



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Idaho Department of Commerce
Thursday September 24, 2020

Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
(T) John Craner, <i>Region IV</i>	(T) Tom Kealey, <i>Director</i>
(T) Steve Meyer, <i>Region I</i>	(T) Jake Reynolds, <i>Business Development & Operations Administrator</i>
(T) Rick Phillips, <i>Region V</i>	(T) Karen Appelgren, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Manager</i>
(T) Paul Kimmell, <i>Region VI</i>	(T) Susie Davidson, <i>Business Attraction Manager</i>
(T) Dave Wilson, <i>Region VII</i>	(T) Dennis Porter, <i>Community Development Manager</i>
(T) Sandy Patano, <i>At-Large</i>	(T) Ewa Szewczyk, <i>Grants and Contracts Manager</i>
	(T) Jason Barnes, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
	(T) Mark Blaiser, <i>Grants and Contracts Operations Analyst</i>
	(T) Paris Dickerson, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
	(T) Rylon Hofacer, <i>Senior Research Analyst</i>
	(T) Tony Tenne, <i>Senior Community Development Specialist</i>
(T) denotes via telephone	(T) James Varner, <i>Community Development Analyst</i>

Call to Order

Chairman John Craner called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Craner noted that the minutes for the August 27, 2020 Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting had been distributed and if there were no corrections, he would approve the minutes as distributed.

Edits to the August meeting minutes include changing Steve Miller to Steve Meyer and adding Project Grin under return to public session.

Moved by: Sandy Patano
Seconded By: Steve Meyer
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 introduced Paul Kimmell as the new Region 2 EAC member and the new Business Retention and Expansion Manager Karen Appelgren. Director Kealey gave an update on the Department of Commerce and what is going on around the State of Idaho.

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.*

Rick Phillips moved to enter executive session. Dave Wilson seconded.

Roll call vote to move into executive session

John Craner – Aye
Steve Meyer – Aye
Rick Phillips – Aye
Dave Wilson – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye
Paul Kimmell – Aye

With over two-thirds majority in favor, the Council moved into executive session at 2:20 p.m.

Return to Public Session

Chairman Craner noted that the Council returned to the public session at 3:34 p.m.

Chairman Craner indicated the Council:

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

Motion

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

- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 10% of new state revenue for 5 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 Kootenai county wage of \$39,470.
- 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: Sandy Patano
Seconded by: Paul Kimmell

John Craner – Aye
Steve Meyer – Aye
Rick Phillips – Aye
Dave Wilson – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye
Paul Kimmell – Aye

With two-thirds majority vote. Motion Approved.

Motion

In the matter of the application for Project Elixir, I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Project Elixir 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 20 new jobs, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.
- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average Twin Falls county wage of \$35,686.
- 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: Paul Kimmell
Seconded by: Steve Meyer

John Craner – Aye
Steve Meyer – Aye
Rick Phillips – Aye
Dave Wilson – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye
Paul Kimmell – Aye

With two-thirds majority vote. Motion Approved.

CDBG CARES Allocation & Process

Dennis Porter gave a Power Point presentation on the CDBG CARES funding. Dennis Porter informed the Council that we will most likely be using the first round of funding for mobile health care clinics and ambulances to not duplicate benefits. We have offered the second round to IHFA for housing. The third round will be held back to recognize any needs that might arise after December. The Community Development team is asking EAC to approve 7% for admin and technical assistance and to move funding from Public Facilities to Public Service to equal \$3,245,069 and leave \$1,000,000 in Public Facilities and Infrastructure. Dennis Porter asked EAC for their consideration or a vote on the CDBG-CARES 1 allocation approval process.

Motion

In the matter of the CDBG-CARES 1 allocation approval process EAC moves to go with option #1 of the CDBG-CARES approval process: staff qualifies, scores, and ranks application - staff presents project to EAC at next EAC meeting - EAC votes to recommend to fund or not - recommendation present to Governor, Governor makes decision.

Moved by: Sandy Patano

Seconded by: Dave Wilson

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

In the matter of moving funding allocations EAC accepts what is being proposed by Community Development Staff.

Moved by: Rick Phillips

Seconded by: Steve Meyer

All in favor. Motion approved.

New Business

Director Kealey informed EAC of the difficulties Idaho is still having with COVID-19.

Motion

To close the meeting.

Moved by: Sandy Patano

Seconded by: Dave Wilson

All in favor. Motion approved.

Chairman Craner adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.