

**ADOPTED**  
Monterey County Workforce Investment Board  
**Business Services Committee**  
Tuesday, April 8, 2014  
Shoreline Workforce Development, 249 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Marina, CA

**Members Present:** Wendy Brickman, Paul Farmer, Kimberly Schnader and Andrea Zeller-Nield (Co-Chair)

**Members Absent:** Anthony Aniello and Joyce Aldrich

**Staff Present:** Marleen Esquerra, Flor Galvan and Jerry Hernandez

**Others Present:** Albert Halimi, Aviv Halimi and Jim Stalen

**Call to order/Introductions:** Ms. Zeller-Nield called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. and asked for introductions. A quorum was established.

**Changes to Agenda:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Consent Calendar:**

**1. Action: Approve the February 11, 2014 minutes**

**Motion:** Mr. Farmer motions to accept the action as stated.

**Second:** Ms. Brickman

**Approved unanimously by those in attendance**

**Discussion or Review of Business Calendar Action Items:**

1. **Presentation on the newly opened Encore Recycling Inc. Facility at the Firestone Business Park.** Mr. Halimi, general manger, reported that they have been in plastic manufacturing for 30 years serving mostly restaurants. He said they found that strawberry growers in Monterey County alone produce 22.5 million pounds of plastic that goes to landfills. In California, 100-150 million pounds of ag plastic is discarded each year and goes to landfills. He reported that the Salinas plant can process up to 17 million pounds each year which requires the use of an estimated 100 million gallons of water each day; however the facility has a full water treatment facility with a 100% closed loop system that supports the process. He reported that their Southern California facility employs 300 people and is a 24/7 operation. Their Salinas plant has 35-50 jobs with a 24/7 operation. In the future, when fully operational, the plant may employ more than 200 employees. He stated that the Enterprise Zone program was immensely beneficial to their company and they're extremely happy with the support provided to them, specifically from the WIB Executive Director Ms. Joyce Aldrich and Office for Employment Training Business Services representatives Ms. Korey Woo and Mr. Raymond Barnes. The Job Center functioned like a full service HR company for them.
2. **Report on the delivery of business outreach opportunities and services provided to the business community.** Mr. Hernandez reported that since July 2013 a total of 466 employers were served; 665 applicants were pre-screened prior to referral to local employers for placement; 131 job openings were posted online in the Virtual One Stop system; 744 participants were referred to area employers hiring; 66 job fairs and custom recruiting events were hosted and a total of 85 candidates were hired.
3. **Report on the Castroville Industries & Workforce Profiles.** Mr. Hernandez highlighted the results of interviews to eleven businesses from the Castroville Industrial Park. The values of the companies were rated in the medium to high range. He reported that more than 50% of the businesses do not use much technology; however, 88% have stable training budgets. He also reported that 60% of businesses plan to make changes to their businesses and one-third plan to increase job opportunities.
4. **Report on Monterey County's local labor market.** Ms. Esquerra provided the committee with reports of industry overview and list of occupations and changes in employment in Monterey County that she generated from Economic Modeling Specialists Inc. (EMSI). She suggested that the committee members contact her if they are wishing to try out the EMSI software program.
5. **Update and discussion on the WIB's Strategic Local Plan goals and initiatives and how they currently align with the WIB's Business Services Plan.** Ms. Esquerra reported that the WIB is

completing several of the goals listed in the business plan which include attending a recent job fair that included over 709 job seekers and 100 employers.

**Announcement of Events:** The City of Salinas Economic Development Department will be presenting their draft plan today at 7:00 p.m. Japanese American Heritage Days will take place on May 3 & 4, 2014, at Old Fisherman's Grotto on the wharf in Monterey.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Zeller-Nield motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

**Motion:** Ms. Schnader motioned to accept the action as stated.

**Second:** Ms. Brickman

**Approved unanimously by those in attendance**