

# MINUTES

## Lane Economic Committee

Lane Council of Governments – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference Room  
99 E. Broadway, Suite 400 – Eugene

May 17, 2004 – 11:30 A.M.

**PRESENT:** John Tamulonis, Chair; Tim Black, Mike Blommé, DeAnn Cherbas, Chuck Forster, Anna Morrison, Glenda Poling, Jim Ramseyer, Charles Spencer, John Sullivan, Mike Sullivan, Lynnette Wikstrom, members; Jay Bozievich, *ex officio* members; Randy Derrick, Joshua Greene, Howard Schesser, alternate members.

Steve Dignam (LCOG); Bob Warren (Oregon Economic & Community Development Department).

**ABSENT:** Hal Reed, Rob Scoggin, Mitch Wilkinson, members; Philip Hudspeth, Deb Schmidt, Kari Westlund, *ex officio* members.

**GUESTS:** Don Hampton, Roger McCorkle, Robin Onaclea, Bill Sarnoff

Mr. John Tamulonis called the meeting of the Lane Economic Committee (LEC) to order at 11:33 a.m. He invited those who were present to introduce themselves. He determined there were no comments from the public, chair, and staff.

### 1. Comments from the Chair

Mr. Tamulonis distributed a handout from the Department of Land Conservation & Development entitled *Roles & Responsibilities*, which included the agenda from the last meeting of the Economic Development Planning Advisory Committee. Mr. Tamulonis reported that there were four small group discussions among citizens and interested parties to discuss land use systems.

Mr. Tamulonis reported that a press conference had been held regarding the I-5 bridge at Glenwood and that \$2.4 million has been allocated to ODOT for constructing the off ramps into Eugene and Springfield.

### 2. Staff Comments

Mr. Steve Dignam provided an update regarding the Needs and Inventory ranking process. He stated that a request was sent to communities to rank a variety of projects and a final list has been compiled. The State of Oregon has since extended the deadline for the ranking lists from June 1, to August 1, 2004. Mr. Dignam reported that the subcommittee will be meeting within the next two weeks to review the top five projects. Discussion was held on the number of projects submitted by non-profits and whether these agencies should have an endorsement from their local

government. Mr. Dignam stated that he has asked for feedback from the State regarding those projects submitted to the LEC without prior review.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

*Charles Spencer moved, seconded by Chuck Forster, to accept the minutes of the April 19, 2004 meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0, Mr. Mike Sullivan having not yet joined the meeting.*

### **4. Profile of Economic Development Agencies**

Mr. Jay Bozievich distributed a handout entitled *Link to LCOG Board Goals and LEC Work Plan* and asked for feedback on the profile. Mr. Joshua Greene suggested that a brief history or examples of projects that were funded be included in the information section. Mr. Tim Black recommended that a description of the links between agencies and the LEC Work Plan be included.

Mr. Spencer suggested that a website be developed to publish the agency profiles. Mr. Randy Derrick volunteered to compile and maintain this information. Ms. Morrison encouraged that the LEC keep this current, avoid duplication, keep it consolidated and keep what is effective. Mr. Bozievich recommended that a sub-committee be formed to address the issue of content, format, length and distribution. Mr. Spencer, Mr. Dignam, and Mr. Derrick agreed to serve on the committee with Mr. Bozievich. The group will meet and deliver a report at the next meeting.

*Anna Morrison moved, seconded by Charles Spencer, that LEC direct this project to move forward. The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0.*

### **5. Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)**

Mr. Bill Sarnoff delivered a presentation describing the efforts of the Service Corps of Retired Executives. Mr. Sarnoff explained that there are currently six chapters in Oregon, with a total of 10,382 senior counselors available to assist 700 entrepreneurs. Mr. Sarnoff shared local statistics about businesses in Lane County.

Members discussed and asked questions about the presentation.

### **6. Western Shelter Systems RIB Grant Request**

Ms. Glenda Poling introduced a grant request submitted by Western Shelter Systems for committee review. The company, which currently manufactures hospital tents, employs 60 people and is looking to expand its operations to include manufacturing approximately 8,000 pairs of fire fighter pants per month for 24 months. The expansion would require training 20 new employees and the purchase of additional sewing machines. The training time for a machine operator is

about 6 months. Lane County has tentatively approved \$100,000 RIB grant to cover the equipment. Western Shelter Systems is requesting \$90,000 from Lane County to cover training costs.

***Jim Ramseyer moved, seconded by Mike Sullivan, to approve the endorsement in conjunction with the grant awarded by the Lane County Commissioners. Motion passed, 12:0.***

## **7. Region 2050 Project Update**

Ms. Carol Heinkel provided an update of the Region 2050 project and asked for input from LEC on economic evaluation of the three alternative scenarios presented (compact, satellite and rural). Committee members asked questions of Ms. Heinkel regarding the State's interest in the model, examples of other Oregon regions attempting similar modeling, Region 2050's current geographical area of focus and representation by the public sector.

A follow-up discussion will be held with the full committee at the LEC meeting in July.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

*(Recorded by Ann Mortenson)*

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