



11/9/2020

Ventura County Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

RE: Opposition to Six Pilot Community Workforce Agreements, do not shut out local workers (Please read during the meeting)

Agenda Item #42

I am opposed to the Six pilot community workforce agreement. I am third generation of a Ventura County Construction company Family owned for over 70 years.

It seems like this agreement is politically motivated by Board of Supervisors that have received money from Unions for their political campaigns, and I would encourage those that did to do the right thing and Recuse them self from the vote.

In September board meeting Jeff Pratt provided a very through and accurate presentation regarding the use of a CWA, or sometimes called a PLA. Why are we discussing it again so soon?

The way we have it now the jobs require prevailing wage, the pay scale is the same Union or Non-Union. The wages are reported to the DIR. Fines are stiff if the laws are violated. We have both union and non-union working side by side as it should be. The bidding is fair.

Last September John Zaragoza talked about construction workers only getting paid \$15.00 and hour and this will bring them out of poverty. I assure you that no one gets paid that low on a prevailing wage project, and if they are only worth \$15.00 an hour, they will not be hired on a job that is costing the contractor \$95.00 an hour to put them on their payroll. This agreement will not help those that are not experienced enough to work on the project. We cannot hire them as apprentices because they are required to be in an approved apprentice program. Apprentices are required and used from the approved

apprentice programs at a ratio of 1 to 5 by both union and Nonunion companies, when dispatched as requested. Most of them are Union programs.

With a PLA it is discriminating against nonunion workers. You are eliminating 85 percent of the contractors and their workers.

The PLA agreement will increase the cost, wasting Tax payers money.

If you do decide to Sign this agreement, I would like to see each of the projects bid out two options one with a Workforce agreement and one without. So, you and the tax payers can see how much money they will save.

Last, should your board decide to move forward with discussing a PLA, I formerly request that all organizations have a seat at the table to provide the needed expertise your staff has previously requested in negotiating the PLA.

Once again, we urge your board to oppose the proposal for a six project PLA and the Supervisors that had unions contributing to their campaigns Recuse themselves it's the right thing to do.

Regards,

David Atkin