

LCEDC Newsletter

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EDC Members

Cities & Towns

Almira
Creston
Davenport
Harrington
Odessa
Reardan
Sprague
Wilbur

PDA's

Odessa
Reardan

Chamber of Commerce

Davenport
Odessa
Reardan

Businesses

AgVentures NW
Almira Farmers Warehouse
Avista
Harrington Opera House
Harrington Truck & Auto
Healing Hooves
Lakeview Catering
Leffel, Otis and Warwick
NW Industrial Services
North By Northwest
PK Consulting
Scott's Tire Service
Seed Rite Inc.

Individuals

Herrons
Kings
Plinskis
Powells

**Thank you for
your support!**

Changes at the EDC Office

Greetings from your new Executive Director. For those of you who haven't met me yet, my name is Margie Hall. I'm a City Planner and LEED AP with a background in marketing and small business assistance and I am very excited to be working for you here in Lincoln County. I was working for the City of Spokane's Planning Department prior to accepting this position so this is a big change, but it's a change and a challenge that I look forward to.

I realize that the EDC is also going through a big change. Executive Director Pam Kelley, a respected EDC Director, a successful grant writer and eastern Washington's authority on PDAs, has decided to return to her private consulting business, PK Consulting. I am told that Pam has worked with the communities in Lincoln County for many years, first as a consultant and then as the Director and creator of the EDC. It has clearly been a difficult decision for her to make and is a painful loss for those she has worked with.

After sharing her decision with the EDC, Pam and the EDC Board members began to discuss the future of the EDC. They recognized that while the EDC has been instrumental in the success of many projects throughout the County, the immediate future of the EDC depended on fair and equitable service being provided to all member communities and businesses. Membership dues are an important piece of the EDC's budget and membership is down. Dues supplement the grant funding the EDC receives from the Department of Commerce.

These funds are also down. Between

Legislative cuts and D.O.C. restructuring, the statewide funding for EDCs was reduced by thousands of dollars. With these issues in mind, Pam and the Board agreed on the following priorities for the EDC in 2010:

1. Improve communication between the EDC and its members and between the EDC and the County.
2. Recruit new members.
3. Support existing businesses and communities.
And in its role as administrator of the Lincoln County Visitors & Convention Bureau:
4. Market Lincoln County.

These goals were the basis for the interview process and explain why my experience earned me the opportunity to be your Director. They are also the road map that Joyce and I will follow in the coming year. We will keep a county-wide focus and will work to increase county-wide cooperation in economic development activities. We will work to improve communication, increase marketing efforts and provide membership support. We will work to retain and expand existing businesses and recruit new businesses to increase job opportunities throughout the County. We will provide resources, training and ongoing research for funding opportunities, working together to address the economic needs of our communities.

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any of these priorities, we would truly appreciate hearing them.

Thank you, Margie Hall

Odessa PDA Earns Governor's Best Practices Award

The Odessa Public Development Authority recently received a Governor's 2009 Best Practices Award recognizing them as a model of success in workforce and economic development at the Workforce and Economic Development Conference in Spokane last month.

The Odessa PDA has been successful in bringing 5 new businesses to their community, providing 40 family-wage jobs so far with potential for 80 more. Congratulations to the members and stakeholders of the Odessa Public Development Authority!



Stakeholders honored at From left: Mike Edens (OPDA), Ted Condon (Barr-Tech, LLC), Steven Powell (OPDA), Steve Starr (Inland Empire Oilseeds, LLC), Pam Kelley (PK Consulting), Larry Condon (Barr-Tech, LLC), Kim Ramm (OPDA), Kim King (OPDA), George Rodeck (OPDA), Keith Schafer (Seed-Rite, Inc.), Leanna Schafer (Seed-Rite, Inc.)

Calendar

Nov. 19: LCED .09 Grant Presentations

Dec. 3: Inland Pacific Hub Transportation Study Forum, 8am to 12pm at CenterPlace in the Spokane Valley.

Dec. 7: CERB application deadline

Dec. 7: LCED .09 Grant awards announced at LC Commissioner's Meeting, 8am, Court House.

Jan. 6 & 7: Grant Writing USA Workshop in Spokane Valley.

Jan. 21: CDBG application deadline.

Feb. 1: CERB application deadline.

Grant Update...

Notes from IACC Conference: I attended the IACC funding conference in Wenatchee last month and the funding news was not very inspiring. Dennis Hession, Chair of the Public Works Trust Fund Board, confirmed that their \$400 million budget will not be available over the next two years and that the budget for the 2011-13 cycle is unknown. A speaker for the Dept. of Commerce told the group that CERB funds have been reduced by 70%. The Dept. of Ecology revealed that they will be offering more loans and less grants. A speaker from Washington State Department of Transportation told attendees that DOT funding would be tougher to get during the 2011-2013 cycle. Other seminar leaders predicted that those seeking grants in the future can expect to see increased match requirements, more federal

programs and less state programs, more stringent criteria and that less funding means a more competitive atmosphere.

Incumbent Worker Grant Opportunity: The Eastern Washington Workforce Development Council (WDC) is seeking proposals from an employer, a group of employers or a training provider who is partnering with an employer to provide specialized training for promising workers who are currently employed. Contact the EDC office for more information or WDC contact Josie Darst at jdarst@ruralresources.org or (509) 685-6128.

Thank you to everyone who attended the **CDBG/CERB Grant Writing Workshop** the EDC hosted on Nov. 12. If you were unable to attend our grant writing workshop you still have time to apply. Deadlines are listed in the

calendar to the right and we can send you the workshop handout packet if you'd like.

LCEDF (.09 Grant) applications were due to the EDC office on Nov. 16. Applicants will present their requests to LC Commissioners on Nov. 19 from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Commissioners Chambers. Awards will be announced on Dec. 7 at the Commissioners regular meeting.

Grant Writing USA is partnering with the Spokane County Sheriff's Office to offer a **grant writing workshop** in the Spokane Valley January 6 & 7. The workshop is applicable to City, County and state agencies as well as non-profits and schools. For more information go to GrantWritingUSA.com.

The EDC is committed to informing its members of grant opportunities as they arise. Stay tuned...

Council Meetings

- ◆ Almira: 2nd Tuesday 7pm.
- ◆ Creston: 1st & 3rd Thursday 6pm.
- ◆ Davenport: 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7pm.
- ◆ Harrington: 2nd Wednesday 7:30pm.
- ◆ Odessa: 2nd & 4th Monday 7pm.
- ◆ Reardan: 3rd Thursday 7pm.
- ◆ Sprague: 1st & 3rd Wednesday 7pm.
- ◆ Wilbur: 1st & 3rd Wednesday 7pm.

