

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE**

“Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, the Committee meeting was held via teleconference and a publicly noticed location was provided for public observation and comment.”

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021 – 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

MINUTES

Attendance:

Members	Present
Cinnamon Alvarez (Chair)	X
Orlando Acevedo	
Phil Cothran	X
Jimmy Elrod	
Mike Gallo	X
*Peggi Hazlett	X
Lina Montes	X
B.J. Patterson	X
Shannon Shannon	X

**Public Members*

STAFF TO WDB	Present
Devra Bell	X
Marlena Sessions	X

OPENING:

- 1) **Chair called meeting to order** at 8:31 AM
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – Phil Cothran led the Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) **Introductions** – The Board Secretary took roll call attendance.

The Chair introduced the new members of the EDBR Committee: Orlando Acevedo, Jimmy Elrod, Lina Montes and Shannon Shannon. All members provided their background information.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 4) **Approval of Minutes from the January 13, 2021 Economic Development and Business Resources (EDBR) Committee Meeting**

The Chair requested a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2021 meeting. Peggi Hazlett motioned; B.J. Patterson seconded the motion.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953 (b)(2), a roll call vote was called as follows:

Cinnamon Alvarez, Chair: Aye
Orlando Acevedo: Absent
Phil Cothran: Aye
Jimmy Elrod: Absent
Mike Gallo: Absent
Peggi Hazlett: Aye
Lina Montes: Aye
B.J. Patterson: Aye
Shannon Shannon: Aye

Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

5) Comments from the General Public in Attendance - Channing Hawkins, from Supervisor Baca Jr's office, introduced himself to the Committee members.

DISCUSSION

6) Approve Additional 2021 Goal for the EDBR Committee

Brad Gates, provided an overview of the item. At the prior meeting, three goals had been approved and this item would include the addition of one new goal. The Chair requested a motion to approve. Lina Montes motioned; Shannon Shannon seconded the motion.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953 (b)(2), a roll call vote was called as follows:

Cinnamon Alvarez, Chair: Aye
Orlando Acevedo: Absent
Phil Cothran: Aye
Jimmy Elrod: Absent
Mike Gallo: Absent
Peggi Hazlett: Aye
Lina Montes: Aye
B.J. Patterson: Aye
Shannon Shannon: Aye

Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

PRESENTATIONS

7) Business Services Overview

Marlena Sessions provided an overview of the Business Services function. She then introduced Curtis Compton, who discussed federally funded business programs; our current service areas; the responsibilities and services offered by the Business Services unit and shared testimonials of individuals that were served.

8) UAS Center at SBD

Marlena introduced Mike Burrows from the San Bernardino Airport, who then introduced Kimberly Benson, Administrator at the UAS Center at SBD. Ms. Benson discussed drone technology and how it can change the way businesses operate. The Center was established in July of 2020 and operates as an enterprise, advancing drone technology to support U.S. companies. They also provide a test site at the airport, so businesses can test their drones. They are interested in partnering with the Workforce Development Department (WDD) to provide training to emergency medical and fire personnel, who is interested in obtaining a certification as a drone pilot.

Ms. Benson proposed having the WDD assist in identifying potential clients that could obtain drone licensing. Her company would provide a \$250 preparation course, free of charge, to prepare those individuals for taking the final course, which takes place over 12 hours and is available online. They are requesting that WDD cover the cost of the exam, which is currently \$160.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Lina Montes motioned. Peggi Hazlett seconded. None opposed; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM

The next WDB Economic Development and Business Resource Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 8:30 AM and will be held via Zoom Conference.



Devra Bell, WDB Secretary