

**Wasatch Front Economic Development District
Governing Board**

Shawn Milne, Chair

Michael Bouwhuis, Vice Chair

LaNiece Davenport, Director

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 24, 2014 1:00 pm
Wasatch Front Regional Council
295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Members Present

Shawn Milne, Chair
Michael Bouwhuis, Vice Chair
Louenda Downs, Davis County Commissioner
Jan Zogmaister, Weber County Commissioner
Carlton Christensen, Regional Development Salt Lake County
Bill Applegarth, Riverton City Mayor
Jeff Edwards, EDCUtah
Susie Becker, Zion's Bank
Jim Smith, Davis County Commissioner-elect
Logan Wilde, Morgan City Councilmember
Randy Sant, Tooele City Economic Development
Tom Christopoulos, Ogden City Economic Development
Scott Parkinson, Bank of Utah
Alan Rindlisbacher, Layton Construction

Others Present

Greg Jones, University of Utah
Ted Knowlton, Wasatch Front Regional Council
LaNiece Davenport, Wasatch Front Regional Council / Wasatch Front Economic Development District
Kevin Cisney, Wasatch Front Economic Development District
Justin Morgan, Federal Highway Administration

1. Welcome and Introductions

Milne, Chair

Shawn Milne welcomed the Strategy Committee and Board members and asked everyone to introduce themselves, including those who joined the meeting by phone.

2. ACTION BY BOARD – Approve Minutes from May 12, 2014

Milne, Chair

Shawn Milne briefly reviewed the minutes from the previous Strategy Committee meeting that was held on May 12, 2014. Louenda Downs made a motion to approve the minutes, and Logan Wilde seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

3. ACTION BY BOARD - Approve New Members

Milne, Chair

Chairperson Shawn Milne proposed the appointment of two new Strategy Committee members: Jim Smith, President of Davis County Chamber of Commerce and County Commissioner-elect, and Shelly Betz, Morgan City Councilmember. Bill Applegarth made a motion to accept the two individuals as the newest members of the Strategy Committee, and Louenda Downs seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Board Member Jan Zogmaister proposed that Douglas Larsen replace her on the Board at the end of the year when her term expires. The Board will address that issue at the next meeting. Additionally, three other members will need to be added at the next Governing Board meeting. These include a person from the public or private sector from Tooele County, and two members from the private sector in Davis County. These action items will all be addressed at the next scheduled meeting on February 23, 2015.

4. EDA Designation

Davenport

LaNiece Davenport informed the Board of a letter she received from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), which officially recognizes the Wasatch Front Economic Development District (WFEDD) as a new district. Mrs. Davenport explained that there was a lot of work that went into getting recognized as a district by the EDA. In the letter, the EDA stressed their commitment to provide financial assistance to meet the economic development needs of distressed communities. They do this primarily by providing financial support where it is most needed. One of the goals of the EDA is to promote innovation and competitiveness within the district. This support will expand the opportunities available to our five county region.

5. Presentation on EDA Application

Greg Jones

Dr. Greg Jones is the Associate Director of Scientific Computing and Imaging at the University of Utah. Dr. Jones spoke about the application he helped submit to the EDA in September 2013. The application was submitted through the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) program, and the project was focused on innovations related to advanced carbon composites. Dr. Jones and his team looked closely at economic clusters in the region and found that the carbon cluster was one of the strongest industry clusters along the Wasatch Front. Dr. Jones and his team identified ways they could focus on carbon composite technologies to promote economic development in the region. Ultimately, Dr. Jones' team fell just short of receiving federal funding from the EDA.

One of the challenges of receiving funding was the difficulty of having many inputs into the grant application process. Leading up to the application deadline, there were over 30 individuals making changes to the EDA application. Additionally, the EDA typically requires a 50-50 dollar matching from outside sources, which presented another challenge. One improvement Dr. Jones suggested was that they begin the grant writing process sooner the next time they submit an application. Dr. Jones and his group will be submitting another application to the EDA in February 2015.

6. Presentation on Transportation and Economic Development

Ted Knowlton

Ted Knowlton spoke about the relationship between regional transportation initiatives and economic development. He suggested that we gauge the success of our plans based on economic outcomes. In order to do this, Mr. Knowlton said we need to ask what the future has in store and plan accordingly. Over the next few decades our region's population will become older and more racially diverse. As generations age, their demands for housing and transportation evolve. Generation Y and Millennials are demanding housing that is closer to work and retail when compared to previous generations of Americans. If the region is to succeed economically, we have to plan our transportation systems to be more accessible to many modes of transportation (pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles, and public transportation).

7. ACTION to add Projects to the CEDS

Davenport

LaNiece Davenport noted that BioInnovations Gateway Institute (BiG) would like to be added to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The project that was submitted was from BioInnovations Gateway Institute (BiG). BiG is housed in the Granite Technical Institute, which is currently at capacity and cannot handle any additional projects. They want to expand their services to increase their capacity to help Utah start-up companies. Their focus is on commercial products and services, and helping students gain experiential opportunities in order to improve our region's workforce development. BiG works

with partners (including the University of Utah, EDCUtah, USTAR, Granite Schools, and private donors) to secure funding for their projects. They would like to add this to the CEDS in the first quarter of 2015. Jeff Edwards called for a motion to approve the project to the CEDS, and Louenda Downs seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Meeting Calendar/Other Business

Davenport

Mrs. Davenport asked the Committee what topics they would like to cover in future meetings. Several Committee Members voiced opinions of wanting to discuss transportation projects and initiatives in further detail. Commissioner Milne made note of their suggestions and said the Committee would discuss those issues in further detail at the next meeting on Monday February 23, 2015. The Committee will also be discussing the Regional Broadband study at the February meeting. Michael Bouwhuis made a motion to end the meeting and reconvene on February 23, 2015. Scott Parkinson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor. No other items were discussed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.