

## Wasatch Front Economic Development District, Strategy Committee

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Shawn Milne, Vice Chair

LaNiece Davenport, Director

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### MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 25, 2013 1:00 pm

Wasatch Front Regional Council

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

#### Board Members Present

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Shelly Betz, Morgan City Council

Craig Bott, Grow Utah Ventures

Louenda Downs, Davis County Commission

Jeff Edwards, EDCUtah

Albert Wilde, Widow Maker LLC

Jan Zogmaister, Weber County Commission

#### Strategy Committee Members Present

Suzie Becker, Zion's Bank

Tom Christopoulos, Ogden City

Scott Parkinson, Bank of Utah

Alan Rindlisbacher, Layton Construction

#### Others Present

Andrew Gruber, Wasatch Front Regional Council

Ted Knowlton, Wasatch Front Regional Council

Logan Johnson, Wasatch Front Regional Council

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Carlton Christensen, Chair (5 min)

Chair person Christensen welcomed the Committee and each member then introduced themselves.

#### 2. ACTION to Approve Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2013

Carlton Christensen, Chair (5 min)

Mr. Christensen asked for an approval of the January 28, 2013 meeting minutes. Mrs. Betz noticed the date the meeting was held was not accurate on the minutes. Seeing that change and no other, Commissioner Downs made the motion to approve, Councilmember Betz seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

#### 3. Discuss Selection Process for WFEDD Support to Communities in EDA Project Application

LaNiece Davenport (25 min)

Mrs. Davenport reminded the Committee that at the last meeting the issue was raised on how WFEDD staff will extend their limited time to applicants during the EDA application process. She reminded the Committee that the WFEDD staff had identified that they could help up to four entities per year. Mrs. Davenport stated that she discussed the various options with Committee members and counties over the last month during the public comment period. Based on information from the public comment period, she recommended that her assistance be offered to those communities that have the most need and therefore these communities should be given priority. She defined need by the lack of economic development staff, plan, or capacity. There was considerable discussion regarding placing a number on the applicants and the definition of need. It was decided that the WFEDD staff would not tie a number to the applicants they assisted. Rather, priority assistance would be given to any eligible entity when making an application to EDA based on two factors: 1) the organization is distressed and/or is lacking economic development staff, an economic development plan, and capacity; AND 2) the organization's project is a high quality project meaning it has a great potential of

receiving EDA funding. Commissioner Downs made the motion to accept these changes, Mr. Bott seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

**4. ACTION Review and Approve the Final CEDS**

**Logan Johnson (45 min)**

Mrs. Davenport explained that EDA reviewed the draft CEDS and had a considerable number of recommended changes. She handed out copies of the revised CEDS and explained that Logan Johnson will walk us through the majority of the changes. Mr. Johnson reminded the Committee that the changes he will discuss were a result of the public comment period, input from WFEDD staff attending the five County Council of Government meetings, and EDA's review. He also mentioned that the mission, goals and objectives, and projects were not altered.

Mr. Johnson then briefly reviewed each chapter. See below for a summary of the revisions:

Chapter 1: the membership composition tables were moved to this section. Chapter 2: the bulk of the changes took place in this chapter with additional information on workforce development, natural and social geography, agriculture, and the addition of an environment section. A comment was raised regarding wrong population numbers for Riverdale City. Discussion was held on the fact that when countywide averages are used, they do not always paint a realistic picture of need or distress. Therefore, significant areas of poverty are not highlighted. Staff agreed to make the corrections. Chapter 3: the opportunities and threats, incorporation of other materials, consistency with state and local workforce strategies, and economic investments sections were all enhanced. Chapter 4: the only addition was adding a description of how the Committee identified the goals and objectives. Chapter 5: this chapter was greatly enhanced as a result of the public comment period and other outreach efforts, the Chapter also outlined the process, timeline, participants, and partners. Chapter 6: more information was added to clarify how projects were received and the type of information we have for each project, some additional projects were included since the last meeting and vital projects were identified. Chapter 7: the action plan is now more complete with information explaining how WFEDD staff will implement and integrate the CEDS throughout the region. A comment/suggestion was to change the priority from Low to High in the Action Plan for the "Improve Access to Capital" action item which the Committee agreed on. Chapter 8: outlines how project implementation and WFEDD success will be measured. Chapter 9 is a completely new section regarding disaster preparedness, as requested by EDA. A suggestion was made to include another emergency shelter. Staff agreed to make the correction. Appendix A is a list of EDA funding programs. Appendix B has information from the public comment period. Appendix C is made up of the Committee's meeting minutes. Appendix F includes the letters of support from the region. Appendix F was mislabeled and will be corrected to Appendix D.

Mr. Bott made the motion to accept the 2013-2018 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy with the changes addressed above, Mr. Parkinson seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

**5. Discuss the Strategy Committee's Next Steps**

**Carlton (20 min)**

Mr. Christensen sought input from the Committee on how often they should meet once the CEDS is submitted to EDA. After some discussion, the Committee agreed to meet quarterly so that they do not limit anyone's ability to add a project to the project list. Therefore, the Committee would use the quarterly meetings as a schedule/deadline in which projects must be submitted by throughout the year. The Committee agreed and it was decided that the next meeting would be June 24, 2013 and every three months thereafter, unless a meeting would need to be held in which case the Committee would be called to order.

**6. Other business**

**Carlton (5 min)**

Mr. Christensen reminded the Committee that the next meeting will be held Monday, June 24, 2013 at 1:00 pm. He asked if there was any other business to discuss, hearing none, Mr. Bott made the motion to adjourn, Mr. Parkinson seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.