



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
BOARD OF MADERA COUNTY**

MINUTES

June 20, 2024

***Convened at Madera County Workforce Assistance Center - Conference Room
2037 W. Cleveland Avenue, Madera, CA 93637, (559) 662-4589 and Via Zoom***

- PRESENT:** Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Mattie Mendez (7.1), Michelle Brunetti, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli
- ABSENT:** Aaron Chambers, Brett Frazier, Chuck Riojas, Darren Rose, Ladislao (Lalo) Lopez, Laura Gutile, Mark Choe, Mike Lopez, Omair Javaid, Robert Poythress
- GUEST:** Amelia Meza, Kristyann Thorp
- STAFF:** Bertha Vega, Jessica Roche, Marisol Rivera, Maiknue Vang, Nicki Martin

1.0 Call to Order

In the absence of the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Chair and Vice Chair, Mike Fursman was selected to Chair the meeting. Meeting called to order by Mike Fursman at 3:06 p.m.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

2.0 Additions to the Agenda

None.

3.0 Public Comment

None.

4.0 Introductions and Recognitions

Kristyann Thorp was introduced. Kristy is Madera's the Employment Development Department (EDD) Regional Advisor. Emilio Hipolito was introduced. Emilio was recently appointed to the WDB. Roundtable introductions were done by everyone in attendance.

5.0 Adoption of Board Agenda

Debi Bray moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Deborah Martinez.

Vote: Approved – unanimous

Yes: Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Michelle Brunetti, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli

6.0 Consent Calendar

6.1 Consideration of approval of the April 18, 2024, Workforce Development Board (WDB) meeting minutes.

6.2 Consideration of approval of the resignation of Darren Rose, Madera County Economic Development Commission, from the WDB.

6.3 Consideration of approval of the resignation of Ladislao (Lalo) Lopez, Madera Unified School District, from the WDB.

6.4 Consideration of approval of the resignation of Mark Choe, The Pines Resort, from the WDB.

- 6.5 Consideration of approval of the revised Paid Workforce Experience (PWEX) policy to include removing “Out-of-School Youth” references and replacing it with “Youth” to align with current revisions to the Youth Program Policy.**
- 6.6 Consideration of approval of the revised WDB Action Plan 2024-2026 to include removing “MUSD” references and replacing them with “Madera County” under Work Ethics.**

Nichole Mosqueda moved to adopt the Consent Calendar, seconded by Marie Harris.

Vote: Approved – unanimous

Yes: Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Mattie Mendez, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli

7.0 Action Items

7.1 Consideration of approval of Cal-Trade Welding School of Modesto as a new training provider.

Cal-Trade Welding School works out of Modesto and would provide a shorter training program that would allow more flexibility for Madera participants. Madera Workforce currently uses Central Valley Opportunity Center (CVOC), Madera Community College (MCC) and Advance Training Institute in Fresno, however, the MCC program is semester based and the Career Training Institute’s training is half days and takes up to 8 ½ months to complete while Cal-Trade uses full day classes. CVOC offers a short-term training while MCC offers more of a long-term program. There are quite a few participants that live in the Chowchilla area which would put them in closer proximity to Cal-Trade compared to a Fresno program. Cal-Trade would honor Workforce’s \$6,000 participant rate which can be combined with participant’s financial aid amount to cover the cost of the training. Workforce would help with supportive services such a mileage as well. Jorge DeNava stated the CVOC has used Cal-Trade and noted that they are a good program with a great reputation. Joe Perez stated that the Department of Rehabilitation also uses Cal-Trade.

Nichole Mosqueda moved to approve, seconded by Joe Perez.

Vote: Approved – unanimous

Yes: Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Mattie Mendez, Michelle Brunetti, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli

7.2 Consideration of approval of Clinical Training Institute as a new training provider.

The addition of the Clinical Training Institute would offer more flexibility for participants, and they offer more frequent and available trainings. The current vendor offers training only 2 times a year. The Clinical Training Institute arranges participants’ clinical hours.

Donal Foster moved to approve, seconded by Marie Harris.

