



C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Bobbi-Jo Meuleman, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting

October 16, 2018

Clarion Inn Conference Room
1399 Bench Rd., Pocatello, ID 83201

Council Members:

Steve Meyer, *Region I*
Robin Woods, *Region II*
Mike Reynoldson, *Region III*
John Craner, *Region IV*
Rick Phillips, *Region V*
Mark Young, *Region VI*
Sandy Patano, *At Large*

Commerce Staff Present:

Bobbi-Jo Meuleman, *Director*
Jake Reynolds, *Business Development and Operations Administrator*
Susie Davidson, *Business Attraction Manager*
Dennis Porter, *Community Development Manager*
Sharon Deal, *Senior Community Development Specialist*
James Varner, *Administrative Assistant*
(T) Patrick Watson, *Senior Research Analyst*

(T) denotes via telephone

Call to Order

Chairman Steve Meyer called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Meyer notes that the minutes for the September 27, 2018 Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting had been distributed and if there are no corrections he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes as distributed.

Motion

To approve the meeting minutes from the September 27, 2018 EAC meeting.

Moved by: Sandy Patano

Seconded by: Mark Young

Steve Meyer – Aye
Robin Woods – Absent
Mike Reynoldson – Absent
John Craner – Aye
Rick Phillips – Aye
Mark Young – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye
Motion approved.

Call for Conflict of Interest

Chairman Meyer asks the Council if they have a conflict of interest and would like to recuse themselves. (No response from the Council)

Directors Welcome

Director Bobbi-Jo Meuleman welcomed the EAC and the Commerce Employees to Pocatello for the October Economic Advisory Council Meeting and gave a special thank you to Rick Phillips for welcoming us to Pocatello and setting up the Simplot tour and transportation for both tours this afternoon.

Robin Woods joined the meeting 8:15 a.m.

Commerce and Legislative Update

Director Meuleman gave an update on legislation that Commerce is working on with the Tourism grant, along with changes at Commerce including a new Public Information Specialist starting next week. Director Meuleman also informed the Council of the successful Governor Trade Mission to Canada. Eleven companies went on the trade mission. Director Meuleman reviewed Opportunity Zones including how many years a company needs to reside in an Opportunity Zone. Commerce is awaiting more information to be released by the US Treasury regarding Opportunity Zones. An update on the TRI Lawsuit indicates potential Judge's ruling by the end of October.

Mike Reynolds joined the meeting 8:20 a.m.

Discussion

The EAC discussed ways to improve TRI in the future and what the Council can do to help improve Idaho.

Block Grant Program Application Review

Application Updates

CDBG Manager, Dennis Porter, reviewed the PY18 CDBG Block Grant Briefing Book including an update on projects in the process, the funding breakdown and possible future job creation projects.

Park Applications

Dennis Porter reviewed the scoring processes for the park applications.

- Malad – Splash pad
Sharon Deal went over the Malad splash pad application and explained the recommended funding with the \$25,000 condition of \$150,000.
(Recommending to fund)
- Kamiah – Swimming pool improvements
Dennis Porter went over the Kamiah swimming pool improvements application and explained the recommended funding of \$150,000.
(Recommending to fund)

Motion

To fund both Malad's splash pad and Kamiah's swimming pool improvements as recommended.

Moved by: Rick Phillips
Seconded by: John Craner
All in Favor.
Motion Approved.

Project Updates

Dennis Porter gave an overview of project status updates from the PY18 Block Grant Briefing Book.

Council

For the next meeting in Boise, the EAC would like to have a person from Commerce come in and talk about the Main Street project. They would also like to see a presentation from Matt and Dianne on how Tourism impacts Idaho regionally and as a whole.

Tax Reimbursement Incentive Project

Director Meuleman introduced Project Pathway.

Motion to Move to Executive Session

Chairman Meyer 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.***

Mark Young moved to enter into executive session. Sandy Patano seconded.

Roll call vote to move into executive session
Steve Meyer – Aye
Robin Woods – Aye
Mike Reynoldson – Aye
John Craner – Aye
Rick Phillips – Aye
Mark Young – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye

With over two-thirds majority in favor, the Council moved into executive session at 10:34 a.m.

Return to Public Session

Chairman Meyer noted that the Council returned to the public session at 11:08 a.m.
Chairman Meyer indicated the Council:

1. Reviewed and discussed Project Pathway application for a refundable tax credit; and

2. After discussions were concluded, closed the executive session upon motion by John Craner, seconded by Rick Phillips and a majority vote.

Motion

In the matter of the application for Project Pathway, I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Project Pathway 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 Ada county wage of \$46,066.
- Award is contingent upon the local city or county providing a community contribution.
- Allow for a maximum two-year construction phase during the term of the 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: Rick Phillips
Second by: Sandy Patano

Roll call vote:
Steve Meyer – Declined to vote
Robin Woods – Nay
Mike Reynoldson – Aye
John Craner – Aye

Rick Phillips – Aye
Mark Young – Aye
Sandy Patano – Aye

With over two-thirds majority in favor.
Motion Approved.

Working Lunch

Regional Economic Development Overview

Kathy Ray, Kristen Jensen and John Regetz shared their backgrounds and an overview of Region 5 by including what companies and industries are there, the collaborative projects, and their workforce development and how to bring jobs to students using Your Fit. Your Fit is a job fair started with Rick Phillips to show students the job opportunities in the region. They took the job fair on the road to the different schools in the region. They discussed the diversified economy, what kind of impact the new jobs will have in the area and what they need to do to keep up with the growth and regional agriculture.

Power Point Presentation

Steve Meyer gave a Power Point presentation about broadband expansion in North Idaho.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.