

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

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022 – 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>STAFF TO WDB</b>	<b>Present</b>
Cinnamon Alvarez (Chair)	X	Devra Bell	X
Orlando Acevedo		Brad Gates	X
Pamela Deans	X		
*Willie Ellison	X		
Jimmy Elrod	X		
Mike Gallo			
*Peggi Hazlett	X		
Scott Kuethen			
Lina Montes			
*Reginald Webb	X		
*Public Members			

**OPENING:**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 4) **Comments from the General Public in Attendance** – No public comments made.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 5) **Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2022 Economic Development Business Resource (EDBR) Committee Meeting**
- 6) **Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2022 Economic Development Business Resource (EDBR) Committee Meeting**

The Chair requested a motion to approve the consent calendar. Peggi Hazlett motioned; Jimmy Elrod seconded the motion. The Board Secretary took roll call vote. Motion approved.

**WORKSHOP**

**7) Business Services Outreach Support Updates**

Curtis Compton led the workshop. He reviewed the overall numbers for each contract, showing performance measures, including total employments; job opportunities posted in the County database; employers entered into CalJOBS; Layoff Aversion projects; Business Process Improvement Consulting Services; and businesses that participated in WDD services, as well as the number of surveys conducted. A discussion ensued regarding how the work of the contractors impacted these numbers, which was an impressive increase.

Next, each Chamber reported out on their past quarter results.

Chino Valley Chamber:

Renay Sehgal-Mehta reported on their top three accomplishments, which included 3 job fairs, with 616 jobseekers. Their OJT training scheduled so far was \$67,142 and their job board on their website had 22,496 total views. The committee members asked about other successes and she noted that social media had been helpful. She shared a spreadsheet that showed the businesses they are currently working with. Most of the challenges reported were due to employee retention and registering job seekers in the CalJOBS system. The Chair asked if we had the ability to register job seekers ourselves. Mr. Compton noted there are two levels of participation: registration and job search/resume creation and the second level is once the customer begins working with a career advisor. He also noted that a Chamber cannot register these individuals without their knowledge.

Redlands Chamber:

Evan Sanford reported on their top three accomplishments, including placements, six OJT contracts had been signed and they completed two successful job fairs. Mr. Sanford was feeling confident that they will have strong numbers over the next year. Some of the challenges they faced was insufficient WIOA participants for job placements to meet goals; breakdown in communication between participants, county and chambers; technology issues with CalJOBS initially, which improved in February of 2022. He also reported on future events, which includes conducting three job fairs per year (Feb, June and Oct); conducting quarterly business surveys and improve methods of marketing to job seekers. The chambers' next steps would be to increase monthly placements, increase monthly OJT's and set up WIOA accounts at registration, where possible.

Greater High Desert Chamber:

Luis Urgiles provided the updates. They placed 28 individuals at work, four of those placements were OJT. One of the placements was a Spanish only speaker from the Barstow office. The challenges they faced were due to a lack of talent in the labor pool; getting businesses to incentivize new hires and employment retention of six months. Their future events included Hesperia State of the City, High Desert Education Summit and Valley Morning Insight. Their next steps included continued case management of Smartsheet clients; continue searching for untapped labor pools; and increase marketing activities to members and non-members. A discussed ensued regarding partnering with colleges and cities for job fairs. Also discussed were the needs in the high desert region.

Fontana Chamber:

Andrea DeLeon presented the top accomplishments, including participating in 7 job fairs, and 179 businesses they entered into the CalJOBS system. She also noted that each member is involved in this project. Some of the challenges encountered include connecting with job seekers; emails and phone calls are not always returned and the slowness of the CalJOBS system. Their next steps include checking daily with job seekers; regular contact with the City to connect businesses; work with marketing ideas to attract more jobseekers and provide business Human Resources departments with resumes they obtain. The committee members discussed the challenges of job seekers, creating surveys and onboarding.

**DISCUSSION**

**8) Review Economic Development Business Resource Committee Goals**

Curtis Compton discussed the current year goals for the EDBR committee. He noted Veterans are being included in our job fairs. Also discussed by the members were apprenticeships and how federal/state funding would be helpful.

## **REPORTS/INFORMATION**

### **9) Business Services Dashboard**

Curtis Compton noted the Business Services Dashboard is available through the website but has not been updated recently.

### **10) County Report**

Mariann Johnson provided the updates.

- Notice from EDD about new requirements (Stevens amendment) for all materials, which requires a federal funding disclosure. Website page is updated and active. We will update the funding when we get new or additional funding and will share with our providers.
- Grants: State, received Regional Equity Recovery Partnership grant (RERP) with community colleges. We have many projects through that \$1.2 million and we will be the lead. Contracts are being put into place and will start on 12/1/22.
- There will be a regional plan stakeholder meeting on 10/18 and they will be reviewing goals and suggestions. About 100 people signed up for the morning session and 50 for the afternoon sessions. Regional plan is due on 3/31/23. Will post for 30 days (beginning of Jan to beginning of Feb).
- The website refresh is now live. The information was standardized and has good information to share with businesses.
- Brad Gates and Curtis Compton are attending the Youth College and Career Fair with Supervisor Baca today.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jimmy Elrod motioned; Peggi Hazlett seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM

The next WDB Economic Development and Business Resource Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 8:30 AM and will be held at the WDD Administration Office, located at 290 North D Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415.



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Devra Bell, WDB Secretary