

Lincoln County Economic Development Council

Minutes

August 4th, 2008

Creston School, Creston WA

Members: Doug Plinski, Rex Harder , Dale Swant, Billie Herron, Gary Green, Mike Evans, Scott Hutsell, Rob Coffman, Ron Groff and Lynn McWhorter

I. Call to order

President Dale Swant called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. Roll call and introductions

The following persons were present:

Board Members: Lynn McWhorter, Scott Hutsell, Dale Swant, Ron Groff and staff member Pam Kelley.

Guests: Ron Hall, Karen Robertson, Sandy Taylor, Tami Krause, Tannis Jeschke, and Nancy Ellis.

Minutes were not yet available from the July 24th meeting.

III. Treasurer' Report

A Treasurer's report was not presented.

IV. New Business

Pam gave a brief summary of the Tourism Competitive Grant Program which is a new grant administered by CTED (Community, Trade & Economic Development). Pam went over the grant guidelines which are attached as part of these minutes.

Pam then introduced Ron Hall who is an expert on Google Earth and web development. He had done some research with the CTED Tourism office on the State Tourism website (www.experiencewa.com) and found that Lincoln County and its towns are very poorly represented, as is the case with Google Earth. He, Pam and Karen presented the idea of the Lincoln County EDC applying for the grant to improve and expand the web presence of Lincoln County and its communities in order to increase tourism. Pam suggested that the .09% Sales Tax grant be used as matching funds. Pam said that the LCEDC will apply for those grant funds in October and if the EDC is awarded the grant, the matching funds will be available. If the LCEDC is not awarded the local grant, it will not be able to accept the Tourism grant if it is offered. The positive aspect of the situation is that there will be another opportunity to apply for the Tourism grant in February of 2009.

Unfortunately there wasn't a quorum to vote on the moving forward with the application, so the compromise was that those Board members present would vote and then those Board members present at a meeting the following evening would vote.

Scott Hutsell made a motion and Ron Groff seconded that the Lincoln County EDC apply for \$7,500 from the Tourism Competitive Grant Program on August 29th. The motion passed unanimously with Scott, Ron Groff, and Lynn voting in favor and was carried over to the following evening.

The vote was continued at a meeting in Harrington on August 5th, 2008, where Board members Billie Heron, Mike Evans and Rex Harder voted in favor of moving forward with the application with a motion from Rex and a second from Mike. This action gave the EDC staff the authorization to move forward with the application of \$7,500 from the Tourism Competitive Grant Program by the August 29th deadline.

V. **Next meeting**

There was no discussion about when and where to have the next meeting.

Scott **motioned** to adjourn with a second from Ron and motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Minutes approved by: