

Cowlitz-Lewis Economic Development District
Minutes
September 29, 2009

Attending:

George Raiter
Judy DeVaul
Denny Richards
Dave Campbell
George Cress
Polo Enriquez
Patrick Sorensen
Ron Averill

Cy Meyers
Merlin MacReynold
Dick Larman
Mary Brown
Taylor Aalvik
Steve Harvey
Jennifer Keene
Jennifer Korfiatis

1. Meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by Steve Harvey followed by introductions. Steve Harvey introduced Jennifer Korfiatis, guest speaker, from the North Central Washington Economic Development District.
2. Jennifer spoke about the NCWEDD, how it was comprised, membership, and their role in economic development. Jennifer further discussed the focus on regional entrepreneurialship rather than the other aspects of economic development like recruitment and retention, which are focused specifically by the ADO's in each of the three counties. She went over their annual action plan of the regional priorities, the identification of projects and how these are prioritized by the EDD. Jennifer finished by discussing the benefits of working regionally and collaboratively illustrated through the funding of a regional farmers market and business incubator program.
3. Old business
 - The CLEDD Bylaws were reviewed by the board, Taylor proposed a change to section IIA to include Federal Recognized tribes in the possible expansion of the Chinook and Chehalis tribes. Steve noted section III E regarding email voting. Taylor stated that email voting deters dialogue and discussion from the voting issues. Merlin agreed with Taylor that voting should be done at the meetings. Ron brought up the difficulty in calling special meetings in a timely manner for voting and would appreciate the option especially if a decision is required before the next meeting. Taylor stated that those pending issues maybe deferred to the chair then ratify at the next meeting. George stated that III F regarding meetings but added that having the option of email voting is good. The discussion was closed leaving the email voting in as is to be discussed further if necessary due to overuse. Taylor made the motion to approve the bylaws with the amendments stated, George seconded the motion and passed unanimously.
 - Nomination and election of chair and vice-chair were discussed. Merlin nominated Ron as chair and was seconded by Judy. Ron nominated Dick as chair and was seconded by Judy. Ron was elected chair to a 6 to 2 vote. Mary was nominated as vice-chair by George and seconded by Dave and was elected unanimously. The board decided that these positions would be on an interim basis until the January meeting.

4. New business

Disaster Resiliency Project- Jennifer briefly discussed the Disaster Resiliency project funded for \$100,000 by the EDA to fund the first phase of the project, discussed the request for proposals and the committee to review the proposals that will include Dick Larman representing the EDCs, Rick Winsman representing the Chambers, Merlin will represent the cities and will be seeking a representative for small business. Dick asked when the RFP will be sent and where it will be advertised. Jennifer indicated more information will be provided in the January meeting.

5. The next meeting will be in late January 2010. Note: the next meeting will be in Longview. The next meeting will be a call for membership in order to review the development of the board and to elect a formal chair and vice chair.

6. Taylor moved to adjourn and seconded by George. Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM.

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