

Wasatch Front Economic Development District, Strategy Committee

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Shawn Milne, Vice Chair

LaNiece Davenport, Director

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 2013 1:00 pm

Wasatch Front Regional Council

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Board Members Present

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Louenda Downs, Davis County Commission

Jeff Edwards, EDCUtah

Jan Zogmaister, Weber County Commission

Strategy Committee Members Present

Suzie Becker, Zion's Bank

Scott Parkinson, Bank of Utah

Alan Rindlisbacher, Layton Construction

Chris Sloan, Group 1 Real Estate

1. Welcome and Introductions

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Chair person Christensen welcomed the Committee members. He excused Tom Christopoulos, Natalie Gochmour, and Shawn Milne.

2. ACTION to Approve Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2013

Carlton Christensen, Chair

Approval of the March 25, 2013 meeting minutes was tabled until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

3. Discuss EDA's Feedback on the CEDS and District Designation

LaNiece Davenport

Mrs. Davenport reminded the Committee that the Committee approved the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy on March 25, 2013 and then the CEDS was approved by the Economic Development Administration on May 29, 2013. She reminded Committee members that with having the CEDS in place, communities and other eligible entities have the support of the Economic Development District when applying for and attracting investments and other opportunities. She stated that both the Committee and EDA recommended changes prior to giving final approval and adoption. Mrs. Davenport reviewed the tracked changes in the CEDS with the group. Here is a brief summary: Chapter 1: some members were moved from one category to another, EDD staff description was added; Chapter 2: demographic information was explained and updated; Chapter 5: projects were numbered; Chapter 6: Salt Lake County project was added, staff time given toward project assistance was explained; Chapter 7: Access to Capital action item was given a higher priority; Chapter 8: St. Anne's shelter was added; Appendix C: March 25, 2013 meeting minutes were added; Appendix D: Davis, Tooele, and GOED Letter's of Support were included; a Works Cited section was added. Mrs. Davenport then reviewed EDA's recommendations for the next CEDS which were to add more background information on resources, include more environmental restraints and other economic related information in the SWOT analysis, to show specific job creation numbers and to combine the vital and regular project lists. EDA also recommends that the EDD list funding sources, potential partners, and numbers and types of potential and achieved projects. The CEDS will need to be updated around this time next year, May 2014. Commissioner Zogmaister stated that according to her notes, the revisions were comprehensive and accurate, the Committee supported this statement.

Mrs. Davenport explained that the District designation process is still underway. Projects can still be funded during this time. She will update the Committee on the designation if it takes place before the September meeting.

4. Discuss Regional Economic Development Projects

LaNiece Davenport

Mrs. Davenport reminded the Committee that an electronic vote in which a majority of the Committee agreed to add manufacturing projects from Salt Lake County and Ogden City to the project list. She also identified a few projects that are taking place around the region. WFRC will support a Broadband Study in partnership with GOED to identify issues and opportunities related to high-speed internet. Mrs. Davenport asked if the EDD would be interested in participating in a needs assessment facilitated by Lt. Governor Bell, Spencer Eccles, and GOED's Rural Partnership program. The Committee supported the idea and suggested that EDD staff attend each County's COG meeting seeking input and that this information is then share with the EDD at the September meeting. We could invite GOED, Lt. Governor Bell, and Spencer Eccles to the meeting. Mr. Edwards explained that the Governor and others are working toward redesigning the State's clusters and that there will be leadership put in place over each cluster to help guide implementation efforts.

5. ACTION Review and Include New Projects into the CEDS

LaNiece Davenport

Mrs. Davenport stated that she had been approached by a handful of entities seeking support in making grant applications. She supported two entities that ended up submitting their grant applications to EDA. She briefly described each project. The first project was submitted by the University of Utah but had broad regional support from a variety of organizations from Box Elder to Salt Lake to Utah County. The project is seeking a \$200,000 grant from EDA's Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership program to further the advanced composites cluster. Mr. Edwards was able to provide additional information on the grant and the variety of organizations that support it. The second project was submitted by Weber State University's Technology Commercialization Office to EDA's University Center program. The project is seeking \$1.5 million dollars over five years to create a University Center for Outdoor Products Innovation. The Committee supports the inclusion of both projects however due to the lack of a quorum the Committee asked EDD staff to seek an electronic vote.

6. Other Business

Carlton Christensen

Mr. Christensen reminded the Committee that the next meeting will be held Monday, September 23, 2013 at 1:00 pm. He asked if there was any other business to discuss. Mrs. Davenport asked if the Committee would be open to ways to ensure attendance such as having each member appoint an alternate. The Committee agreed this would be worthwhile and suggested that she add this information to the ByLaws and that the Committee take action on it in September. No other business was discussed. Mrs. Downs made the motion to adjourn, Mrs. Zogmaister seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.