



Humboldt County Workforce Investment Board

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*Chair of the Board, Janet DePace
Executive Director, Jacqueline Debets*

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TO: All News Media

PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Prevailing Wage Good Economic Policy? WIB to Discuss Friday

Eureka—The Humboldt County Workforce Investment Board will take up prevailing wage laws and their impacts on our economy and community this Friday.

It is commonly claimed that once a project triggers prevailing wage, the costs go up 30% or more.

“Is that a myth or reality? And what do prevailing wages do for our economy and community?” explained WIB Executive Director Jacqueline Debets. “These are the questions the WIB will hear from experts on and discuss this Friday.”

Leading national expert on wage laws, Dr. Peter Philips, Professor of Economics from the University of Utah, and Tim Frank, the Senior Policy Advisor to the Sierra Club on economy development and land use will address the WIB through a DVD of the Chico Economic Summit held in February. Local experts will also be on hand.

Anyone interested in how our economy and community are developing will be interested in this presentation and discussion.

The public is invited to attend the HC-WIB meeting this Friday at the Humboldt County Office of Education, 901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka. The meeting runs from 8:30-10:30am, with the presentation beginning about 8:45am.

As a board mandated by the Workforce Investment Act and an appointed commission of the Board of Supervisors, the HC-WIB includes 32 local leaders from business, education, economic development, labor and workforce training groups, with the majority representing private sector employers. The HC-WIB brings to light important employer issues, recommends policy and systems for delivering services to employers and employees.

For more information or special accommodations, please contact Dorre Howard at 445-7745, dhoward@co.humboldt.ca.us.



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AGENDA

Friday, April 21, 2006, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Humboldt County Office of Education • Sequoia Room

901 Myrtle Avenue • Eureka, CA

Mission Statement: The Workforce Investment Board brings together resources to meet employer and employee needs to advance the prosperity of our communities.

A. DESIRED MEETING OUTCOMES

1. Having received public comment
2. Approved consent agenda:
 - 2.a. Approve minutes from last meeting (February 17, 2006).
 - 2.b. Recommend community members for re-appointment to the WIB.
3. Officers elected for 2006-07 program year.
4. Having received information on how prevailing wage works, discussed its implications and taken appropriate action.
5. Having received staff, Executive Committee and work-group reports as contained in supplement to agenda.

B. AGENDA

1. OPENING: (~5 minutes)

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Self-introductions of WIB members, staff and public present
- 1.3 Adjustments to the Agenda

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION:

- 3.1 Consent Agenda (~1 minute)
- 3.2 Officer Elections (~10 minutes)

4. PRESENTATION: **Prevailing Wage DVD Seminar** (~50 minutes)

5. BREAK (~10 minutes at approximately 9:45 am)

6. DISCUSSION & ACTION (continued):

- 6.1 **Expert Panel and Discussion on Prevailing Wage impacts, issues and benefits** (~45 minutes)

7. REPORTS (written in supplemental information)

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS (~5 minutes)

9. CLOSING (at 10:30am)