



Executive Committee Agenda



Date: February 5, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Recruitment Center
1215 Olive Drive



Executive Committee Agenda

Date: February 5, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Recruitment Center – 1215 Olive Drive

Dial In #: (831) 296-3421

Access Code: 418 489 309#

Members:

Leo Bautista
 Kelly Bearden
 Cody Brooks
 Devin Brown

Brandon Evans
 Lizette Gomez
 Brenda Mendivel
 Alissa Reed

Norma Rojas-Mora
 Kenny Spratt
 Michele Warren
 Kristen Watson

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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 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**
- 1-3 **A. Approval of the December 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Item**
- IV. Workforce Industry Discussion Prompts – Action Item**
- V. ETR Director Discussion Items – Oral Report**
 - Local Area Designation
 - MC3 Site Visit
 - WDB Dashboard
- VI. Committee Member Comments**
- 4-9 **VII. Miscellaneous Filings – Receive and File – Action Item**
 - 10 **A. Workforce Development Board and Committee’s Attendance Reports**
 - B. Kern, Inyo and Mono Workforce Development Board and Committee’s Meeting Schedule Calendar Year 2026**
- VIII. Adjournment**

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**KERN, INYO AND MONO
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS
December 2, 2025**

Members Present: Brandon Evans, Kristen Watson, Norma Rojas-Mora, Leo Bautista, Kelly Bearden, Greg Knittel, Brenda Mendivel, Lizette Gomez, and Alissa Reed.

Members Absent

Staff Present: Marsha Manos, Danette Williams, Linda Lara, and Anne Meert.

Guests Present: Gary Baudette, and Joshua Rudnick.

Brenda Mendivel called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

*UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

Introduction

Committee members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of September 11, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Lizette Gomez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Alissa Reed seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously. The motion passed.

Proposed Kern, Inyo and Mono Workforce Development Board Executive Committee Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2026

Alissa Reed made a motion to approve the calendar as presented. Leo Bautista seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Workforce Development Board Composition – Resignation, Nomination and Appointments

Brandon Evans informed the committee that on November 3, 2025, Chris Gonzalez resigned from the Workforce Development Board and recommended Julian Najera as his replacement. Leo Bautista made a motion to approve the staff's recommendation to accept the resignation of Chris Gonzalez and approve the nomination of Julian Najera to serve as a Labor representative on the WDB, with a term end date of June 30, 2028. agenda. Brenda Mendivel seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously. The motion passed.

Workforce Development Board – Standing Committees' Composition

Brandon Evans informed the committee that several board members expressed an interest in serving on the Executive Committee. After further discussion, Leo Bautista made a motion to 1) approve the Executive Committee's nominations for Kenny Spratt Devin Brown, Michele Warren, Cody Brooks, and Clare Pagnini to the Executive Committee; and 2) approve the appointments of Kenny Spratt and Lizette Gomez to the

Program and Business Services Committee. Brenda Mendivel seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Request For Approval to Apply for The Employment and Training Pathways Program – Program Year 2025-26

Brandon Evans informed the committee that ETR intends to apply for grant funding from the Employment and Training Pathways Program – Program Year (PY) 2025-26 on behalf of the Kern/Inyo/Mono Consortium. The grant is for \$2,000,000 and will serve opportunity young adults who are 18-28 years of age. Brandon said the proposal is due on December 8, 2025, and is estimated to start in April 2026. Norma Rojas- Mora made a motion to accept the staff's recommendation to authorize the submission of the grant application and the execution of the required grant documents by the Chief Workforce Development Officer. Lizette Gomez seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Discussion of Election of Workforce Development Board Officers

Brandon Evans reminded the committee that the Chair and Vice-Chair serve one-year terms and that Brenda Mendivel had expressed an interest in serving as the chair of the committee and had been filling in for Ian Journey who resigned midway through the year. Brandon also said that Lizette Gomez had expressed an interest in serving as the Vice-Chair and Norma Rojas-Moras expressed interest in continuing to serve as the youth committee chair. Brandon asked the members to discuss the upcoming elections and make their recommendations to the WDB at its next meeting on December 17, 2025.

Committee Chair Discussion Items

Brenda Mendivel expressed her interest in having the WDB meet more often and proposed meeting every other month.

Brenda said that she would like to see the site visits return quarterly. Brandon Evans identified four sites to potentially visit in 2026.

Brenda told the board that she would like to see subcommittees formed to garner more board engagement. Brenda also said that she would like to see employer's success stories. She also mentioned that she had not seen the revised board member survey. Marsha Manos said that she would get it sent out to them.

Department Updates

Brandon Evans talked about his Hire Road project, going throughout the city and interviewing business owners. He also said that the first episode of the new podcast Job-Talk has been recorded. Danette Williams said that the episodes could be found on YouTube.

Linda Lara gave the committee a budget update saying that this year's total funding is just a little over \$36m and that ETR was on track. Linda said that she will have Marsha send out more information once she has compiled all the data.

Committee Member Comments

There were no additional comments.

Miscellaneous Filings

Norma Rojas-Mora made a motion to receive and file the following items.

- Fourth Quarter Enrollment vs. Actual March 2025
- Workforce Development Board and Committee's Attendance Reports
- Kern, Inyo and Mono Workforce Development Board and Committee's Meeting Schedule Calendar Year 2025

Brenda Mendivel seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the motion. The motion passed.

