

NCW Economic Development District

MINUTES – Regular board meeting – October 12, 2016, 9am – Chelan Council Chambers, 120 East Johnson – Chelan, WA

BOARD

Wendy Isenhardt, City of Chelan, Carlene Anders, City of Pateros, Jim Huffman, Douglas County Port, Chris Branch, City of Oroville, Lyle Markhart, City of Wenatchee, Janet Conklin, City of Bridgeport, Craig Larsen, Port of Chelan County, Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Okanogan Economic Alliance, Ernie Rasmussen, Colville Tribes

GUESTS

Trent Moyers, Pangborn Field & Guest Presentation – “Incentivizing New Flights and New Destinations” Pangborn is and continues to be a huge asset to our regional economy. The lengthened runway and high-intensity lighting will extend flyable weather conditions, making Pangborn more dependable for frequent fliers. Discussion included roles general aviation airports throughout our district might play in regional economic development. Members are interested in knowing more about the private railway through NCW, from Oroville to Wenatchee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mayor Janet Conklin moved and Chris Branch seconded a motion to approve the September 14, 2016 general meeting minutes. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSSION – cancelled in favor of open discussion of legal plan of action. Discussion moved up agenda to accommodate Craig Larsen, who had another meeting.

Craig is contacting the list of potential attorneys to handle our case and will choose someone who is arm’s length from the NCWEDD and its membership. Craig will work with this attorney to produce a cost/benefit analysis and course of legal action. Craig will report back next month and believes the Port will help financially with this cost. Roni Holder-Diefenbach has been in touch with Terry Lawhead at the Department of Commerce and is giving the department monthly progress reports. Our experience has been noted by the department---new grants from this fund now contain a portion for the host organization to pay for compliance costs.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Wendy Isenhardt for Stacy Luckensmeyer – Although we have money coming in, including a \$62,500 EDA planning grant and a \$14,xxx deposit for the CAI Okanogan Fire Recovery CAI work, plus other payments soon to hit our bank account, we are, at the moment, broke. We apparently have the funds to complete our fiscal year, but we will have funding gaps next year.

Discussion included the Finance Committee (currently including Stacy Luckensmeyer, Treasurer; Wendy Isenhart, Chairman; Patti Romanelli, Bookkeeper; Ernie Rasmussen, Colville Tribes, Executive Committee and Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Okanogan Economic Alliance, Executive Committee) investigating our finances for a full report next meeting. We agree that we need to know exactly where we are and where we are headed. Ernie Rasmussen suggested we host annual fundraisers like other non-profits do. Carlene Anders said these events are fun, good meet and greet events and raise serious money. Various ideas were brought forward. Chris Branch, Carlene Anders, Roni Holder-Diefenbach and Ernie Rasmussen volunteered to be on the Fundraising Committee and promise to bring some ideas back to the board soon. We agreed that we should begin sending out membership fee invoices ASAP.

RESOLUTION 16-10-1 – Allowing Chairman Isenhart to accept the F2016 EDA Planning Grant in the amount of \$62,500 was moved by Chris Branch and seconded by Roni Holder-Diefenbach, passing unanimously.

RESOLUTION 16-10-2 – Adding Chairman Isenhart as second signatory to the NCWEDD checking account was moved by Jim Huffman and seconded by Carlene Anders, passing unanimously.

NCW EDD FOUNDATION DOCUMENTS – Ernie Rasmussen, Economic Development Planner, Colville Tribe presented a generous offer to assemble and bind our essential documents, articles of incorporation, bylaws, work descriptions, membership contact information and other important documents to be sure these guiding documents are accessible to those who may, in future emergencies, have to rely on quick access to them. Discussion included the possibility of this work and cost being allowed as match. It's clear we need to know more about our grants, what is expected of us, what "match" can include and what terms and conditions are attached.

OROVILLE REMAN GRANT & TRANSPORTATION PROJECT UPDATE – Chris Branch reported that this \$835,000. (typo in the agenda) grant does include \$20,000 toward the cost of a grant administrator to make sure grant terms and conditions are met. Work includes a single audit which should cost \$10-12,000. This money was to come to the EDD and our Executive Director would do the work required. Discussion concerned the work involved, the potential hire of a temporary Grant Manager to do this work, as well as make the necessary reports to comply with our other active grants. Is an RFP process required? Grants of \$150,000 or less do not generally require an RFP process. This is over that threshold. RFQs can be publicized on the internet and do not necessarily require expensive print distribution. Roni suggested Facebook and Ernie suggested that we forward names of those grant managers our agencies have worked with who are familiar with the requirements of this grant to start. Suggestions may be forwarded to Wendy Isenhart to go on the list.

RESOLUTION 16-10-3 passed, (check with Chris Branch who exactly moved and seconded) this resolution to seek a Grant Manager to fulfill the terms and

conditions of the Oroville Reman Grant, the PINCW USDA Charging Station Grant, Okanogan Fire Recovery Grant and F2016 EDA Planning Grant. Employment would be from ASAP to June 30, 2017.

OKANOGAN FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE – Carleen Anders - They are looking forward to the final result. The website is very attractive and the data will be useful to many Okanogan County entities. The Community Attributes report is substantially completed and, following refinement and final approval, will be up and active. Discussion on the vital importance of economic data to everyone's organizational goals. Decisions are made, grants are applied for and won, and citizens are informed with factual data. Carlene also offered to help Ernie with his effort to get Nespelum's failing water system repaired.

This discussion led naturally into HOSTING ECONOMIC DATA INDICATOR WEBSITES. The discussion continued into the value of the Patrick Jones site, Chelan-Douglas Trends, to those counties. The Community Attributes site has a different, but similar focus. Communities are willing to fund these valuable sites and the NCWEDD has been a stable host. We would like to continue to facilitate these local economic data digests as they are clearly very important to our membership.

REGIONAL NEWS AND ISSUES

Jim Huffman reported that large acreage around the North End of the east side of the George Sellars bridge has been designated as a planned development. He says the group working on this are excited about the opportunities but unhappy with the name, "North End". He said his group agreed with the native American concept of "Place" and being respectful of the land there. He asked Ernie Rasmussen if the Colville Tribe would help their group connect with someone who knew the history and could suggest a respectful name. Ernie said he would take this back to the Colville and said there are Wenatchi Band descendants in the area who might like to be involved. The Wenatchi are seeking recognition as a separate and distinct band based in the Wenatchee valley.

Carlene Anders asked for volunteers for Make A Difference Day on October 22nd in Pateros. They need carpenters, painters and fix-it folks to help button up the new construction and repaired housing used as emergency housing for victims of the Carleton Complex fires. "Bring your tools and plan on a 9-3 day". Mayor Anders says the housing is not ready for winter and that's the work they're hoping to complete.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Isenhardt at 10:59am.

