



To: Board of Supervisors
From: Birgitta Corsello, County Administrator
Date: March 9, 2015
Subject: Significant Issues Update

1) County Administrator's Update on Contracts

The County Administrator did not sign any contracts of significance since the last Significant Issues Update on January 26, 2015.

2) Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Solano County Achieves High-Performance Certification

The California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) recently announced that the WIB of Solano County had achieved certification as High-Performance Local Board.

A major focus of the CWIB is to ensure that the local strategic planning process supports and captures the Governor's vision of an effective workforce system. The CWIB acknowledged and thanked the Solano WIB for their efforts in accomplishing this endeavor. The WIB's local plan will be highlighted at an upcoming CWIB meeting and uploaded to the State's website.

Below are several of the WIB's achievements that were highlighted by the CWIB and contributed to the High Performance Board certification.

- The WIB of Solano County's local vision supports regional collaborative partnerships that include employers from priority industry sectors and educators in developing and operating regional workforce and economic development.
- While the WIB of Solano County forecasts long term job growth, they identified the following priority industry sectors: Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare and Logistics.
- The WIB of Solano County's Business Services Plan supports their priority industry sectors. The plan includes a robust business service operation that supports the following types of training: On-the-Job Training (OJT), Apprenticeship training and Technology-based training.
- The plan emphasizes strategies to re-engage disconnected youth by identifying career pathways as a framework through which learners can connect skills and interest with viable career options.
- The plan commits at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult and Dislocated Worker funds towards training approaches that result in the completion and attainment of a degree and/or other credentials valued and used by priority industry sectors.

- Organizationally, the WIB of Solano County shows that they are leaders in the community on all bases of the Governor's vision; has a plan to continue analyzing market conditions, labor trends and skill needs; as well as a plan for continuous improvement.

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3) Workforce Investment Board Hosts Regional Career Fair

The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Solano County is set to host the spring 2015 Regional Career Fair on Thursday, April 2, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The event will again take place at the University of Phoenix – Fairfield Campus, located at 5253 Business Center Drive. The WIB has been hosting Regional Career Fairs for the past 11 years and the University of Phoenix has served as co-host for the last 10 years.

This remains a no-cost event and is open to the general public. Over 600 job seekers attended the October 2014 Fall Career Fair. One of the unique characteristics of this Regional Career Fair is that employers must be actively recruiting for open positions in order to participate. Employer outreach is underway and staff expects 85 to 90 employers will be attending the event.

In addition to several other business and community sponsors, the WIB is pleased to announce that 95.3KUIC/101.7KKIQ/Diablo Valley 92.1 and KKDV radio is again serving as the Premier Sponsor of the April 2 Career Fair.

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4) Whistleblower Program Bi-Annual Update

The Solano County Auditor-Controller's Internal Audit Division operates the County's Whistleblower Program. From July 1 to December 31, 2014, the Whistleblower Program received 38 reports of perceived incidence of fraud, waste and abuse, or violations of County policy or law. The reports received were reviewed by the Internal Audit Division in cooperation with Appointed and Elected Department Heads and the County Administrator as deemed appropriate.

The complete report can be found starting on PAGE 3 of this document.

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Solano County Auditor-Controller's Whistleblower Program Status Update December 31, 2014

Significant Issues Update

The Auditor-Controller's Internal Audit Division operates the County's Whistleblower Program. The Program includes a special hotline number (866) 384-TIPS and a website for submission of reports. The reports received were reviewed by the Internal Audit Division in cooperation with Appointed and Elected Department Heads and the County Administrator as deemed appropriate.

From July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, the Whistleblower Program received 38 reports of perceived incidence of fraud, waste and abuse, or violations of County policy or law. In addition, three open complaints from our last report were closed, bringing the caseload to 41.

Reports were received in the following categories:

- 12 Violations of Law and/or County policy
- 10 Welfare fraud
- 5 Timesheet fraud
- 3 Management conduct
- 1 Waste of County funds
- 2 Environmental nuisance
- 1 Whistleblower retaliation
- 7 Other

Of the 41 complaints:

- 10 were substantiated and found to have merit
- 12 were found to not have merit
- 3 remain open with investigation in progress
- 5 were closed due to insufficient information
- 11 were referred to outside agencies and were closed

Details about the complaints found to have merit are as follow:

<i>Complaint Allegation</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
A report was received alleging that a County employee was falsifying timesheets.	The complaint was investigated by the department head. Appropriate correction action was taken.
A report was received alleging a citizen was operating a yard sale	The complaint was investigated by the Resource Management Code Compliance Officer, who issued a

<i>Complaint Allegation</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
business all year round for the past couple of years without a business license.	notice to the property owner to cease operations unless the owner obtains a business license.
A County employee was selling food on County property and time.	The complaint was investigated by the department head. The employee was verbally counseled and was advised of County policy.
Ten complaints were referred to the H&SS Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) for investigation into alleged welfare fraud. Seven of ten cases were found to have merit.	The SIB took appropriate corrective action as prescribed by directives and regulations of confirmed welfare fraud.

The Whistleblower Program continues to demonstrate success in the identification of County-related matters in potential fraud, waste and abuse. The Program continues to improve controls, and promotes accountability and oversight throughout the County by providing a process for employees and other County citizens to report perceived incidence of fraud, waste and abuse.

For questions, contact Phyllis Taynton, CPA, at (707) 784-6288.