

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
of San Luis Obispo County  
BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday, June 16, 2022  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
**Location:** 3433. S. Higuera Street- Room 356, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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**Present:** Verena Latona-Tahlman, Kely Blackburn, Angela Rayfield, Judy Mahan, Kirk Coviello  
**Absent:** Michael Specchierla  
**Staff:** Eddie Hernandez, Diana Marin  
**Guest:** Traci Bradbury

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**1. Call to Order:**

**Chair Latona-Tahlman:** called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. **Quorum.**

**2. Public Comment:**

**Chair Latona-Tahlman:** no public comment.

**3. Consent Items:**

**3.1 Approve the February 17, 2022 Minutes**

Motion: Kely Blackburn

Second: Verena Latona-Tahlman

Abstentions: None

Motion Passed Unanimously

**4. AJCC Update:**

**4.1 Receive Report on AJCC Business Services**

Traci Bradbury (guest) presented the item which provided an update on the San Luis Obispo America's Job Center of CA (AJCC). Ms. Bradbury stated that the AJCC has been fielding calls from employers in all industries throughout SLO County. Local employers have been actively recruiting and struggling to find applicants. Employers throughout most industries are interested in working with the AJCC to help them with their recruitment needs. Ms. Bradbury also stated that the AJCC has seen an increase in foot traffic, and they have had success placing job-ready individuals in employment.

**5. Information/Discussion:**

**5.1 Review Final Council Goals for PY2021-2022**

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item which was part of the agenda. The goals include addressing barriers to employment such as childcare and compensation. The council discussed increasing awareness among the business community of new and existing childcare resources and offering businesses data with a comparison of wages in SLO County versus the region for similar occupations. Members also discussed the WDB Employer Training Seminars and decided to use the training to education businesses about wage disparities, holding spotlights to feature subject matter experts. Lastly the council proposed revisiting the goals at the next meeting and assigning tasks to the staff and membership to ensure they can be measured, reported out on, and ultimately met.

## **5.2 Receive update from Chamber Business Services Staff**

Diana Marin (staff) presented the item. She shared with the council that chamber staff have completed the ARPA COVID-19 Small Business Grant application screenings and have communicated responses to all applicants. Grant awardees have been notified of their approval. The awardees' information has been sent to the SLO County fiscal department for processing of grant award payment. The contract executed by the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce is set to run through 6/30/2022.

## **5.3 Update on WDB Employer Training Series**

Kely Blackburn (member) presented the item. Ms. Blackburn shared that she is working on an employer training and has partnered with Paula Mathias Fryer of SLO Partners. Kely hopes to uncover the drivers of post COVID recruitment strategies, share practical approaches to increase diversity in the workplace, and explain how to develop compensation solutions that give a business the competitive edge. Ms. Blackburn mentioned that she is planning to make this a hybrid event/training and hope to be able to hold it the second week of September.

## **6. Council Member Workforce Development Updates:**

**Chair Latona-Tahlman:** opened the floor to updates from the Committee membership.

**Verena Latona-Tahlman, chair- spoke**

**Kely Blackburn, member- spoke**

**Angela Rayfield, member- spoke**

**Judy Mahan, member- spoke**

**Kirk Coviello, member- spoke**

## **7. Next Meeting:**

October 20, 2022 9:00am-10:30am

Location: 3433. S. Higuera Street- Room 356, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

## **8. Adjournment:**

**Chair Latona-Tahlman:** adjourned the meeting at 10:42 A.M.

I, Diana Marin, Clerk of the Business Council of the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held Thursday, June 16, 2022, by the Business Council of the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County.

Diana Marin, Business Council Clerk

Dated: July 1, 2022