



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Idaho Department of Commerce
Thursday March 25, 2021

Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
(T) John Craner, <i>Region IV</i>	(T) Tom Kealey, <i>Director</i>
(T) Paul Kimmell, <i>Region II</i>	(T) Jake Reynolds, <i>Business Development & Operations Administrator</i>
(T) Mike Reynoldson, <i>Region III</i>	(T) Karen Appelgren, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Manager</i>
(T) Rick Phillips, <i>Region V</i>	(T) Susie Davidson, <i>Business Attraction Manager</i>
(T) Donna O’Kelly, <i>Region VI</i>	(T) Ewa Szewczyk, <i>Grants and Contracts Manager</i>
(T) Dave Wilson, <i>Region VII</i>	(T) Jason Barnes, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
(T) Sandy Patano, <i>At-Large</i>	(T) Mark Blaiser, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
	(T) Magaly Carrillo, <i>Community Development Analyst</i>
	(T) Kim Glineski, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Specialist</i>
	(T) Rylon Hofacer, <i>Senior Research Analyst</i>
	(T) Jerry Miller, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Specialist</i>
	(T) Cathy Perry, <i>Grants and Contracts Operations Analyst</i>
	(T) Holly Stevenson, <i>Grants and Contracts Operations Analyst</i>
	(T) James Varner, <i>Community Development Analyst</i>
(T) denotes via telephone	

Call to Order

Chairman John Craner called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Craner noted that the minutes for the February 28, 2021 Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting had been distributed and if there were no corrections, he would approve the minutes as distributed.

Moved by: Paul Kimmell

Seconded By: Dave Wilson

All in favor. Motion approved.

Call for Conflict of Interest

Chairman Craner asked EAC if they have a conflict of interest and would like to recuse themselves. (No response from EAC)

Director's Welcome

Director Kealey welcomed EAC and informed them on Governor Little's COVID-19 vaccine update. Director Kealey gave a Power Point presentation on Governor Little's plan "Building Idaho's Future" including the pending Idaho Commerce Budget, Broadband, the high demand jobs and wages by regional MSA, and the Idaho Tourism Report.

Open Meeting Laws Overview and Q&A

Assistant Deputy Attorney General Rachal Kolts gave a presentation on Idaho's Open Meeting Laws.

Governor's Office Update – TRI Average Wages

Bobbi-Jo Meuleman Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Little talked to EAC about Governor Little's concern on the average county wage in the Tax Reimbursement Incentive (TRI). Governor Little would like EAC to look at TRI tool and see what can be done about the average county wage increasing as time goes by and the average county wage increases.

Motion to Move to Executive Session

Chairman Craner announced he would entertain a motion to move the Council to executive session to review the details of the TRI's proprietary scoring process ***pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d) to review records exempt from public disclosure under Idaho Code Sections 74-107(6), and 67-4708.***

Paul Kimmell moved to enter executive session. Rick Phillips seconded.

Roll call vote to move into executive session

John Craner – Aye

Paul Kimmell – Aye

Mike Reynoldson – Aye

Rick Phillips – Aye

Donna O'Kelly – Aye

Dave Wilson – Aye

Sandy Patano – Had to leave the meeting

With over two-thirds majority in favor, the Council moved into executive session at 3:31 p.m.

Return to Public Session

Chairman Craner noted that the Council returned to the public session at 4:10 p.m.

Chairman Craner indicated the Council:

1. Reviewed and discussed Project Custom and Project Jester application for a refundable tax credit; and
2. After discussions were concluded, the executive session was closed upon motion by Dave Wilson, seconded by Rick Phillips and a majority vote.

Motion

In the matter of the application for Project Custom, I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Project Custom upon the following terms:

- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 20% of new state revenue for 10 years.

- Tax credit certificate issued post-performance upon review and verification by Commerce.
- No less than 50 new jobs, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.
- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average county wage of \$36,838.
- Company must maintain the minimum required jobs for the term of the incentive agreement.
- Company must maintain operations in Idaho for the term of the agreement.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Mike Reynoldson

Seconded by: Paul Kimmell

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

In the matter of the application for Project Jester, I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Project Jester upon the following terms:

- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 18% of new state revenue for 9 years.
- Tax credit certificate issued post-performance upon review and verification by Commerce.
- No less than 20 new jobs, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.
- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average county wage of \$42,796.
- Company must maintain the minimum required jobs for the term of the incentive agreement.
- Company must maintain operations in Idaho for the term of the agreement.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Dave Wilson

Seconded by: Rick Phillips
All in favor. Motion approved.

New Business

Director Kealey and Commerce will bring options for the TRI average county wage for the next EAC meeting.

Motion

To close the meeting.

Moved by: Rick Phillips
Seconded by: Dave Wilson
All in favor. Motion approved.

Chairman Craner adjourned the meeting at 4:19 p.m.