

Cascades West Economic Development District Board

Thursday, February 8, 2018

9:00 am – 11:00 am

4 Spirits Distillery

3405 SW Deschutes Street, Corvallis

Teleconference: 541-497-7311, pin #841

AGENDA

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| 1. | 9:00 | Call to Order and Introductions | Chair Konopa |
| 2. | 9:05 | Election of Chair | Konopa |
| 3. | 9:15 | Agenda Review | Chair |
| 4. | 9:20 | Approval of September 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes
(Attachment A) | Chair |
| 5. | 9:25 | Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Update | UO CSC Team |
| 6. | 10:05 | Brownfields | Phil Warnock,
OCWCOG |
| 7. | 10:15 | Regional Lands Inventory Database (RLID) Pilot Project | Eric Brandt, LCOG |
| 8. | 10:45 | District Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website Update• CWEDD Logo | Phil Warnock,
OCWCOG |
| 9. | 11:00 | Adjournment | Chair |

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Sign language, interpreter services or other accommodations can also be provided by contacting Emma Chavez at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Emma can be reached at 541-967-8551 (TTY/TTD 711) or echavez@ocwocg.org.

**CASCADES WEST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT (CWEDD) Board
Thursday, September 14, 2017
9:00 am – 11:00 am
Albany Carousel & Museum
503 First Ave West, Albany Oregon**

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Anne Schuster, Biff Traber, Caroline Bauman (phone), Dann Cutter, John Pascone, Chris Pryor, Sharon Konopa, Tom Nelson, and Alan Baas

Members Absent: Bill Hall, Bob Elliott, Chris Workman, Gary Williams, Gary Marks, Greg James, Pam Barlow-Lind, Ric Ingham, Rob Scoggin, Sherry Duest-Higgins, and Susy Lacer

Guests Preset: Jorge Salinas

Staff Present: Brenda Wilson, Seth Sherry, Fred Abousleman, Phil Warnock, and Emma Chavez.

1. Call to order and Introductions

The Chair, Mayor Konopa, called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Agenda Review

There were no changes to the agenda.

3. Approval of January 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: The January 26, 2017 meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Albany Carousel Highlight

Mayor Konopa advised that the Carousel and Museum celebrated the grand opening on August 15th. She noted that this has been sixteen years in the works.

Jennifer, Operations Manager of the Carousel and Museum, provided additional highlights. Jennifer noted that within the first thirteen days of opening, over 25 thousand people had visited. She indicated that most people are impressed and a large number of them are senior citizens. Also, local businesses have expressed positive comments; some businesses have purchased ride tokens of their own accord to resell in their shops.

The museum is run by volunteers and four paid employees. It is a 22,000 square foot building with a basement that includes storage and a classroom for carving classes.

Jennifer noted that the museum is not only a \$6.5 million investment but a positive economic impact to the entire Albany downtown community.

5. EDA University Center Update

Staff Phil Warnock reported that Federal funding for the University Center had been held up but eventually came through and UO staff will be able to continue providing economic development support for CWEDD, OCWCOG, LCOG and other entities.

Additionally, Warnock reported that the application for US FEMA Economic Resilience is in the pipeline but that due to project review backlogs, a heavy wildfire season and the recent hurricanes, those applications are still pending and won't be funded at this time. There is still optimism that the project will be funded in the future.

Commissioner Anne Schuster questioned if any work could be accomplished without the grant. Warnock stated that those are discussions that can take place in regards to portions of the work.

6. CEDS Year 2 Goals

Members received a copy of the High Priority CWEDD CEDS Actions for review during the discussion. Staff Seth Sherry noted that approximately 50% of Year 1 and Year 2 actions have been completed or engaged. Some of the topics are pretty ambitious and some things have taken place since the development of the CEDS that need to be taken into consideration.

Working groups have been formed and are prepared for when the occasion arises. The Rural Development Working Group has met and worked on a Regional Needs Survey.

Regional Needs Survey Review:

Early on in the development of the CEDS, it was noted that the strengths of the regions were known, but not the needs or barriers. Staff developed a survey which the CWEDD Board reviewed and approved. Sherry went on to review the survey results. All responses were placed into categories. The Rural Development Working Group met and reviewed the categories, discussed common needs, potential projects, and how to move forward.

Strong needs identified through the survey were also included in the Year 1 and Year 2 Actions plan. They are, website development and information, and communication to members. Staff has begun crafting and sending out FYI emails to members and all working groups that include Regional news, grant and webinar opportunities, and other economic development information pertinent to the Region.

Sherry stated that 51% of the survey respondents indicated that they need help identifying where to go for economic development resources. Sherry provided a sample organizational chart from the Mid-Valley Council of Governments (MVCOG). John Pascone noted that OCWCOG has a Business Referral Network document that could assist with this work.

Members discussed the need for an organizational chart and provided the following feedback:

- Market and Promote System
- Point of Entry / Call before you dig

- Point of Contact (assessment point, centralized place, knowledgeable of Region)
- High tech / High Touch
- Create a ticket for follow up (case management)

Staff will do additional research and will provide an update at the next meeting.

elmpact:

Staff is exploring how to make data regional information more available and easily digestible. One program staff recently reviewed is called elmpact. Staff is due to schedule a demo on the software. Staff requests that if members have specific clusters or sectors they would like noted, to please email Seth Sherry. It was suggested that staff look at what numbers are meaningful and what would be received.

7. New CWEDD Economic Development Opportunities

Regional Lands Inventory Base (RLID):

RLID is the central resource for most land-based information in Lane County. The system comprises a data warehouse of regional land information from city, county and state governments agencies and other service districts. Users are able to view, query, analyze and map data and print customized reports from RLID. OCWCOG and LCOG are having discussions of a district level service area. LCOG is currently working on a partner agreement. An update will be brought to the next meeting.

Broadband:

OCWCOG Executive Director, Fred Abousleman, reported that in 2013 the COG did a broadband survey. There are communities in the area that still do not have good broadband therefore it is important to continue the discussions. Abousleman noted that on Thursday, September 21st at 10:00 am a broadband summit is scheduled at OCWCOG offices for the Linn and Benton areas. Lane members are welcome to attend.

8. Adjournment

Chair Konopa adjourned the meeting at 10:48 am.