



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Idaho Department of Commerce
January 25, 2024

Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Jeremy Grimm, <i>Region I</i>	(A) Tom Kealey, Director
(T) Paul Kimmell, <i>Region II</i>	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator
(T) Brian Wonderlich <i>Region III</i>	Ewa Szewczyk, Grants and Contract Manager
(T) Randy Bauscher <i>Region IV</i>	Dani Parmenter, Community Development Specialist
(T) Fred Titensor, <i>Region V</i>	Cathy Perry, Grants and Contract Operations Analyst
(T) John Radford <i>Region VI</i>	Maribel Saucedo-Gonzalez
<i>Vacant Region VII</i>	Tony Tenne, Community Development Specialist
(T) Eve Knudtsen <i>At-Large</i>	Dennis Porter, Community Development Manager
	(T) Mindy Peper, Event Planner contractor
(A) <i>Absent</i>	(T) Guests: Alison Tompkins, Michelle McFarlane
(T) <i>denotes via zoom meeting</i>	

Call to Order

Chairman Paul Kimmell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Paul Kimmell noted that the minutes for the October 25, 2023, Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting had been distributed. Asked for motion to approve minutes as is.

Moved by: Jeremy Grimm
Seconded by: John Radford
All in favor. Motion approved.

Call for Conflict of Interest

Chair Paul Kimmell: None found.

Jake Reynolds sits in for Directors Welcome and Update:

- Region 7 representative seat is vacant.
- The IGEM program will be repealed as of July 1, 2024, looking for alternate funding.
- The Idaho Commerce budget goes before the legislature on February 29, 2024.

- Idaho Broadband program update: all CFF grants awarded, and continued work on BEAD grant.
- Governor's next trade missions to Taiwan and Japan.

Idaho Tax Reimbursement Applications

Chairman Paul Kimmell: The Council will now review the details of an application for a refundable tax credit under the Idaho Reimbursement Incentive Act that have been received by the Director and submitted to this Council for review. The application contains records and information exempt from public disclosure.

As a result, I will entertain a motion under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d) to go into executive session to review the applications.

Moved by: Fred Titensor
Seconded by: Eve Knudtsen

Vote to enter into executive session: Roll Call by Chairman Kimmell

Jeremy Grimm - Aye
Paul Kimmell- Aye
Brian Wonderlich - Aye
Randy Bauscher - Aye
John Radford - Aye
Fred Titensor- Aye

All in favor. Motion approved.

Motion to close executive session:
Moved by: Fred Titensor
Seconded by: Eve Knudtsen

All in favor. Motion approved.

Chairman Paul Kimmell: The Council has come out of executive session and returned to the regular meeting. Please let the minutes reflect that the Council:

Reviewed and discussed the following application:

- Project Spot

The application was submitted for a refundable tax credit. Board will now meet with their decision on the application.

Project Spot Motion:

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

- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 20% 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 for a rural county or 50 new jobs for an urban county, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.
- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average county wage, which is subject to change annually.
- 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: Jeremy Grimm
Seconded by: Randy Bauscher
All in favor. Motion approved.

CDBG Budget Overview; Public Park for Resiliency Applications; Public Facilities for Resiliency Applications; Downtown Revitalization Applications; Funding Decisions

Dennis Porter introduces his presentation and spotlights disseminated documents received by the EAC for CDBG/RCIF projects.

Dennis covered the CDBG PY2023 budget and public facilities projects, CDBG PY2024 allocation, the CARES 1, 2 and 3 budgets with deadlines to expend funds, and the RCIF budget. Dennis reiterates Build America Buy America parameters and timelines for each of the 3 phases.

Dennis' staff present short commentaries and recommendation on 8 public facility projects.

Chairman Paul Kimmell: I will entertain motion to accept all 8 public facility CDBG projects as presented and recommended by staff to move to addendum phase.

Moved: Brian Wonderlich
Seconded: Randy Bauscher
All in Favor. Motion Approved

Dennis addresses three of PY2023 CDBG downtown revitalization projects followed by more staff presentations of short commentary with recommendations.

Chairman Paul Kimmell: entertains motion to accept all 3 downtown revitalization CDBG projects as presented and recommended by staff to move to addendum phase.

Moved: Fred Titensor
Seconded: Eve Knudtsen
All in Favor. Motion Approved

Dennis covers the CARES CDBG public parks for resiliency projects. Staff give commentary and recommendations on 2 public parks for resiliency projects.

Chairman Paul Kimmell: I will entertain motion to accept both public parks for resiliency CARES and CDBG projects as presented and recommended by staff to move to fund.

Moved: Jeremy Grimm
Seconded: Eve Knudsten
All in Favor. Motion Approved

Dennis covers the 2 CARES CDBG public facilities for resiliency projects followed by staff's short commentary and recommendations.

Chairman Paul Kimmell: I will entertain motion to accept both public facilities for resiliency CARES CDBG projects as presented and recommended by staff to move to fund.

Moved: John Radford
Seconded: Randy Bauscher
All in Favor. Motion Approved

New Business:

Jake Reynolds states that he will keep EAC updated on need for February and March meetings, as well as the in person meeting for April.

Chairman Kimmell discusses the effort to expand local option taxes and asks EAC to look into Lift Local Idaho online.

Chairman Paul Kimmell adjourned the meeting at 4:07 pm.