EMERGENCY ADDITIONS

ABSTENTIONS/RECUSALS/DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

BOARD CHAIR/STAFF COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Item	Description	Presented By	Enclosure	Action	Page #
1.	March 5, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes	Konczal	Yes	Approve	3
2.	Authorization for Staff to Explore Actions Required to Incorporate the Golden State Forestry Corps as a Separate 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Corporation	Konczal	Yes	Authorize	6
3.	Referral of Agenda Items to the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board and/or Its Committees	Blunt	Yes	Direct	8
4.	October 15, 2025, Agenda Items	Konczal	No	Discussion	--
5.	Meeting Feedback	Konczal	No	Information	--

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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**Fresno Area Workforce Investment Corporation
Board of Directors
Attendance Report 2025**

	Canceled 1/15/2025	Special 3/5/2025	Canceled 4/16/2025	7/16/2025	10/15/2025
Avila Trillium Flow	XX	P	XX		
Blunt IMAGO	XX	P	XX		
Branch Fresno Adult School	XX	P	XX		
Chavez Fresno County Board of Supervisors	XX	A	XX		
Goldsmith State Center Community College District	XX	A	XX		
Maxwell Fresno City Council	XX	P	XX		
Montalbano German Auto Repair	XX	A	XX		
Morgan Kaiser Permanente	XX	P	XX		
Riojas Fresno, Madera, Tulare, Kings Building Trades Council	XX	P	XX		
Sotiropulos Hyatt Real Estate	XX	A	XX		
Zabrycki CAPTRUST	XX	P	XX		

P = Present

A = Absent

-- = Not a Member at Time of Meeting

XX = Meeting Canceled

FRESNO AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

AGENDA ITEM:	1
MEETING DATE:	July 16, 2025
ACTION:	APPROVE

2125 Kern Street, Suite 208 • Fresno, CA 93721 • (559) 490-7100 • Fax (559) 490-7199 • www.frwdb.net

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Blake Konczal, Chief Executive Officer
SUBJECT: March 5, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the March 5, 2025, Fresno Area Workforce Investment Corporation Board of Directors special meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

March 5, 2025, Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes



FRESNO AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Board of Directors
March 5, 2025

SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT - Stephen Avila, Edgar Blunt, Rodney Branch, Tyler Maxwell, Alisha Morgan (arrived at 3:10 p.m.), Chuck Riojas, Lydia Zabrycki, and Legal Counsel Ken Price

ABSENT - Luis Chavez, Carole Goldsmith, Dennis Montalbano, and Vasili Sotiropulos

AGENDA CHANGES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

BOARD CHAIR/
STAFF COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Item	Description/Action Taken
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1. January 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Blake Konczal, Chief Executive Office, Fresno Area Workforce Investment Corporation (FAWIC) presented the January 17, 2024, meeting minutes for approval and/or correction and approval.

**RIOJAS/AVILA – APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 17, 2024, MEETING.
(UNANIMOUS)**

2. Financial Statements and Supplemental Data for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

Cheryl Beierschmitt, Deputy Director of Fiscal Services, FAWIC, presented the FAWIC Financial Statements and Supplemental Data for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024, for acceptance. Ms. Beierschmitt reported that the FAWIC Audit Committee reviewed the financial statements at their meeting of February 12, 2025, where they approved the recommendation to accept.

Ms. Beierschmitt explained that the Single Audit Act and the CFR 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements Cost Principles and Audit Requirement of Federal Awards requires that any organization receiving greater than \$750,000 in federal funds a year is required to have a single audit conducted annually. She directed the Board's attention to page 43 of the report, which showed there were no findings or recommendations from the auditors. She reported

that FAWIC received an unmodified opinion and qualified as a low-risk auditee. There were no questions about the report.

ZABRYCKI/RIOJAS – APPROVED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024. (UNANIMOUS)

3. Referral of Agenda Items to the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board and/or Its Committees

There were no items referred; however, Mr. Konczal shared that at its upcoming meeting, the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) will be presented an item, requesting that the FRWDB Executive Committee hold a special meeting in order to approve an amendment to the contract between the FRWDB and State Center Community College District (SCCCD). The proposed contract amendment would allow FRWDB to receive High Road Construction Career grant funds from SCCC for the FRWDB's ValleyBuild program.

Director Morgan arrived (3:10 p.m.)

Legal Council Price explained that the FRWDB Executive Committee is comprised of the same members as the FAWIC Board of Directors (Board), the meeting that was currently being held. Since the agenda item Mr. Konczal indicated would be presented to the FRWDB called for a special meeting of the Executive Committee, he wanted to notify the Board, as it would affect them as Executive Committee members.

Mr. Price noted that Government Code 1091.2 has a specific provision that allows Workforce Board members' organizations to enter into contracts with a Workforce Board, with disclosure and recusal of the member(s).

4. April 16, 2025, Agenda Items

None.

5. Meeting Feedback

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

FRESNO AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

AGENDA ITEM:	2
MEETING DATE:	July 16, 2025
ACTION:	AUTHORIZE

2125 Kern Street, Suite 208 • Fresno, CA 93721 • (559) 490-7100 • Fax (559) 490-7199 • www.frwdb.net

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Blake Konczal, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Authorization for Staff to Explore Actions Required to Incorporate the Golden State Forestry Corps as a Separate 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Corporation

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Fresno Area Workforce Investment Corporation (FAWIC) staff to begin exploring the legal, operational, and governance actions necessary to incorporate the Golden State Forestry Corps (GSFC) as a separate 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The forestry corps initiative began as a local pilot project — the Central Valley Forestry Corps — primarily focused on serving the counties of Fresno and Madera. Due to strong demand and demonstrated success, the project grew into the Golden Sierra Forestry Corps with the addition of the Motherlode counties of Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Mariposa.

Building on this success, the program has now expanded significantly into its latest iteration as the Golden State Forestry Corps, encompassing a geographic footprint stretching from Placer County in the north to San Bernardino County in the south. This expansion reflects a dramatic growth in both scope and impact, transforming the initiative from a local pilot to a true statewide model addressing critical forest management, wildfire mitigation, and workforce development needs across diverse regions of California.

However, this broadened service blueprint also creates a logical tension when housed administratively under an entity legally identified as "Fresno." As the GSFC continues to serve new regions and build partnerships with additional counties, educational institutions, tribal governments, and labor organizations statewide, the current organizational structure can create branding, operational, and governance challenges.

Exploring incorporation as an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation would allow the GSFC to:

- Establish an identity that accurately reflects its statewide service area and partnerships.
- Strengthen credibility and alignment with regional and state-level funding opportunities.
- Enhance operational flexibility and governance to support continued growth.
- Better accommodate multi-county and cross-regional collaborations.

This authorization would allow staff to research and outline the steps, timeline, potential costs, governance structures, and legal considerations required to create a separate 501(c)(3) organization for the Golden State Forestry Corps. Findings and a formal recommendation would be brought back to the Board for review and approval at a future meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None at this time. Any future fiscal considerations will be detailed and presented to the Board for approval before proceeding with incorporation.

FRESNO AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

AGENDA ITEM:	3
MEETING DATE:	July 16, 2025
ACTION:	DIRECT

2125 Kern Street, Suite 208 • Fresno, CA 93721 • (559) 490-7100 • Fax (559) 490-7199 • www.frwdb.net

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Edgar Blunt, Board Chair

SUBJECT: Referral of Agenda Items to the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board and/or Its Committees

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and direct staff to refer agenda items from this meeting to the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board and/or its committees.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

This item is intended to allow your Board to collectively decide which of the items you just discussed should be referred to another committee(s), and the reason they are being referred (information, action, etc.).