

MINUTES

NCWEDD Board of Director's Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 9 am at Chelan City Hall, 135 E. Johnson Ave, Chelan, WA

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Chris Branch, Board President.

Mr. Branch welcomed the board, facilitated Introductions, and welcomed new board members Todd Link from Manson, and Joshua Gilmore from Columbia Valley Community Health.

Financial Report

Michael Guss presented budget through Jan. 12th 2016. Dues are on track for 2016, but expenses will be over budget on mileage, due to working in Okanogan. MOTION to approve the budget and financial report made by Kurt Danison, seconded by Wendy Isenhart. All approved.

Fire Recovery Grant contract

Kurt Danison presented that the Fire Recovery Steering Committee reviewed 5 proposals on data and 6 on community involvement. The Committee ranked the proposals and interviewed all applicants. Community Attributes, Inc (CAI) was the clear top choice. The Committee recommends entering contract pursuant to Resolution 16-1-1 to engage them to do the work for the Fire Recovery Grant. Mr. Guss is talking to additional cities to request cash and has applied for additional grants from private entities. Wendy Isenhart is working with Senator Parlette's office to request further funds to bridge the \$23,000 match deficit. **MOTION to adopt Resolution 16-1-1** made by Commissioner Ken Stanton, seconded by Wendy Isenhart. All in favor. No opposed.

EDA National Conference

NCWEDD is invited to attend the EDA conference in DC. Mr. Guss and Chris Branch would attend. They could plan to get there a day early and talk to elected officials on regional legislative priorities. **MOTION to approve Resolution 16-1-2** made by Kurt Danison, seconded by Roni Holder-Diefenbach. All in favor, none opposed. Mr. Guss asks board to help them gather talking points about the region. Kurt Danison suggests some roundtables to discuss regional priorities at the next two board meetings.

Sole Source Justification

Mr. Guss has talked to EDA staff. NCWEDD has agreed to an audit. In moving forward, NCWEDD will need to follow the letter of the law. Mr. Guss has found that people are very satisfied with the services of EWU on Chelan-Douglas Trends. Mr. Guss can write the Sole Source Justification. EDA will need to approve. If the board approve this, and if EDA approves, the contract between EWU and EDD would come before the board. **MOTION to approve Resolution 16-1-3** made by Wendy Isenhart, seconded by Commissioner Ken Stanton. All in favor, motion passed.

Contract with Eastern Washington University

Item tabled.

Bank Account Signatories

MOTION to approve adding Stacy Luckensmeyer and Chris Branch to the NCWEDD bank account, made by Jim Huffman, seconded by Wendy seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Regional Applications for Funding under Farm Bill

Mr. Guss presented a discussion and asked for possible direction to staff surrounding regional applications for funding under Section 6025 of the 2014 Farm Bill. Mr. Guss presented background on the process. Wendy Isenhart asked if they are all loans. Mr. Guss explained that some are "Forgiveness Loans". Board discussion is positive, and Board asks Staff to pursue this opportunity.

Scope of Work

Discussion on amendment of current Scope of Work to remove references to specific contractors. MOTION to approve Resolution 16-1-6 instructing Executive Director to amend NCWEDD's Scope of Work to remove references to specific contractors, made by Kurt Danison, seconded by Jim Huffman. No discussion. All in favor.

Regional Business News

Mr. Guss informed that NCWEDD is participating in a letter to Governor Inslee about Alcoa shutdown. Mark Urdahl commented on Chelan County Tri-Commission meeting, and that Mr. Guss made a valuable contribution at the recent meeting. Roni Holder-Diefenbach shared that two Okanogan County local businesses were eligible for Trade Act Assistance for worker retraining. Mark Urdahl encourages board to direct Mr. Guss to put staff time on this issue. Board is favorable to direct Mr. Guss to work with Mark Urdahl and/or contract to work on this. Mark Urdahl would like to hear an academic and neutral presentation on bitcoin and perhaps Port of Chelan could sponsor. Roni Holder-Diefenbach presented on mill shutdowns. Omak Wood Products sent out a board notice in December. Economic Alliance is working with City of Omak, county commissioner and Tribe to retain OWP. Ms. Holder-Diefenbach wrote a letter to Governor's office requesting help to work with EPA to get permit in place. NCWEDD supported the letter. Mr. Guss noted that, per by-laws, the Chairman has authority to make decisions between board meetings. Roni Holder-Diefenbach will share the letter with the board.

Plug-In NCW

Amy shared that the PINCW board is working with Mr. Guss on installing a new charging station in Tonasket. Wendy Isenhardt now serves on the Plug-In NCW board. Wendy Isenhardt shared that Campbell's Resort charger had the highest use. Jack Anderson and Randy Brooks on the Plug-In board did a 6 month cleaning and inspection, downloading data and cleaning.

New Business

Audit RFP will be put out shortly, so next month will have proposals.

Becoming a Contractor for Disaster Response and Recovery workshop: Roni Holder-Diefenbach shared the flyer on the workshop coordinated by EDD, with PTAC and Economic Alliance on Feb 23rd in Pateros Fire Hall. After the fires in 2015, Roni discussed with PTAC to organize better training. Board is asked to share the flyer and publicity with their communities. Also, Roni Holder-Diefenbach can report to the board on issues from the cannabis industry.

Mr. Guss sared that Kittitas County is in a Development District no longer funded by EDA. Mr. Guss is discussing with them about any interest in joining this EDD. Mr. Guss asks board for direction on pursuing this direction or not? Wendy Isenhardt cautions getting spread thin.

Locations of future meetings: Keith Soderstrom invites the EDD to meet in Waterville, in March or April. Board will meet in Chelan until then. Future locations TBD. Suggestions welcome.

Mark Urdahl shared that the Pangborn airport master plan presented future opportunities for a regional discussion or presentation at future EDD meeting.

Ken Stanton suggests a presentation by Lisa Parks to present update on North End Study before Mr. Guss and Chris Branch go to DC, and include a packet on that issue.

Roni Holder-Diefenbach presented that Economic Alliance concluded their Ranking Process:

1. Pateros water system (*corrected per Feb. 10, 2016 Minutes)
2. Brewster water system (*corrected per Feb. 10, 2016 Minutes)
3. Twisp Civic Hall

Please submit eNewsletter suggestions to Amy at any time.

Meeting adjourned by Chris Branch at 11 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Massey