



Program and Business
Services Committee Agenda

August 22, 2024
8:00 A.M.



1600 E. Belle Terrace Bakersfield, CA 93307
Second Floor Large Conference Room



**Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board
Program and Business Services Committee Agenda**

August 22, 2024

Location: 1600 E. Belle Terrace – Bakersfield, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Dial In: (831) 296-3421

Access Code: 200 830 958#

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Committee Members:

Brenda Mendivel, Chair

Aaron Ellis

Alissa Reed

Leo Bautista

Brian Holt

Jeremy Tobias

Richard Chapman

Linda Parker

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I. Introductions

II. Public Comments

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Committee on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Committee members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Committee at a later meeting. Also, the Committee may take action to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES.**

III. New Business

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A. Approval of the April 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes – **Action Item**

4-7

B. Grants Update

C. Director's Report – **Oral Report**

D. Marketing Presentation – **Oral Report**

IV. Committee Member Comments

V. Miscellaneous Filings

8-9

A. Program and Business Services Committee Attendance Report

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B. Kern, Inyo and Mono Workforce Development Board and Committees' Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2024

Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Workforce Development Board may request assistance at Employers' Training Resource, 1600 East Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, California 93307, or by calling (661) 336-6893. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting materials available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made at least three (3) working days in advance whenever possible. All agenda item supporting documentation is available for public review at Employers' Training Resource, 1600 East Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, CA 93307 during regular business hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, following the posting of the agenda. Any supporting documentation that relates to an agenda item for an open session of any regular meeting that is distributed after the agenda is posted and before the meeting will also be available for review at the same location. Please remember to turn all cell phones and all personal mobile devices to silent.

**KERN, INYO & MONO
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
PROGRAM AND BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE
DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS
APRIL 4, 2024**

Members Present: Brenda Mendivel, Leo Bautista, Aaron Ellis, Brian Holt, Alissa Reed, Jeremy Tobias, and Linda Parker.

Members Absent: Richard Chapman, and Arleana Waller.

Staff Present: Anne Meert, Jotveer Khangura, Michael Saltz, Ana Venegas, Danette Williams, and Jeremy Shumaker.

Guests Present: Ann Garza and Ian Journey.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Brenda Mendivel.

*Unexcused Absence

Introductions

Member, Staff and Guests introduced themselves.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of May 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Brian Holt made a motion to approve the May 11, 2023, meeting minutes. Jeremy Tobias seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Approval of the November 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Brenda Mendivel made a motion to approve the November 16, 2023, meeting minutes. Aaron Ellis seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Preliminary Funding Recommendations for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Combined Programs and Services for Program Year 2024-2025

Anne Meert informed the Committee under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act a full Request for Proposals is required at least once every four years to procure providers of services and funded programs may be eligible for refunding for up to three subsequent program years before another RFP is issued. Anne mentioned that WDB approved the use of the Request for Refunding process for PY 2024-2025 (year two), and the RFR was issued on February 20, 2024, to two agencies Proteus, Inc., and Kern High School District representing four programs and services. Anne also said that the RFR also noted that the WIOA funding allocations will not likely be known until late spring 2024, and that agencies were advised to request funding at the same level or lower than the current year. ETR would reserve the right to make changes to funding awards once the WIOA

allocations are received. The applications were reviewed, and the agencies requested a combined funding amount totaling \$1,121,310.

Anne also told the committee ETR is implementing a change to its Adult Work Experience programs beginning July 1, 2024, and the agencies were notified of this change in the RFR. Specifically, work experience wages will be limited to a maximum \$5,000 per participant instead of the maximum 320 hours per participant due California's new varying minimum wages which range from \$16.00/hour to up to \$25.00/hour. After further clarification, Alissa Reed made a motion to approve the staff's recommendation to authorize the distribution of \$1,121,310 in PY 2024-2025 WIOA funds, subject to negotiations, funds available, and approval of the Kern County Board of Supervisors, to the following: Proteus, Inc. to provide Career Services at the Delano AJCC, OJTs, and Paid Work Experience in the amount not to exceed \$781,310; and Kern High School District to provide Paid Work Experience in the amount not to exceed \$340,000. Jeremy Tobias seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Accept Grant Funding in the Amount of \$286,200 from the City of Bakersfield for The Transformative Climate Communities' Implementation Program

Michael Saltz informed the committee the City of Bakersfield (City) submitted a five-year Implementation Plan grant application on August 1, 2023, for Round 5 of TCC funding and received the sum of \$22,125,000. ETR will be receiving the amount of \$286,200 which will be used to provide targeted outreach to potential participants who may be enrolled in Curricula (MC3) which can lead to substantial jobs in an apprenticeship. Additional participants may be served with existing subcontractors for Transitional Jobs Training (TJT) or classroom training to receive industry recognized certificates through the High Road Training Partnership initiative. Jeremy Tobias made a motion to accept the staff's recommendation to the partnership with the City of Bakersfield in the Transformative Climate Communities Program. Aaron Ellis seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Notice of Funding Opportunity – National Farmworker Jobs Program

Anne Meert informed the Committee that Employers' Training Resource intends to apply for grant funding from the U.S. Department of Labor for the National Farmworker Jobs Program and has been a recipient for the last forty-two years. Kern County's NFJP funding is \$2,553,842. This grant proposal will be for a four-year period (July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2028) with the additional years of the grant dependent on the availability of funds. Written in the proposal will be our partners which include the Kern High School District; California State University, Bakersfield; and Proteus, Inc. The grant awards are to be announced in June with the grant period starting July 1, 2024. Alissa Reed made a motion to approve the staff's recommendation to submit the grant application. Brenda Mendivel seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Director's Report

Aaron Ellis said that the unemployment rate in January was 9.5% and in February it grew to 10.2% and he anticipated that the funding would increase. Aaron said that enrollments in the adult grant was at 103 percent over planned. The 301 grant is at 85 percent of plan. The 501 grant is at 71 percent of plan. The Seasonal Migrant Farmworker is at 98 percent of plan. Aaron also said that the AB-109 has been rearranged and it seems to be

working much better and is current at 97 percent of plan. CalFresh referrals have jumped up dramatically. Earmark Valley Build is at 19 enrollments. The Dislocated Ag grant will be starting soon. The RERP grant is at 43 enrollments. The USDA grant is complete. The P2E grant is at 19 enrollments. ETR terminated the HVRP grant. The STEP grant is in the beginning stages. The FAP grant is also in the beginning stages.

Marketing Presentation

Danette Williams provided the members with an update on the various activities taking place within the county.

Committee Member Comments

There were no additional comments.

Miscellaneous Filings

- Program and Business Services Committee Attendance Report
- Kern, Inyo and Mono Workforce Development Board and Committees' Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.



August 22, 2024

Kern, Inyo, and Mono
Program and Business Services Committee
1600 E. Belle Terrace
Bakersfield, CA 93307

GRANTS UPDATE

Dear Committee Member:

The following information is provided to update your Committee on nine grants that involve Employers' Training Resource (ETR).

Farmworker Advancement Program (FAP)

ETR, as Kern/Inyo/Mono Counties Consortium Workforce Development Area, applied and was awarded funding from the State of California Employment Development Department (EDD) for the Farmworker Advancement Program (FAP). The FAP is funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 15% Governor's Discretionary funding. ETR received \$900,000 to provide employment and training services, as well as supportive services, to 54 Kern County farmworkers. The grant period is February 1, 2024, through March 31, 2026. One requirement of the grant was to partner with an Integrated Education and Training (IET) provider. The Farmworker Institute of Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) was one of two eligible Kern County IET providers. ETR is currently working on a contract with FIELD to provide the IET services for five participants. Through July 2024, ETR has enrolled 20 FAP participants.

Displaced Oil and Gas Workers Fund (DOGWF)

On January 31, 2024, ETR was notified that it was awarded the Displaced Oil and Gas Workers Fund (DOGWF) Grant in the amount of \$11,244,000 from the State of California EDD and California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The grant's purpose is to provide services to oil and gas workers who have been displaced due to the recent shift in the oil industry in California. Participants will receive training services through a diverse selection of industries while also receiving supportive services. The goal is to transition participants into other industry sectors that provide stable careers and comparable wages to the oil industry. The grant period is August 1, 2024, through March 31, 2027 with the plan to serve 750 participants. ETR expects to begin enrollments into the DOGWF program in August 2024.

