

Lincoln County Economic Development Council

Minutes

January 11th, 2010
Outside Sprague, WA
Barr Regional Bio-Industrial Park

Members: Doug Plinski, Rex Harder , Dale Swant, Billie Herron, Gary Green, Steve Starr, Scott Hutsell, Ron Groff and Lynn McWhorter

I. Roll call and introductions

Vice President Scott Hutsell opened the meeting after the group enjoyed a tour of the facility led by Larry Condon.

The following persons were present:

Board Members: Scott Hutsell, Steve Starr, Rex Harder, Doug Plinski, Billie Herron, Kim King and staff members Pam Kelley and Joyce Mings.

Guests included Larry Condon , Gordon Herron, Gerry Allen, and Jerry Allen. Jerry may be interested in Joining the Board.

II. Minutes and Treasurer's reports

Rex gave the Treasurers report. See attachments to the Jan. 11, 2010 packet. Doug **Moved** to approve the treasurer's report. Kim seconded and the motion passed

Joyce asked the Board to be prepared at the next meeting to discuss Margie's end of probation and give her ample time to make any adjustments they see fit to her payroll in April. Joyce told the Board that with President Groff's advice, she allowed in the budget a 10% raise for Margie, should the Board see fit to vote on that.

Steve **moved** to approve the minutes. Billie seconded and motion passed.

III. Old business

Time and Light were short after the tour (no electricity in the office used for the meeting).Margie quickly gave the Board a report of some of the things her and Joyce have been working on.

Almira - Joyce has been working with the Dept. of Commerce's in the Small Communities Initiative to form a plan for funding for their water/sewer system. She also attempted to secure EMPG funding for a generator for Almira (and possibly other communities) and to get their assistance with a County wide emergency plan as discussed at a Mayor's meeting.

She also researched surplus generators. Bob Quimby, the State of WA surplus program. Once an entity registers, they can give him their "wish list" and he tries

to find it.

Jeanette also got a tip that HUD might fund a generator. I have done research, but have not found anything yet. Will keep trying.

Creston – They are working on a CDBG application for a water system upgrade. Assisted new Clerk with consultant's requests. Researched grant opportunities for reroofing Town Hall.

Davenport – Spoke to Steve Goemmel about helping them 1) source funds for the construction of the Field of Dreams Sports Complex; and 2) helping them market the commercial property that borders it. We are going to meet in early February.

Harrington – Member of their newly formed Historic Preservation Commission. Work to become a Certified Local Gov't with a Historic District (3-1/2 blocks downtown.)

Wilbur – A Community/County profile was developed to recruit new business to the area. We will be offering the same service to all Cities and Towns. To be announced in the next newsletter. Next: Requesting funds to do a feasibility study for an industrial park next to the Wilbur Airport.

Mayor's Meeting – The EDC is going to host a Mayors Meeting in February. The topic for the meeting will be water (water rights, water systems, water storage, recent legislation affecting water, and the potential to pursue water-related grants as a collective body.) We hope to have the Lincoln County Water Conservancy Board and their DOE contact as guest speakers.

Public Development Authorities

Harrington – Received \$5,000 from WSDOT Emergent Needs Fund. Did not receive the \$5,000 applied for through LCEDF grant. Application for \$5,000 from Lodging Tax fund is still pending.

NWLCRPDA – Time consuming. DOE reports show solid waste that needs to be managed, but not hazardous. Current tenant asked to be out by April 1. Working to get a new tenant in so that the PDA can take advantage of a grant to add a rail spur.

Odessa – Asked to assist the County w/EDA Plan so they can apply to State's EDA for grant to get three phase power to Barr-Tech.

Reardan – Awarded a LCEDF grant to put in a rail crossing across the Sunset Highway. Haven't had any meetings since I've been Director. Needs new Members and I would like to meet with the existing members to help recruit needed members and hear about their projects.

Sprague – Fire Station project – applied for CDBG. Two new members needed on PDA. Council Meeting last night: current member's prospects, asking for theirs as well. Had 2 ppl. approach me after the meeting.

Several of the Board members asked for copies of the Wilbur profile and information on the Surplus program

IV. New Business

Margie discussed with the Board the desire to hold a Mayor's meeting. She would like the topic to be water issues. She will be contacting speakers appropriate to the subject. Doug suggested that the Mayors be invited to bring their public works people with them. It was decided to hold the next Mayor's meeting February 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 in Davenport before the next EDC meeting. Margie will make arrangements for a place to meet.

Margie included a letter to EDC Members in the packet as well as a suggested membership dues Structure. The Board agreed to send the letters out and try to get all members invoiced at the same time once a year. Billie **moved** to adopt the new Membership Dues Structure for 2010 as presented. Rex seconded and motion passed.

Steve Star reported that IEO is doing a feasibility study on a waste energy burner. He hopes this will become a reality that will help cut expenses for the business.

Billie and Joyce asked Commissioner Hutsell if he knew when the checks would go out to the recipients of the Lincoln County Economic Development Fund. He said that once the budgets have been submitted, it should be swift.

Doug noted that he had taken some time to read the Bylaws. He suggested that Margie and Joyce go through them and present the Board with suggested changes. With all in agreement, Margie and Joyce will make that a priority for the next meeting.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. February 18th, 2010 following the Mayor's meeting. Margie and Joyce will send out an e-mail when the meeting place is confirmed.

Minutes submitted by:

Minutes approved by: