



## Government Affairs Committee

### Business Council Meeting

January 8, 2020

12:00 p.m.

Vocational Center  
199 North L Street



HR Rep Devin Nunes



Sen. Melissa Hurtado



Assemb. Devon Mathis



Supv. Eddie Valero



Mayor Kuldip Thusu

## DINUBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

January 8, 2020

*Vision Statement: Collaborative partnership between business, government, community organizations, and the public - all working together for a better more prosperous community.*

*Mission Statement - It is our mission to promote, retain, and educate the business community, ensure stability and growth and to strengthen our local economy to make Dinuba a better place to live, work, and play.*

**FLAG SALUTE**- led by Scott Harness

**CALL TO ORDER** – Reda Bennani, Chair of GAC

**Present:** Reda Bennani, Barbara Thiesen, Sherri Pena, Joe Garcia, Vincent Salinas, Tara Adams, Linda Duran, John Powell, Jose R. Trevino, and Jacob Villagomez

**COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS BY CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP OR GENERAL PUBLIC: None**

### NEW BUSINESS

#### I. Representatives Reports

- a. **Senator Melissa Hurtado's office – Jacob Villagomez** shared that his role will be changing to District Director and that they are currently looking for a replacement for his position. They are looking at budget items and issues to address with legislation. The Senate is limiting 15 bills per senator to help with streamline the process and limit duplication. The Senator will have their budget put together by the end of the month. Reda asked that the Senator remember business as she reviews legislation and not encumber them with regulation and punitive enforcement that harms business. Vincent Salinas shared concern over the cost to business to Sexual Harassment Training. Scott asked how can the current legislators help turn around the regulations that are making it difficult to conduct business in California. Sherri shared concern of minimum wage that is set as a whole for California versus Jacob shared that there are issues such as SB1, that are non-negotiable, we are dealing with something similar with the elimination of the use of gasoline in the state, that will have a big impact on jobs, commerce, and families. Just as taxes and fees become an issue for our Central Valley businesses, we need your help to make the case that this is bad for business and people, with letters of opposition or

support of legislation to back our efforts to move these agenda items forward. We have an open door policy and are here to listen and respond to our constituents.

Mr. Trevino shared concerns about the Health Department enforcement of codes on brick and mortar businesses while Taco Trucks are not held to the same standards and inspected to assure compliance with food safety, workers comp, taxes, etc. It was suggested that we contact the County Health Dept and review the concern of Mr. Trevino and look into what can be done inviting them to the next meeting.

- b. Assemblyman Devon Mathis-** Tara Adams shared that the Assembly went back into session. The Assemblyman is heading up big bill on Mental Health human services and a couple of Transportation bills and looking for new legislative ideas got some from the Policy Pods held in December. It was asked who was invited to Policy Pods and what happened there. Policy Pods invited GAC, Chambers, Elected Officials, and Agriculture. Homelessness issues specifically impact of PD, Jails, and mental health issues, which our legislation is focusing on. Ag crimes and regulations were also brought up during the pods. What could City's put into place to get funds from the Mental Health bill if it passes? Tara shared information about our homeless issues and needs would be helpful to share in order to be considered for funding, should the bill pass. Reda shared that the GAC had a meeting and has minutes that could be shared about the homeless issue in Dinuba and what is being done by local agencies. Barbara shared stats from the School District on homelessness for students, stating there are currently 95 students considered homeless in DUSD. Question about current grants to address housing and help for homeless, was responded to by Tara, indicating that the present bill wasn't specifically for homeless, but that she would carry forward a suggestion that smaller communities be allocated funding for this as part of the wording. Vincent Salinas shared some of the issues of getting volunteers to help with getting information about homeless populations. This is an issue as funding is determined by numbers. Scott Harness shared that there is legislation Prop 47 to provide shelter under a right for housing bill for homeless. Sherri Pena shared many homeless don't want to comply with the standards for housing. It was furthered shared that mental health and drug use also weighed into those statistics as well as job loss that contribute to the homeless situation. It appears the focus for the homeless is to provide more shelter and clinics to deal with this epidemic over punitive actions. At the Public Safety pod discussion about the issues law enforcement face in light of personal rights particularly when it came to the homeless.

## **II. New California Labor Laws You Need to Know – Effective January 1, 2020**

Due to the time constraints, attendees were asked to review the handouts. (see attached) A few of the items were highlighted by GAC Chair Reda Bennani including the Independent Contractor AB5, change to CA Employee leave, and the legislation regarding non-discrimination for hair styles that reflect ethnicity.

## **III. Next Meeting February 19, 2020**

## **IV. GAC committee members were asked to remain for a meeting about the GAC Policy Manual.**

## **V. Adjourn meeting at 1:10 pm**