Valley Build High Roads Construction Careers: RWF Valley Build

ETR has partnered with the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board to fund case management, supportive services and drug testing for the Valley Build High Roads Construction Careers: RWF Valley Build Multi-Craft Core Curriculum Pre-Apprenticeship Training Grant, which supports the development of the regionally based pre-apprenticeship training programs. The project provides Multi-Craft Core Curriculum pre-apprenticeship training and union referrals from the building and construction trades for 105 trainees of which ETR has enrolled 44 as of July 2024. Trainees must qualify under one or more of the following priority populations: (i) women; (ii) English language learners, immigrants & refugees; (iii) justice-involved individuals; (iv) youth; and (v) other under-resourced individuals (i.e., individuals that meet Adult or Dislocated Worker requirements under the WIOA). ETR co-enrolls trainees in the WIOA system and will provide supportive services which include tools and union initiation fees. ETR was awarded \$418,635 to administer the program, and the grant period is September 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025.

Student Training and Employment Program (STEP)

On March 12, 2024, ETR executed a contract with the Foundation for California Community Colleges to provide services for the Student Training and Employment Program (STEP) grant. The STEP grant aims to provide work-readiness and paid work experience to students with disabilities enrolled in educational programs with services to help them become ready for work, including learning to advocate for themselves. Participants will receive 160 hours in paid work experience and a \$200 stipend upon completion of the workplace readiness training. Prior to enrollment, participants must be enrolled with the Department of Rehabilitation. The grant period is from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2026. ETR was awarded \$150,753 for the first program year and is planning to provide services for ten participants. As of July 2024, there are three participants enrolled into the STEP grant.

Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP)

The Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) grant has allowed ETR to partner with Bakersfield College (BC), Cerro Coso Community College (CCCC) and Taft College (TC) for this grant. BC is providing 15 participants with the opportunity to obtain Vocational Nursing credentials; 20 participants that are presently licensed Vocational Nurses to obtain sufficient credentials to become Registered Nurses; and 45 participants to train and become Nursing Assistants or Home Health Aids. CCCC is providing the educational training for 20 participants to receive their certification to become Medical Assistants. TC is providing the education component for 19 participants to become Dental Hygienists. In addition, last month, ETR added TC's EMT/Paramedics Program to the grant. The populations that are being prioritized are Low-income households and communities, English language learners, first generation college students, and veterans.

ETR was awarded \$1,006,948 to administer the program, and the term of the agreement is December 1, 2022, through December 31, 2025. ETR has enrolled 67 participants as of July 2024.

Prison to Employment (P2E) 2.0 Regional Partnership and Technical Assistance Grant

The Prison to Employment (P2E) 2.0 grant represents the continuation of the P2E initiative. This grant provides services to the formerly incarcerated and other justice-involved individuals. The purpose of this grant is to improve California's criminal and juvenile justice systems and reduce recidivism through increased rehabilitation. The program is intended to strengthen linkages between the workforce and corrections systems in order to improve the process by which formerly incarcerated and justice-involved individuals reenter society and the labor force. ETR was awarded \$496,311 to administer the program, and the term of the agreement is June 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025. ETR has enrolled 32 participants into the P2E 2.0 grant as of July 2024.

National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)

On March 5, 2024, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) released a Notice of Availability of Funds for the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP), WIOA Section 167. The competitive grant was due to the DOL on May 3, 2024, and ETR submitted its application on April 29, 2024. The NFJP grant will be for a four-year period with the additional years of the grant dependent on the availability of funds. ETR applied for a total of \$12,000,000 (\$3,000,000 per year) to serve 1,480 Kern County farmworkers and dependents (370 per year). If ETR is awarded funding, the grant amount will be adjusted by the DOL depending on the total number of approved applications for California. Partners in the grant included the Kern High School District; California State University, Bakersfield; and Proteus, Inc. The grant period is July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2028. The grant awards should be released sometime in August 2024.

Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program Grant

The City of Bakersfield was successful in receiving a five-year Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program grant which funds the development of neighborhood-level transformative community plans. The city applied for up to \$29,500,000 in TCC Implementation funds and received the sum of \$22,125,000. The application focused on the county island around South Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard and East Casa Loma Drive. ETR will be targeting outreach to 27 potential participants from the focus area who meet the priority of service criteria. Ten eligible applicants may qualify to enter an on-the-job training where the employer's 50 percent match will be leveraged using TCC funds. An additional eight participants may be served with existing partners for Transitional Jobs Training, and an additional nine participants may receive vocational training in order to

receive industry recognized certificates through the High Road Training Partnership initiative. The grant will start on September 1, 2024, and end on August 31, 2029.

Earmark Valley Build – Nontraditional Occupations for Women (NOW)

ETR has partnered with the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board to fund case management and drug testing for the Earmark Valley Build Nontraditional Occupations for Women (NOW) grant which will provide Multi-Craft Core Curriculum pre-apprenticeship training and union referrals for 110 trainees valley-wide, including 30 in the local workforce development area. Trainees must qualify under one or more of the following priority populations: (i) women; and (ii) other underrepresented populations (i.e., individuals that meet Adult or Dislocated Worker requirements under WIOA). ETR was awarded \$47,460 to administer the program. The grant period is November 6, 2023, through September 30, 2025. ETR has enrolled 22 participants in the multi-craft, pre-apprentice training from the Building and Construction Trades Council as of July 2024.

We will continue to keep your Committee informed on these grants.

Sincerely,



Aaron Ellis
Chief Workforce Development Officer

AE:jsk

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board PBS Committee Attendance 2024					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence		1/18/24	4/4/24	8/22/24	11/7/24
Member					
First	Last	PBS	PBS	PBS	PBS
Richard	Chapman	X	A		
Aaron	Ellis	X	P		
Brian	Holt	X	P		
Linda	Parker*	X	P		
Alissa	Reed	X	P		
Jeremy	Tobias	X	P		
Brenda	Mendivel	X	P		
Arleana	Waller*	X	U		
Leo	Bautista*	-	P		
*Non-WDB					

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board PBS Committee Attendance 2023					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence		2/16/23	5/11/23	8/31/23	11/16/23
Member					
First	Last	PBS	PBS	PBS	PBS
Leo	Bautista	P	P	X	RESIGNED
Richard	Chapman	P	A	X	A
Aaron	Ellis		P	X	P
Nick	Hill III	P	P	X	U
Brian	Holt	P	P	X	P
Teresa	Hitchcock	P	Retired	X	-
Linda	Parker*	A	P	X	P
Alissa	Reed	P	P	X	P
Jeremy	Tobias	P	P	X	P
Brenda	Mendivel	-	-	-	P
Arleana	Waller*	A	U	X	U
*Non-WDB					

**KERN, INYO AND MONO
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND
COMMITTEES' MEETING SCHEDULE
CALENDAR YEAR 2024**

Program and Business Services Committee

America's Job Center of California – Bakersfield,
1600 East Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, Second Floor

~~Thursday, January 18, 2024, 8 a.m. CANCELLED~~

Thursday, April 4, 2024, 8 a.m.

Thursday, August 22, 2024, 8 a.m.

Thursday, November 7, 2024, 8 a.m.

Youth Committee

America's Job Center of California – Oildale Affiliate,
1215 Olive Drive **Recruitment Center**

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 3 p.m.

~~Wednesday, August 28, 2024, 3 p.m. CANCELLED~~

Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 3 p.m.

Executive Committee

America's Job Center of California – Bakersfield,
1600 East Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, Second Floor

Thursday, February 1, 2024, 3 p.m.

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 3 p.m.

~~Thursday, May 16, 2024, 3 p.m. SPECIAL SESSION~~

Thursday, September 12, 2024, 3 p.m.

Thursday, November 21, 2024, 3 p.m.

Workforce Development Board

America's Job Center of California – Oildale Affiliate,
1215 Olive Drive **Recruitment Center**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 7 a.m.

Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 7 a.m.

Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 7 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 7 a.m.