



Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

Economic Development District (EDD) Board Meeting

October 27, 2022

Hybrid Meeting (“Present” means on the call)

Council & EDD Board Members Present:

DiAnn Butler, Grand County Economic Development
Melanie Leaverton, Jackson County Tourism
Patti Clapper, Pitkin County
Thomas Fridstein, Town of Snowmass Village
John Bristol, Routt County
Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle
Corry Mihm, Summit County
Ashley Perl, Pitkin County

Other Present:

Christina Oxley, Colorado Workforce

NWCCOG Staff:

Rachel Tuyn
Jon Stavney
Becky Walter

Call to Order:

DiAnn Butler, EDD Chair, called the Economic Development District (EDD) Board meeting to order at 12:32 pm. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

Approval of July EDD Board Meeting Minutes

M/S: Corry Mihm/Patti Clapper to approve the August 2022 EDD Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Passed: Yes

Planning Partnership Grant and CEDS Update

NWCCOG has applied for a new year of the EDD Planning Partnership grant. Rachel presented on details, including budget and scope of work. See packet for slides.

We are 1 year into 5 years CEDS. See packet for details of progress and accomplishments within the past year.

Quarterly Regional Economic Update

The Northwest Region has lower unemployment rate than the rest of the country. Average hourly earnings are still lower than both Colorado and the US, but there are several companies raising minimum wages within the region. Regional economies are still drive largely by accommodations and food service (26%). Healthcare, construction, administrative & waste services sector, professional & technical services sector have the highest wages. Construction, public administration, healthcare, and accommodation & food services are showing the largest growth across the region.

Macro-economic trends are downward: CCI, PSI, EI are all down, and inflation is high.

More information can be found in the packet or on the website.

Patti Clapper/Melanie Leaverton: Giving employees a raise or bonus can put them out of earnings brackets to qualify for food, housing, etc assistance program. Farm bill helps with this.

Regional Data Coordination:

Corry Mihm/Christina Oxley/DiAnn Butler: Suggested working group on data. It would be beneficial for region to unify data.

Jon Stavney: Would like to see analysis and report of working group data.

Workforce Update

Christina Oxley: Hosting presentation on 10/31: "Where are all the Workers?". Focus will be on how to support employers in finding and retaining employees. She also noted that solving childcare and housing are also crucial to providing workforce.

Rachel Tuyn: Erin Young, CDLE "Employer Coach" will be presenting at the Dec 1 EDD meeting on this as well.

Christina Oxley: According to a study the "No one wants to work" has been a recurring theme since the late 1800's. This indicates that there might be more to be examined here on the employer side.

New Business and Recommendations for Upcoming Meetings

Short term rentals: A complete study of STR policies in the region would be beneficial. Many STR policies in our region are contingent on the midterm elections. Currently there is not a comprehensive study to summarize and compare this data. Jon and Rachel would like to do a "point-in-time" report on this within the next year.

Other items for January:

Electing Officers

Reviewing bylaws

Member Updates

Patti Clapper: Vote! The only ballot question in Pitkin County is a mill levy question to support the ambulance district. She is running unopposed and is automatically re-elected for 4 more years.

Corry Mihm: Transitioning from the Summit Prosperity Initiative to the Summit Economic Partnership. It is now approved as a 501c6 and can now move forward with planning and projects.

DiAnn Butler: Just went under contract with consultants for an EDA project to develop a resiliency economic plan. This coincides with other responsible tourism plans. They also received \$3.1 to create a live-work space through the Polis Community Revitalization Plan.

Melanie Leaverton: Jackson recently had a meeting with the housing authority to move forward on workforce housing. Also preparing for Christmas celebration.

Adjournment:

M/S: Patti Clipper/Thomas Fridstein adjourned the EDD meeting at 1:48 pm.

Passed: Yes



DiAnn Butler (Feb 8, 2023 06:01 MST)

DiAnn Butler, EDD Chair

Feb 8, 2023

Date