There was no further business, so the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board PBS Committee Attendance 2026					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence					
Member					
First	Last	PBS	PBS	PBS	PBS
Alissa	Reed	P			
Brandon	Evans	P			
Brenda	Mendivel	P			
Brian	Holt	P			
Jeremy	Tobias	P			
Kenny	Spratt	P			
Linda	Parker*	P			
Lizette	Gomez	P			
Richard	Chapman	A			
Leo	Bautista*	P			
*Non-WDB					

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board PBS Committee Attendance 2025					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence		1/16/25	5/7/25	8/14/25	11/6/25
Member					
First	Last	PBS	PBS	PBS	PBS
Alissa	Reed	X	P	P	P
Brandon	Evans	X	P	P	P
Brenda	Mendivel	X	P	P	P
Brian	Holt	X	P	A	P
Jeremy	Tobias	X	A	P	A
Linda	Parker*	X	P	P	P
Richard	Chapman	X	P	A	P
Leo	Bautista*	X	A	A	A
*Non-WDB					

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board Youth Committee Attendance 2026					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence					
Member					
First	Last	YC	YC	YC	YC
Alyssa	Cervantes	P			
Brandon	Evans	P			
Brian	Holt	P			
Dale	Countryman*	P			
Greg	Terry*	A			
Jovon	Dangerfield	P			
Norma	Rojas-Mora	A			
Olivia	Kent	P			
Priscilla	Sanchez	P			
Priscilla	Varela	P			
*Non-WDB					

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board Youth Committee Attendance 2025					
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence		1/24/25	5/7/25	8/20/25	11/12/25
Member					
First	Last	YC	YC	YC	YC
Alyssa	Cervantes				A
Brandon	Evans	X	P	A	P
Brian	Holt	X	P	P	A
Dale	Countryman*	X	P	P	P
David	Villarino*	X	U	REMOVED	
Greg	Terry*	X	U	A	A
Jovon	Dangerfield				A
Karine	Kanikkeberg*	X	RESIGNED		
Leticia	Perez	X	U	RESIGNED	
Norma	Rojas-Mora	X	P	A	P
Olivia	Kent				P
Priscilla	Sanchez		Appt 5/28	P	P
Priscilla	Varela	X	A	P	P
Rosa	Chipres *	X	U	REMOVED	
Todd	Yepez	X	A	A	RESIGNED
*Non-WDB					

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board Executive Committee Attendance 2025						
P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled		Special Session		
A = Excused Absence		2/6/25	5/15/25	5/28/25	9/11/25	12/2/25
Member						
First	Last	EXEC	EXEC	EXEC	EXEC	EXEC
Alissa	Reed	P	P	P	P	P
Brandon	Evans	P	P	P	P	P
Brenda	Mendivel	P	P	P	P	P
Greg	Knittel				P	P
Ian	Journey	P	P	P	RESIGNED	
Kelly	Bearden	U	P	P	P	P
Kristen	Watson*	A	A	P	A	P
Leo	Bautista**	A	P	P	P	P
Lizette	Gomez	P	P	P	P	P
Norma	Rojas-Mora	U	P	P	A	P
Season	Susko				A	P
Todd	Yepez	A	P	P	RESIGNED	
*Non-WDB						
**Non-WDB as of 10/4/23						

Kern, Inyo & Mono Workforce Development Board Attendance 2025

P = Present	U=Unexcused	X=Cancelled			
A = Excused Absence		2/19/25	5/28/25	9/24/25	12/17/25
Member					
First	Last	WDB	WDB	WDB	WDB
Alex	Haver	P	P	P	P
Alissa	Reed	A	P	P	P
Brandon	Evans	P	P	P	P
Brenda	Mendivel	P	P	P	P
Brian	Holt	P	A	P	P
Bryan	Forrest	P	A	RESIGNED	
Chris	Gonzales	P	A	A	RESIGNED
Christina	Garza	P	P	A	P
Clare	Pagnini				A
Cody	Brooks	P	P	P	P
Devin	Brown				P
Greg	Gutierrez	A	A	RESIGNED	
Greg	Knittel	A	P	P	A
Ian	Journey, Chair	P	P	RESIGNED	
Jason	Smoot				P
Jeremy	Tobias	P	P	P	P
John	Moralez	A	P	P	P
Kelly	Bearden	P	P	A	P
Kenny	Spratt				P
Laura	Barnes	A	A	P	A
Lizette	Gomez	P	P	P	P
Michele	Warren	P	P	P	P
Mikin	Plummer				P
Mike	Beaumont	P	P	P	A
Norma	Rojas-Mora	P	P	A	P
Priscilla	Varela	P	P	A	P
Randy	Martin	P	P	A	A
Richard	Chapman	A	P	A	P
Robert	Watson				A
Scott	Odlin	P	P	P	P
Season	Susko	P	A	A	A
Steven	Gomez	A	A	P	P
Todd	Yepez	A	P	RESIGNED	

**KERN, INYO AND MONO
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND
COMMITTEES' MEETING SCHEDULE
CALENDAR YEAR 2026**

Program and Business Services Committee

**Employers' Training Resource 1600 E. Belle Terrace
2nd Floor Conference Room**

Thursday, January 15, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, April 23, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, August 13, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, November 5, 2026, 8 a.m.

Youth Committee

**Employers' Training Resource 1600 E. Belle Terrace
2nd Floor Conference Room**

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, August 19, 2026, 2 p.m.
Thursday, November 12, 2026, 2 p.m. (Due to Veterans Holiday)

Executive Committee

Recruitment Center – 1215 Olive Drive

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, May 14, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, September 10, 2026, 8 a.m.
Thursday, December 3, 2026, 8 a.m.

Workforce Development Board

Recruitment Center – 1215 Olive Drive

Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 7 a.m.
Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 7 a.m.
Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 7 a.m.
Wednesday, December 16, 2026, 7 a.m.