

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION COMMITTEE (EDAC)**

Tuesday, May 29, 2018, 4 p.m.
Tenth Street Place
1010 10th Street, Room 2005
Modesto, CA 95354

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Harold “Bud” Hill (Hughson); Doug Ridenour (Modesto); Cherilyn Bairos (Oakdale); Joshua Narango (Patterson); Sean Scully (Riverbank); Maryn Pitt (Turlock Alternate); Katrina Kidd (District 1); Jeff Rowe (District 2); Supervisor Jim DeMartini (District 5); Harpreet Singh (Community); Rosalinda Vierra (Community); Bob Hondeville (Community); David White (Community)

Members Absent: Representatives of Newman and Waterford; Jennifer Carter (Community); Lance Boullion (Community); Cecil Russell (District 4). Vacant: District 3/Seat 13 and Community/Seat 18

Others Present: Tera Chumley (Secretary/Chief Executive Office); Toby Wells (Ceres City Manager); Charlie Haase (City of Modesto, Chief Information Officer); Laurie Smith (City of Modesto, Parks, Recreation & Neighborhoods Director)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Committee Vice-Chair, Jeff Rowe.

A quorum of members was present.

Public Comment Period – No one from the public was in attendance.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Committee Vice-Chair, Jeff Rowe, welcomed everyone to the meeting; those in attendance introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes of **March 27, 2017** Special Meeting

Minutes were not approved at the February 21, 2018 meeting due to lack of quorum.

A quorum of members attending the March meeting was established.

Motion to approve the Minutes of March 27, 2017.

Motion: Ridenour | Second: Kidd | Unanimous (9/15) | Abstain/non-attendees (4)

III. Approval of Minutes of **February 21, 2018** Meeting

A quorum of members attending the February meeting was established.

Motion to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2018.

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Motion: Pitt | Second: Bairos | Unanimous (7/8) | Abstain/non-attendees (6)

IV. Officer Succession – Discussion and Motion on Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Vice-Chair, Jeff Rowe, has been serving as the Chair since Ron Jackson's absence and resignation. Jeff called for nominations for a new Chair. Member White moved to nominate Jeff Rowe to continue as Chair; there were no other nominations. Jeff accepted the nomination.

Motion: White | Second: Pitt | Unanimous (13)

Chair Rowe called for nominations for new Vice-Chair. Member Ridenour moved to nominate Jim DeMartini to serve as Vice-Chair; there were no other nominations. Supervisor DeMartini accepted the nomination.

Motion: Ridenour | Second: Bairos | Unanimous (13)

V. Secretary Report:

a. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2018-2023 – Review and Approve

Secretary Chumley explained the CEDS document must be updated and approved annually; the current document had a comprehensive update last year and is good through June 30, 2018. At the last meeting, members discussed how to update the document this year, and agreed to update just the data information. Opportunity Stanislaus provided the data/information including statistics, population unemployment, and some cities had minor updates. Ms. Chumley presented the most recent update and asked if members had any comments. Members discussed including Opportunity Zones and relative tax credits. Member White suggested waiting until October when Wil Marshall provides an EDA update. Another suggestion was to include technical training, such as VOLT. Secretary Chumley will work with Member White to follow up.

Motion to approve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2018-2023.

Motion: Hill | Second: Ridenour | Unanimous (13)

Next steps: Over the next few weeks, the Chief Executive Office will present the item for approval at a Board of Supervisors meeting then send to Wil Marshall for EDA certification.

Chair Rowe expressed his appreciation to CEO staff and Opportunity Stanislaus staff for their work and contributions on updating the document.

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VI. Roundtable Discussion – Update on Economic Development Administration (EDA) Projects

- a. City of Modesto/Charlie Haas – Fiber Optic Ring Project – The project Master Plan was presented to the City Council in March where Mr. Haas received direction to prepare a proposal seeking approval from the City Council to apply for an EDA grant up to \$3 million with equal match from the City. This project (25-mile ring through the City of Modesto) was developed in conjunction with a group of stakeholders and consultant Kimley-Horn. The initial phase is approximately \$7 million; approval to apply for grant with \$3 million match would be \$1 million short that would need to be raised to cover the main core of project. The project would attract multiple jobs and businesses to the valley that typically draw commuters out of the area. Members discussed potential uses for this technology including disaster recovery displacement in the event of an earthquake.
- b. City of Turlock/Maryn Pitt – Turlock Regional Industrial Infrastructure, Phase II – Turlock is working on an EDA grant for a water/sewer infrastructure project that would create another 1,000 acres of shovel-ready industrial land at West Main and Washington. Due to an incident involving a dairy lagoon that flooded across the street into a housing development, part of the settlement with the investor group included assisting the City with a match to complete the project. Maryn anticipates completion in the next year.
- c. Opportunity Stanislaus/David White – VOLT Institute Training Center– This project is up and running. There are approximately 50 students in four classes; the first graduation will be June 27 – most of the students have been hired. Opportunity Stanislaus is planning to expand the program with an EDA grant, and has applied with the State Chancellor's Office for \$1 million in discretionary strong workforce funds to be used as match money for the Federal grant. Modesto Junior College has taken the lead on the application to obtain the match. Dave has also been working with Wil Marshall on utilizing disaster recovery funds; he mentioned approximately \$120 million has been set aside to fast track projects in disaster recovery areas – Stanislaus County is in a disaster recovery zone and is eligible for these funds.

VII. Other Information

- a. Upcoming Meetings:
 - Fall Meeting – EDA Representative, Wil Marshall, will be in attending to provide updates and share information on EDA funding opportunities available in the next Federal Fiscal Year (October-September). Secretary Chumley will confirm Wil's availability; once a date is identified, an appointment will be sent to the committee.
- b. Committee Vacancies – Currently there are two vacancies: District 3 (Supervisor Withrow) vacated by Jon Rodriguez representing Minority Group, and a Community Representative vacated by Ron Jackson representing Private Sector Executive – both members recently resigned. One application was received; however, the applicant did not meet the membership criteria for the developer category (outlined below).

Member criteria is listed on the EDAC Fact Sheet and the application, both are available online.

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The committee must:

- Represent the main economic interests of the region
- Include private sector representatives as a majority of its membership

51% of the committee should represent:

- Private sector executives/key decision-makers
- Executive Director of Chamber of Commerce
- Representative of post-secondary education
- Workforce development
- Utilities representative
- Developers (missing)

Members discussed and agreed that a representative of a downtown association or partnership could meet the eligibility criteria under the developer category. If members know of potential candidates that meet this criterion, please direct them to Tera.

- c. Leadership Modesto – Secretary Chumley shared the Modesto Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications through June 1st for the next Leadership Modesto class.

VIII. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Swartz, Confidential Assistant
Chief Executive Office