



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Idaho Department of Commerce
Thursday April 22, 2021

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) Paul Kimmell, <i>Region II</i>	(T) Karen Appelgren, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Manager</i>
(T) Mike Reynoldson, <i>Region III</i>	(T) Susie Davidson, <i>Business Attraction Manager</i>
(T) Rick Phillips, <i>Region V</i>	(T) Dennis Porter, <i>Community Development Manager</i>
(T) Dave Wilson, <i>Region VII</i>	(T) Ewa Szewczyk, <i>Grants and Contracts Manager</i>
(T) Sandy Patano, <i>At-Large</i>	(T) Jason Barnes, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
	(T) Mark Blaiser, <i>Business Attraction Specialist</i>
	(T) Magaly Carrillo, <i>Community Development Analyst</i>
	(T) Laura Conilogue, <i>Senior Financial Technician</i>
	(T) Kim Glineski, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Specialist</i>
	(T) Jenny Hemly, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Specialist</i>
	(T) Jerry Miller, <i>Business Retention and Expansion Specialist</i>
	(T) Cathy Perry, <i>Grants and Contracts Operations Analyst</i>
	(T) Tony Tenne, <i>Senior Community Development Specialist</i>
	(T) Val Torres, <i>Senior Financial 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 1:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Craner noted that the minutes for the March 25, 2021 Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting had been distributed and if there were no corrections, he would approve the minutes as distributed.

Moved by: Dave Wilson

Seconded By: Sandy Patano

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 to the April meeting. Director Kealey gave an update on what is going on around the State of Idaho and with the Department of Commerce.

Budget Overview – CDBG & RCIF

Community Development Manager Dennis Porter gave a Power Point presentation on the Community Development program including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Rural Community Investment Fund (RCIF), and CDBG-CV CARES (CARES). Dennis Porter continued by going over the scoring spreadsheets for Downtown Revitalization, RCIF Job Creation, Public Facilities, Senior / Community Centers, and CARES projects.

Montpelier Downtown Presentation

The City of Montpelier gave a presentation on the Downtown Revitalization Project asking for \$500,000 from CDBG.

Jerome County (True West Beef) Presentation

Magaly Carrillo went over the Jerome County/True West Beef Briefing Book page before the presentation. Jerome County gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Job Creation project requesting \$400,000 from RCIF.

Community Development Applications

Motion

To approve the Montpelier Downtown Revitalization Project for \$500,000.

Moved by: Rick Phillips

Seconded by: Paul Kimmell

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

To approve the request of \$400,00 in RCIF for the Jerome County Job Creation Project.

Moved by: John Craner

Seconded by: Sandy Patano

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

To approve all the 2021 Public Facility Projects as recommended by Community Development Team at \$5,585,000.

Moved by: Rick Phillips

Seconded by: Dave Wilson

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

Move \$265,051 from the Economic Development set aside to Public Facilities.

Moved by: John Craner

Seconded by: Sandy Patano

All in favor. Motion approved.

Dennis Porter continued to go over the Community Development PowerPoint and the Senior/Community Center scoring spreadsheet. Dennis Porter, Tony Tenne, and Magaly Carrillo went over the Senior/Community Center applications with EAC.

Motion

To Approve the Senior/Community Center applications as recommended by the Community Development team at \$1,032,203 this includes reducing the amount for the City of Grand View to \$150,000 and to not fund the City of McCammon.

Moved by: Dave Wilson

Seconded by: Paul Kimmell

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

Move \$242,936 from Economic Development set aside to Senior/Community Center set aside.

Moved by: Sandy Patano

Seconded by: Steve Meyer

All in favor. Motion approved.

Magaly Carrillo and Tony went over the CDBG-CV CARES applications with EAC.

Motion

To fund the CARES applications as presented by the Community Development team for \$650,000.

Moved by: Paul Kimmell

Seconded by: Mike Reynoldson

All in favor. Motion approved.

EAC took a five-minute break.

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.***

Sandy Patano moved to enter executive session. Rick Phillips seconded.

Roll call vote to move into executive session.

John Craner – Aye

Steve Meyer – Aye

Paul Kimmell – Aye

Mike Reynoldson – Aye

Rick Phillips – Aye

Dave Wilson – Aye

Sandy Patano – Aye

With over two-thirds majority in favor, the Council moved into executive session at 3:38 p.m.

Return to Public Session

Chairman Craner noted that the Council returned to the public session at 4:08 p.m.

Chairman Craner indicated the Council:

1. Reviewed and discussed Project Mineral and Project Family applications for a refundable tax credit; and
2. After discussions were concluded, the executive session was closed upon motion by Mike Reynoldson, seconded by Steve Meyer and a majority vote.

Motion

In the matter of the application for Project Family, I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Project Family 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 county wage of \$41,629.
- 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.
- Subject to confirmation of community match.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Paul Kimmell

Seconded by: Rick Phillips

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion

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

- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 28% of new state revenue for 14 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 \$34,562.
- 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.
- Subject to confirmation of community match.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Sandy Patano
 Seconded by: John Craner
All in favor. Motion approved.

Governor Brad Little

Governor Little joined the meeting and gave EAC and update on Idaho’s growth. EAC gave Governor Little an update on their respective region.

TRI Average County Wage Discussion

Director Kealey went over the TRI average county wage change proposal that was distributed prior to the meeting as requested by EAC indicating that effective July 1, 2021, and for all TRI contracts executed after this date, all tax credits will be assessed based on the actual wages collectively paid in an employer’s current tax year compared to the average annual county wage for the employer’s prior tax year as reported by the Idaho Department of Labor. This comparison will occur annually during the term of each active contract to determine whether a tax credit should be awarded.

Motion

To implement the average county wage change as proposed.

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

EAC Discussion

EAC discussed the COVID-19 vaccine.

Motion

To close the meeting.

Moved by: Dave Wilson
 Seconded by: Steve Meyer

All in favor. Motion approved.

Chairman Craner adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.