

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Board of Supervisors

BOARD AGENDA # *A-3a

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE February 26, 2008

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Acceptance of the Resignations of Ham Shirvani, Joseph D. Mackil and Armando M. Flores from the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance Board

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the resignations of Ham Shirvani, Joseph D. Mackil and Armando M. Flores from the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance Board.
2. Direct staff to post vacancies.
3. Direct staff to send Certificates of Appreciation to Dr. Shirvani, Mr. Mackil and Mr. Flores.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2008-124

On motion of Supervisor Grover, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Grover, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Mayfield

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

**THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR AND PLACED ON
NON-CONSENT FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION**



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 8, 2008

Mr. Paul J. Van Konynenburg, Chair
Stanislaus Economic Development & Workforce Alliance
10th Street Place - P.O. Box 3091
Modesto, CA 95353

Dear Paul:

I understand and share the concern expressed in your letter about attendance at Alliance Board meetings. I originally thought I would be able to attend a greater number of meetings throughout the year. However, that has proven to be much more of a challenge than I had anticipated.

The past 2 ½ years as President of CSU Stanislaus have driven home the point that my schedule, not to mention my life, are truly not my own. The CSU systemwide meetings and conferences alone consume a significant portion of my time each month. Added to that are the local, state, national and international organizations and partnerships the University is involved with, combined with the understandable expectation that I devote some portion of my time to on-campus needs.

Unfortunately, given the unpredictability of my own schedule, I have come to the reluctant conclusion that I must resign from the Alliance Board. I understand that it is not possible to identify another University representative to serve on the Board, since the Federal Workforce Investment Act requires members to be CEOs or Presidents. However, because I value the important role that the Alliance plays in addressing economic and workforce development issues, I will continue to ask Robert Bechill, Extended Education Director, to attend open meetings of the Alliance to keep me informed.

Please extend both my regrets and best wishes to the Alliance Board members.

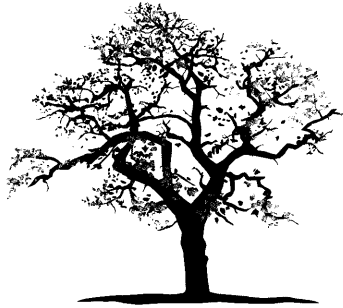
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ham Shirvani".

Ham Shirvani
President

c: Dr. William Covino, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Robert Bechill, Interim Director for Extended Education

2008 FEB -7 A 10:45
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Beard Land and Investment Co.

Ph: 209-524-4631 Fax: 209-529-0336
530 11th Street P.O. Box 1113 Modesto, CA 95353
January 8, 2008

Mr. Paul Van Konynenburg
Chairman
Stanislaus Economic Development & Workforce Alliance
1010 10th Street Place
P.O. Box 3091
Modesto, California 95353

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2008 FEB - 7 A 10:45

Dear Paul:

Over the past year I have become increasingly disappointed with the direction that the Alliance has taken. At the last meeting I attended I shared some of these concerns with the group. The responses that management provided were nothing more than an indication that there was no interest in exploring any changes that might lead to improvements.

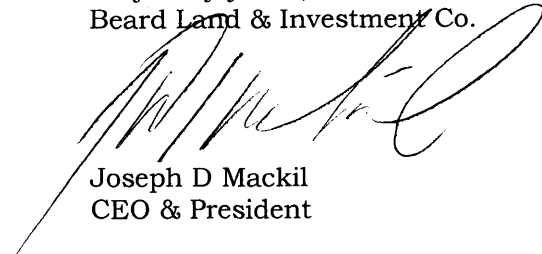
The concerns that I raised were:

- (1) Meetings are pointless, as a quorum is seldom if ever achieved and that as directors we have no vote in the direction that the organization is taking,
- (2) Problem (1) is only being compounded with the need to add numerous labor union representatives to the board,
- (3) The focus on economic development has been lost in the rush to secure government funding for workforce development issues,
- (4) The white paper issued by the Alliance to the press was inaccurate in stating that no "shovel ready" industrial sites over fifty acres were available in the county.

The Alliance's active support of the economically questionable West Park project and its developer before the supervisors even voted on the project is even more disturbing to me. Based on my limited knowledge of the "short haul railroad" plan, intermodal operations, and railroad economics I believe that the West Park proposal is not even close to being economically viable. The money required from taxpayers to create a money losing railroad operation would be a foolish waste of scarce resources.

I am fundamentally committed to the future economic development of Stanislaus County but I do not believe that the Alliance is on the right track to ensure a positive impact for the money that is being spent. Therefore Beard Land and Investment Co. will no longer provide any financial support to Alliance. As a result of the above items I feel compelled to submit my resignation from your board of directors with deepest regrets.

Very truly yours,
Beard Land & Investment Co.



Joseph D Mackil
CEO & President

Law Office of

Armando M. Flores

429 Thirteenth Street
Modesto, California 95354
(209) 524-4717

Fax (209) 524-4758

E-mail: floreslawoffice@aol.com

E-mail: floreslawoffice@yahoo.com

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2008 FEB -7 A 10:45

January 15, 2007

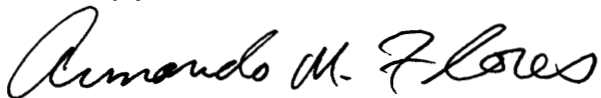
Paul Van Konyenburg, Chair
ALLIANCE
P.O. Box 3091
Modesto, Ca 95353

Dear Mr. Chair:

Since my family, business and other community commitments have taken up much of my time this past year I have not be able to fulfill my duty to attend meetings of the Alliance as often as I wanted to. The same will occur this year. Therefore, I hereby submit my resignation.

Please continue your good work.

Sincerely yours,



ARMANDO M. FLORES