Yes: Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Mattie Mendez, Michelle Brunetti, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli

7.3 Consideration of approval of the WDB Action Plan 2024-2026 Subcommittees

An email was sent to all the WDB members with information on subcommittee assignments. It’s been a year since Bob Lanter provided the Real Role of Workforce Board training to the WDB. 5 priority areas were identified. The plan was to create a subcommittee based on the 5 identified priorities. Each of the subcommittees will be chaired by a WDB member and the Vice Chair will be a staff member. The subcommittees will then meet outside of the regular WDB meetings to implement the path for each priority identified in the Action Plan which has been plotted over the next 24 months. The plan is to start on July 1st or in the month of July. An email was sent to the WDB inquiring as to whether members had a strong desire to join a different subcommittee than was initially identified for them. Members are welcome to sit on more than 1 subcommittee. Wendy Lomeli expressed an interest in working on the Policy and/or the Marketing subcommittee. Marie Harris expressed an interest in the Work Ethics Sub-committee.

Donald Foster moved to approve, seconded by Marie Harris.

Yes: Debi Bray, Deborah Martinez, Donald Foster, Emilio Hipolito, Joe Perez, Jorge DeNava, Lanie Suderman, Marie Harris, Mattie Mendez, Michelle Brunetti, Mike Fursman, Nicole Mosqueda, Wendy Lomeli

8.0 Information Items

8.1 Success Stories

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.2 Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation (MCWIC) Update

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.3 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Reauthorization

Information provided within the agenda packet. The reauthorization may impact local workforce systems. There is currently new WIOA reauthorization legislation which for the most part looks to expand current WIOA programs. There is a focus on disconnected youth and servicing incarcerated individuals and assisting them in transitioning back into the workforce and employment. However, there are some challenges and concerns that workforce areas have in relation to the new legislation – see 3 bullets included in the agenda background document for this information item. Currently, there is a 30% training requirement. The new legislation proposed raising this requirement to 50% which mainly consists of tuition for Adults and Dislocated Worker funds. This would not allow areas to include any supportive services or staff time that would be required to support participants as they go into training. This would significantly affect Madera and would cause a reduction in staffing and other critical services delivered to job seekers and employers. The reauthorization would also increase the Governor's reserve up to 10% and would further reduce local resources. Local Workforce Development areas redesignations are also proposed. This could cause smaller areas to be integrated into larger areas which could mean the loss of local areas' voices and representation. The Stronger Workforce for America Act was passed by the House on 4/9/24 as written and workforce areas are now focusing on bringing concerns to the Senate. WDB members expressed their interest on advocating the concerns and providing support through letter campaigns and working with workforce associations such as the California Workforce Association (CWA). Staff stated that workforce areas, including Madera, have been actively involved in campaigns

8.4 Update on America's Job Center of California (AJCC) Comprehensive Certification and Madera County Local Plan Procurement Award

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.5 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Formula and Special Projects Quarterly Program Overview: January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.6 Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Initiative (S2J2) Regional Investment Plan

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.7 Madera Workforce California Workforce Association (CWA) WORKCON Conference Presentations

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.8 CWA The Real Role of Workforce Boards Report

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.9 2024-25 WDB Meeting Calendar

Information provided within the agenda packet.

8.10 Information on Weekly Unemployment Insurance (UI) Initial Claims for Madera County

Information provided within the agenda packet.

9.0 Written Communication

None.

10.0 Open Discussion/Reports/Information

10.1 Board Members

- *Mattie Mendez stated that AutoZone had come to tour Community Action Partnership of Madera's (CAPMC) large conference to see if it could possibly be used for a future hiring event possibly taking place in early Fall. Maiknue stated that AutoZone had also utilized the Workforce Assistance Center to interview and hire their management team and were looking to continue working with staff for future hiring events.*
- *Mike Fursman stated that Meat Apprenticeship graduated 116 apprentices to journeyman status. In the last 8 years, 858 apprentices have gone through the system.*

10.2 Staff

- *Maiknue Vang stated that ROSS held a hiring event at the Workforce Assistance Center for their new Madera store. Just over 200 job seekers came to the Center for the event. Staff will be attending CWA's Meeting of the Minds conference in Monterey the first week of September and would like to invite 2 Board members to attend as well. Nichole Mosqueda and Donald Foster expressed an interest in attending. Staff will reach out and share information and logistics.*

11.0 Next Meeting

August 15, 2024

12.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m. due to loss of quorum.