

# **Wasatch Front Economic Development District, Strategy Committee**

*Carlton Christensen, Chair*

*Shawn Milne, Vice Chair*

*LaNiece Davenport, Executive Director*

---

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, September 24, 2012, 1:00 pm

Wasatch Front Regional Council

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

### **Board Members Present**

Carlton Christensen, Chair, Salt Lake City Council

Shawn Milne, Vice-Chair, Tooele City Council

Louenda Downs, Davis County Commission

Albert Wilde, Widow Maker LLC

Jan Zogmaister, Weber County Commission

Craig Bott, Grow Utah Ventures

Jeff Edwards, EDCUtah

### **Strategy Committee Members Present**

Alan Rindlisbacher, Layton Construction

Tom Christopoulos, Ogden City Corp

Scott Parkinson, Bank of Utah

Jeff Gardner, Energy Solutions

Chris Sloan, Tooele Real Estate

### **Others Present**

Ted Knowlton, Wasatch Front Regional Council

Logan Johnson, Wasatch Front Regional Council

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

**Carlton Christensen, Chair**

Chairman Christensen welcomed the Committee. Members introduced themselves.

### **2. ACTION by Board Members - Adopt ByLaws**

**Carlton Christensen, Chair**

Chairman Christensen asked for a motion to adopt the ByLaws. Commissioner Downs made the motion, Commissioner Zogmaister seconded, seeing no discussion on the motion the ByLaws were approved.

### **3. ACTION by Strategy Committee – Adopt CEDS Issues and Opportunities**

**Logan Johnson**

Mrs. Davenport introduced the issues and opportunities section of the CEDS and turned the time over to Mr. Johnson to present. Mr. Johnson outlined the methodology used to identify strengths and weaknesses. There was discussion on the weaknesses, namely concern over listing Utah's Wasatch Front Region's distance from consumer markets as a weakness. The Committee agreed to revise this to say that we are distanced from some global consumer markets. There was discussion on the importance of the strengths and weaknesses section of the CEDS. The Committee's consensus is to keep this section less specific and more general and agreed that there is a need for further research to identify whether more specificity could help us secure EDA funding. There was discussion on the cluster's identified in the CEDS as to whether or not they are inclusive enough. The Committee agreed that there is a need for further research to ensure we accurately depict the Region's clusters. There was discussion on population growth and decided it fits in both categories, strengths and weaknesses. The last discussion was regarding the weakness, the negative perception of Utah business. The Committee recommended dropping the word "business" to reflect that this is not specific to business but also the social climate.

**4. Discuss CEDS Goals and Objectives**

**Logan Johnson**

Mr. Johnson explained that the goals and objectives were based on existing city and county goals and objectives while keeping the mission statement of this organization in mind (“An organization created to support economic development plans, promote long-term economic competitiveness, and attract federal monies to implement local plans.”). There was considerable discussion on each goal and objective; as a result, the following changes will be made: goal #1 will state “higher-wages” instead of family sustaining jobs, goal #2 will include financial incentives and other funding sources and assist businesses access capital and human resource opportunities, goal #3 will encourage entrepreneurship and innovation, goal #4 will state “growth centers” instead of downtown areas and that we support existing planning efforts, goal #5 state economic development capital and “human resource capacity”, and goal #6 will be to maintain and improve high quality of life.

Mr. Johnson then led an interactive activity to prioritize the goals that will inform future sections of the CEDS. The results of the polling are as follows: 1) attract new businesses to the region with high wages, 2) build on and improve the region’s growth centers, 3) encourage entrepreneurship and innovation, 4) increase economic development capacity, 5) retain and expand existing Utah businesses, 6) maintain and improve our high quality of life.

**5. Discuss CEDS Strategic Projects, Programs, Activities**

**Logan Johnson**

This agenda item was tabled for the next meeting.

**6. Other Business**

**Carlton Christensen, Chair**

Chairman Christensen reminded the Committee that the next meeting is Monday, November 19, 2012 at 1:00 pm. He asked if there was any other business to discuss, hearing none, he made the motion to adjourn the meeting, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.